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Committee recommends $45 million in new debt
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MONTPELIER, Vt. --A committee of state officials has recommended that state government can afford $45 million in new debt for long-term construction projects next year.

The Capital Debt Affordability Advisory Committee said it determined that the state should authorize the same amount of bonding in the 2007 budget year as it has issuing this year.

The previous two years there were increases, $2 million in 2005 and $4 million for 2006, the current budget year.

"I believe that the FY 2007 recommended authorization is consistent with our policy of trying to provide important capital contributions to the state's physical infrastructure requirements within a framework of acceptable debt affordability," said state Treasurer Jeb Spaulding, the chairman of the debt committee. "Weighing all of the relevant factors, we are fortunate to be able to maintain this elevated level of bond issuance and at the same time continue our disciplined approach to steady improvements in the state's overall credit posture."