



ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED. **VOTE 411**

Maine's next election: Tuesday, November 2, 2021

WHAT'S ON YOUR BALLOT?

All voters will have three state-wide referendum questions on their ballots. The questions include a corridor referendum, a bond issue, and a food sovereignty constitutional amendment.

Question One would ban the construction of high-impact transmission lines in upper Kennebec and require a two-thirds vote of the legislature to approve similar projects in the future. This issue is highly contentious, and both supporters and opponents have poured money into advertising.

Question Two, by contrast, is a straightforward transportation infrastructure bond, asking voters to approve a \$100,000,000 bond issue to be matched by an estimated \$253,000,000 in federal funds.

And **Question Three** asks voters to approve a constitutional amendment asserting that all people have the right to produce and harvest food for their own nourishment and sustenance.

Wherever you are, there's a good chance your personalized ballot at Vote411.org will show you what you'll be voting on this year. We've covered more towns than ever before, and there's a lot going on around Maine!

   @LWVME

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF MAINE



Scan me to visit
Vote411.org





Question 1

Do you want to ban the construction of high-impact electric transmission lines in the Upper Kennebec Region and to require the Legislature to approve all other such projects anywhere in Maine, both retroactively to 2020, and to require the Legislature, retroactively to 2014, to approve by a two-thirds vote such projects using public land?

This question concerns the construction of the "CMP Corridor." It is a citizen's initiative meant to prevent the corridor from being constructed and to alter the process by which similar projects can be approved in the future. The history of this project is long and complex; this article from Maine Public gives some of the detail about the NECEC project.

Proponents of the measure oppose the corridor's construction and argue that the project will have high environmental impacts and that it did not go through the appropriate process to be approved, citing a 1993 vote by the Maine people requiring a 2/3 vote of the legislature to use public lands in this way.

Opponents of the measure want the corridor project to continue and argue that it could bring a variety of economic benefits to Maine, that it was legally approved and should not be retroactively halted, and that it is a way to support clean energy.

Vote Yes — For the Measure

A **Yes** vote on this measure will halt the construction of the New England Clean Energy Connect corridor.

It will also mean that this project and any others like it will need a 2/3 vote of the legislature in order to be developed on public land.

Vote No — Against the Measure

A **No** vote on this measure will allow the New England Clean Energy Connect project to continue as planned.

It will not change the requirements for future public land leases.



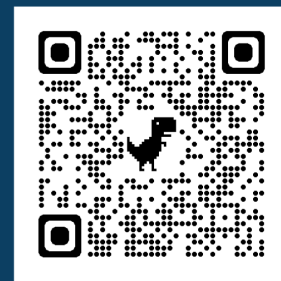
Question 1 Cont.

Still need to make sense of Question 1?

Check out this video with local experts who lead a nonpartisan and informative discussion, helping voters to feel more informed and confident about how they'll vote in November.

Questions we asked the experts:

- + There are 3 different types of questions on the ballot. What is the difference in those processes and the weight that the voters' decision will have?
- + Do you think the public has the information needed to make intelligent decisions on each question?
- + Among the Maine organizations most dedicated to combating global climate change, where do they stand on Question 1 and why?
- + Do you know of an independent source or organization who is offering a nonpartisan and factual perspective on Question 1?
- + How can voters make sense of who is behind the campaigns? Does this type of spending actually win elections?
- + What does "No to Retroactive Laws" on all the lawn signs really mean?
- + If Question 1 passes, it will require a two-thirds vote of the legislature to approve similar projects in the future. Do other states do this? Or just Maine?
- + Will this referendum election be the last word on the CMP corridor?



<https://bit.ly/MEballotQ1>

Click the link above to view the video or use the camera on a smartphone to scan the QR box.



Question 2

Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue to build or improve roads, bridges, railroads, airports, transit facilities and ports and make other transportation investments, to be used to leverage an estimated \$253,000,000 in federal and other funds?

Proponents of this measure argue that it enables Maine to leverage federal funds to build and maintain transportation infrastructure.

Opponents of the measure are concerned about the state taking on more debt.

Vote Yes — For the Measure

A **Yes** vote supports \$100 million in general obligation bonds for transportation infrastructure projects, including \$85 million for highways and bridges and \$15 million for rail, aviation, ports, and active transportation.

Vote No — Against the Measure

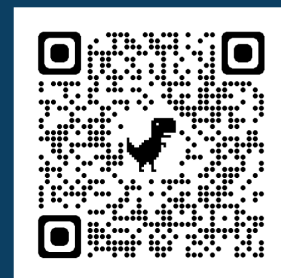
A **No** vote opposes \$100 million in general obligation bonds for transportation infrastructure projects, including \$85 million for highways and bridges and \$15 million for rail, aviation, ports, and active transportation.

Still need to make sense of Question 2?

Check out this video with local experts who lead a nonpartisan and informative discussion, helping voters to feel more informed and confident about how they'll vote in November.

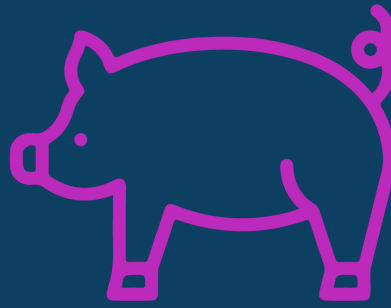
Question we asked the experts:

+ Bond issues often pass with wide margins. This is an enormous amount of money! How can voters assess if a bond question is a good investment? Do we learn how the money actually gets spent?



<https://bit.ly/MEballotQ2>

Click the link above to view the video or use the camera on a smartphone to scan the QR box.



Question 3

Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to declare that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to grow, raise, harvest, produce and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being?

Vote Yes — For the Measure

A **Yes** vote will amend the constitution to include the right to produce, harvest, and consume food as a basic human right.

Vote No — Against the Measure

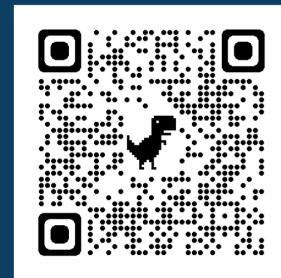
A **No** vote will not change the Maine State Constitution; food production will not be defined as a basic human right.

Still need to make sense of Question 3?

Check out this video with local experts who lead a nonpartisan and informative discussion, helping voters to feel more informed and confident about how they'll vote in November.

Questions we asked the experts:

- + Who pushed for Question 3 and why? Who is opposed? Because it's so broad, what are the risks of unintended consequences?
- + What does food sovereignty mean?
- + How will Question 3 impact local zoning laws, such as residents keeping large garden plots and/or livestock?
- + Would this require the state to pay for food for consumers who need it the most? Is this a general right to nutritional food or just a right to produce it?



<https://bit.ly/MEballotQ3>

Click the link above to view the video or use the camera on a smartphone to scan the QR box.