

Art. 21, Girl Scouts' Resolution: recycling & repurposing of excess inventory ▶▶ FAVORABLE ACTION

Article 21, sponsored by Brookline Girl Scout Troop 62558, encourages local businesses to donate any surplus, unopened, and unused commercial items to charities, instead of tossing them with other commercial waste. The dual purpose is to reduce the solid waste stream and its environmental impact, and to benefit those in need. Local merchants have responded positively to the idea, as does Brookline PAX.

Art. 22, Resolution for restoration of lost federal SALT deduction benefits. ▶▶ FAVORABLE ACTION

Article 22 urges the state legislature to try to mitigate the impact of the 2017 cap placed on state and local tax (SALT) deductions by the GOP tax law. During the most recent override campaign, voters expressed concern that increases in local taxes might not be deductible, and might, accordingly, influence their votes on future overrides. This article is not about individual tax benefits, but rather the adverse impact that limiting SALT deductions has on our community as a whole, especially our ability to fund the operating and capital needs of our schools, as well as other crucial services.

Art. 23, Resolution to study restoring Olmsted Bridle Path on Beacon St. ▶▶ FAVORABLE ACTION

In the 1880s, Frederick Law Olmsted and his son designed a path along the entire length of Beacon Street from Cleveland Circle to St. Mary's Street. Article 23 calls for a study to look at the feasibility of resuscitating Olmsted's vision. As envisioned, there would be no adverse impact on existing sidewalks, auto lanes, or the Green Line, and no (or minimal) reduction in car parking. The restored "bridle-path" would, we hope, have two-way lanes for bicycles, scooters, wheelchairs, adult tricycles, and the like; would replace the existing Beacon Street bike lane; and would offer a healthier, economical, low-impact and more ecologically-responsible means of travel. It could greatly help us reach our climate action goals.

Please print and bring a copy of these recommendations to Town Meeting.