

that I have heard communities have on their wish list, assuming that this bill were to pass, things that they would use it on. I think it is pretty clear by now that things like libraries, convention centers, auditoriums, buildings to house machinery, all of those kind of things would be excluded if this amendment were adopted. And for that reason, I am not going to support this. I think the...maybe the concept of infrastructure you could argue is not a good one to describe libraries, auditoriums, convention centers. You really are talking more about capital construction types of projects than you are infrastructure I would grant that. But I think it is not really incumbent upon the Legislature to tell these communities, particularly if you have a community that has excellent solid waste management facilities, wastewater, storm water, and water treatment works, et cetera, that they have to spend...that they are going to get this money and they have to spend it on those things, it seems to me to be a bit of a waste. Because Senator Scofield referenced my earlier comments when she began her instruction or her comments on this that she thought this went along with the direction that I talked about going, and this doesn't. What I had talked about originally when the people supporting the MIREF bill came to me, my thoughts were rather than five different communities that are of the size that they would get \$20,000 each, and you can't really do a whole lot in terms of infrastructure capital construction for \$20,000, that I would rather see the system set up where those five communities compete with one another and so we have some sort of prioritization mechanism where a community that has a single best \$100,000 project would get those monies in a given year, and maybe not be eligible then for two or three more years to compete again, so that we make sure that this goes into projects of the size that can be considered capital construction, if you don't like the word "infrastructure". I advanced that discussion to a few people. It did not get very far, so I chose not to pursue it much further. But to limit the types of projects, types of capital construction projects, infrastructure projects to those that certain members of the Legislature think are better than others I don't think is a good idea and I will not be supporting the Scofield amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBODD: I will waive.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schimek, please.