



For Immediate Release -

The Groton Independents have accomplished a major milestone in our quest to provide citizens of Groton a more responsive, accountable Town government: our candidates have qualified for ballot access!

The Groton Independents slate will appear under its own line on your November 7th ballot. Groton residents now have the opportunity to vote in the affirmative for positive change. We are endeavoring to give hope to the idea that people should be able to vote *for* something, instead of always having to vote to oppose. No more choosing between the lesser of evils.

For Town Council, the Groton Independents are endorsing Genevieve Cerf, Bill Furgueson, Lauren Gauthier, Bruce McDermott, and Scott Westervelt. This slate represents a cross-section of party affiliations, disavowing partisanship and promoting collaboration.

We want to extend our most heartfelt gratitude to those who signed our petitions to make this ballot access possible. You have extended your faith in our cause, and thus provided the foundation for our grassroots efforts. Thank you for your support, and thank you for providing Groton citizens with a new option, one that is intent on bringing productive politics back to our community.

The Groton Independents are a community-centered organization, valuing and elevating the voices of our citizens; demanding and delivering true transparency and accountability in our government; and engaging in environmental leadership for the benefit of both Groton and the southeastern region.

These goals will be achieved by providing greater opportunities for meaningful engagement on critical Town issues through a variety of active outreach methods; and then listening to and acting upon that feedback!

All of our Town finances can and should be put up for examination online in a reasonable amount of time, as is done on the state level. The Groton Independents support implementing a more robust property re-use and development policy for Town-owned assets, as well as other measures that provide sunlight on Town operations. For example, the decision made by the Town Council to **NOT** allow a phase-in of property values after our latest revaluation, which coincided with a large real estate market bubble, was made without input from the community and resulted in a tax jump that created hardship for many residents. It would have saved residential property owners millions of dollars. This process has been implemented in the past and should have been implemented this time around.

The Groton Independents are ready to step up and deliver on promises that are both bold and tangible. We share the same concerns about the affordability, safety, and productivity of our community. We believe in the potential of the Town of Groton, and cherish the history and community that has built it to this point. We invite every citizen of Groton to join us in building on our vision.

Visit us at [www.grotonindependents.com](http://www.grotonindependents.com) to learn more about our platform and campaign.