MAINE: TRANSPORTATION BOND MEASURE (2013)

Election: This transportation bond measure was voted on during the November 5, 2013 election.

Title of Legislation: Question 3—“An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Improve Highways, Bridges and Multimodal Facilities”

Type of Legislation: Legislatively-Referred State Statute/ Bond Measure

Election Results: This bond passed with 72.33% voter support and 27.67% opposition.

Sponsor of Bond Measure: State Senator Patrick Flood (R)

Summary of Bond Measure: Question 3 proposed a $100 million bond that would also be matched with $154 million in federal funds, if approved. $44 million would be allocated to construct or improve state highways; $5 million would be used for secondary road improvement projects through new municipal partnership initiatives; $27 million for bridge replacement or rehabilitation of existing bridges; and $24 million for ports, harbors, railroads, and other public safety and transportation projects.

Question 3 Funding Breakdown:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FUNDING AMOUNT</th>
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<tr>
<td>HIGHWAYS</td>
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<td>SECONDARY ROADS</td>
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<td>BRIDGES</td>
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<td>MULTI-MODAL PROJECTS</td>
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Background: On August 30, 2013, Governor LePage signed LD 1095, which was an act that would authorize a general fund bond issue to fund improvements for highways, bridges, and multi-modal facilities. 114 senators voted in favor of the bill, while 7 opposed it.

Proponents: “Vote Yes on #3 Coalition”; Maine Better Transportation Association; Maine Chamber of Commerce

The Vote Yes on #3 Coalition: This coalition framed the debate in terms of the economy, jobs, and safer roads and bridges. The Yes on #3 Coalition members included:

- Action Committee of 50
- AGC Maine
- American Council of Engineering Companies
- Bicycle Coalition of Maine
- Buxton Communications LLC
- CLD Consulting Engineers, LTD.
- Eastport Port Authority
- Eaton Peabody Consulting Group
- Maine Automobile Dealers Association
- Maine Better Transportation Association
- Maine Chapter, American Public Works Association
- Maine Innkeepers Association
- Maine Section American Society of Civil Engineers
Maine State Chamber of Commerce
Maine Transit Association
National Association of Women in Construction, Maine Chapter
Sargent Corp.
Trainriders Northeast

Maine Better Transportation Association

“Vote YES on Question 3: Maine voters will head to the polls soon to vote on five bond proposals, including the $100 million transportation bond. The MBTA is urging our members to support this bond -- for jobs, for economic development and for safer, more efficient roads, bridges, ports, rail and trains.”

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MaineBetterTransportation?filter=3

Opposition: Some opposition stemmed from fiscal interests regarding how states should fund transportation infrastructure. Although there was no formal or organized opposition to the ballot measure, 7 lawmakers voted against the legislation when it was discussed during the 2013 special legislative session.

The lawmakers in opposition to the measure included:

- Larry Dunphy (R- Embden)
- Eleanor Espling (R- New Gloucester)
- Roger Jackson (R- Oxford)
- Ricky Long (R- Sherman)
- Michael McClellan (R- Raymond)
- Roger Reed (R- Carmel)
- Heather Sirocki (R- Scarborough)

Media Endorsements in Favor of Question 3

- Bangor Daily News
- The Forecaster
- Portland Press Herald

“The Vote Yes on #3 Coalition” Campaign Advertising & Marketing Materials

- Question 3 Voter Flyer¹
- Maine DOT Bond Fact Sheet²

VOTE
YES on #3
NOV 5
THE TRANSPORTATION BOND

DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE MAINE'S ECONOMY?

DO YOU WANT SAFER ROADS AND BRIDGES?

DO YOU WANT GOOD-PAYING MAINE JOBS?

QUESTION 3 (BOND ISSUE)
Do you favor a $100,000,000 bond issue for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation and transit, to be used to match an estimated $154,000,000 in federal and other funds?

HOW WILL THE BOND IMPROVE OUR TRANSPORTATION?
This is how MaineDOT plans to use the bond funding:

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES
The $76 million for highways and bridges statewide consists of:
- $44 million for highway improvements on our Priority 1, 2, and 3 highways;
- $5 million for the Municipal Partnership Program; and
- $27 million for bridge reconstruction and rehabilitation.

MULTIMODAL / PORTS, TRAINS & PLANES
The current plan for use of the $24 million for multimodal investments:
- $9 million for property acquisition, rail connectivity and site preparation at the International Marine Terminal;
- $4 million for the investments to support the working waterfront at the Port of Portland including dredging and capital improvements at the Fish Exchange;
- $3 million for other port and freight intermodal improvements statewide that could include the need to address an aging breakwater in downtown Eastport and preservation of freight rail service;
- $1.5 million for the Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP) - a 50/50 program by which Maine businesses team up with MaineDOT to improve freight rail connections;
- $4 million for passenger-related investments including transit bus replacement and passenger rail dependent upon federal grant applications;
- $1.5 million for assistance in matching Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funding; and
- $1 million for the Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP).

Paid for and authorized by the YES on Question #3 Coalition, P.O. Box 320, Hallowell, ME 04347

American Road & Transportation Builders Association
VOTE
YES on #3
NOV 5

YES for the economy
FACT: The $100 million Transportation Bond will support economic development throughout the state and generate an estimated $154 million in matching funds from federal and other funds.

YES for the jobs
FACT: The $100 million Transportation Bond will create or support more than 1,400 good paying jobs in transportation and construction-related fields.

YES for our roads + bridges
FACT: The $100 million Transportation Bond will devote $49 million to repair and rebuild Maine roads and $27 million to rehabilitate or replace our aging bridges.

Ariba American Road & Transportation Builders Association
Public Opinion & Polling Data

Poll #1: Critical Insights (October 2012)

About three-quarters of Mainer say they would support Question 3 for transportation improvements if they were voting on the issue today.

Question 3 reads... Do you favor a $100,000,000 bond issue for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation and transit, to be used to match an estimated $154,000,000 in federal and other funds?

If you were voting today, please tell me how you'd vote: Yes or No.

Text of Ballot Measure

Question 3: Bond Issue

Do you favor a $100,000,000 bond issue for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation and transit, to be used to match an estimated $154,000,000 in federal and other funds?
References

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