

June 25, 2025

Via Email (to kirk.carr@gmail.com)

Mr. Kirk Carr
62 Prospect Ridge, D4
Ridgefield, CT 06877

Re: Draft Letter and Affidavit re: LoCIP

Mr. Carr:

As you know, this office represents the Town of Ridgefield (the "Town"). The Town is in receipt of your draft letter and affidavit concerning LoCIP funds in which you outline various purported concerns regarding the Town's use of LoCIP funds for replacement of the roof at 36 Old Quarry Road, Ridgefield (the "Property"). The Property is owned by the Town. As outlined below, replacement of the roof located at the Property (the "Project") is a proper use of LoCIP funds and was properly approved by the Town. Your draft letter and affidavit raise various peripheral matters that are better addressed, and have already been addressed, by the Town's Ethics Commission and Board of Selectpersons. This letter focuses solely on the claim that the use of LoCIP funds was improper in this instance.

First, there seems to be a misconception on how LoCIP funding works. You cite and include for reference on your website the LoCIP guidelines in effect prior to fiscal year 2024, which do not apply to the Project. You state that as of June 6, 2025, OPM had not reported any reimbursement request for the Project. This is correct as LoCIP now operates as a grant program and the Town is not required to make a report of its expenses to OPM until September, 2025. Kevin Redmond clarified this to you by email on March 13, 2025. There is no requirement for a report at this time, which will be made in September indicating the Town's use of LoCIP funds within the fiscal year, including with respect to the Project.

Second, there seems to be a misreading of the Charter in your affidavit. While there is a provision regarding capital expenses under \$100,000 during the budgetary process, which you seem to reference, there is no requirement to submit matters like the Project to referendum outside the annual budgetary process, especially as it regards the Capital Improvement Plan and LoCIP funding.

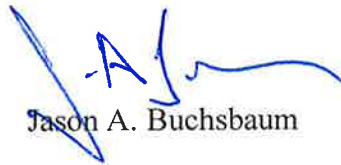
Lastly, you claim that that the Project was not included on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. This is inaccurate. The Town has carried a line item for the roof at the Property in its Capital Improvement Plan. In this instance, the Town Meeting specifically approved the Project and the use of LoCIP funds, as required pursuant to the current LoCIP guidelines. The LoCIP guidelines specifically state that a Capital Improvement Plan "is a multiyear plan" and that it is

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“Prepared to show the general description, need, and estimate cost of each individual capital improvement.” Projects must be “consistent with [the Capital Improvement Plan]” and must be approved by the legislative body of a town. All such requirements were met here and the Town was able to properly use LoCIP funds for the Project.

I am hopeful that the above clarifications address and alleviate your concerns. Thank you for your attention to this matter and please reach out with any questions.

Very truly yours,



Jason A. Buchsbaum

JAB:kmr