

# Scarborough: Stop Campaigning with Our Tax Dollars

This year, our Town government in Scarborough crossed a line by using municipal employees and municipal funds—that we as taxpayers pay for—to tell voters how to vote. Even more troubling, these communications were made on the Town Clerk’s election information page, a place where election neutrality is paramount.

What do we mean? If you go to the Town Clerk’s website for information about when and where to vote, not only do you get this basic information, but, in the case of the massive \$12.9 million library bond, you also get a link to a page that advocates for the expansion. This is unfortunate, and wrong.

Whatever the outcome of the Library referendum this Tuesday, November 8th, we the residents and voters of Scarborough should insist that our Town Council live up to its claims that the Town’s involvement in the electoral process is fair, open, and unbiased. To do that, the Council must pass and implement meaningful limits on the Town’s political activities, and make the Town’s participation in campaigns illegal.

Obviously, there is not enough time to pass these needed reforms prior to election day, but, in the interim, we call on the Town government to cease engaging in political activities on its website or anywhere else. We also ask voters to consider the wisdom of investing \$12.9 million dollars of your money in a bricks-and-mortar library as we move into an increasingly digital world. Our view is that borrowing this amount of money, for this purpose, would be unwise.

That’s why we are urging Scarborough voters to vote **NO on the Library Expansion Bond**. Surely, we can use our money in far better ways.

Paid for and authorized by the Scarborough Alliance for Government Accountability  
Debbie Gates, Treasurer

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