

# Capital Improvement Funding Proposal

## The Endowment

- The congregation's endowment is a financial representation of the hopes and dreams of our predecessors that First Unitarian would continue to be a beacon of liberal religion long after they lived.
- The congregation needs its buildings to be safe and accessible in order to fulfill this dream and our mission.
- Funding improved fire safety and accessibility for First Unitarian's buildings fits the purpose of the endowment.
- The endowment is currently at a high level.

## The Proposal

The Board of Trustees recommends to the congregation that it authorize the withdrawal of:

Project	Endowment Withdrawal Up To
Fire Safety	\$300,000
Accessibilities	\$125,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$425,000</b>

Notwithstanding that it is an appropriate use of endowment funds to improve First Unitarian's facilities' fire safety and accessibility, the Board has a responsibility to raise funds to minimize the impact to the endowment to implement these projects. Mindful of this responsibility, the board voted at its March meeting to establish a grants-writing team. That team has already submitted a Letter of Intent to Apply to National Fund for Sacred Places, which First Unitarian was encouraged to do and which could result in a significant grant for one – or possibly both – of our capital projects.

In addition, the Board plans other fundraising to offset the costs of these two urgent capital needs. Other fundraising under consideration:

- Share the Plate
- End of Year Appeal
- Direct Appeal
- Fundraising Event