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Governor Rell Announces Grants for 35 Cities and Towns

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced the state has awarded Small Cities grants to 35 Connecticut towns.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program provides grants to eligible municipalities for economic development, affordable housing, community facilities and other revitalization projects. The federal program is administered by Connecticut's Department of Economic and Community Development.

"In a time when local budgets are tight and towns have little, if any, funding available for community projects, we want to help in any way we can," said Governor Rell. "These grants are an essential tool — a lifeline — for our communities. With the collaboration of the federal and state governments, towns and cities can build and improve senior centers, housing and other municipal projects that are important for their residents."

Grants are being awarded to:

Ansonia — \$300,000

The city, which will use its funding for a townwide housing rehabilitation program, plans to rehabilitate 10 housing units.

Ashford — \$ 50,000

The Ashford Food Bank will use the funding to extend a program managed by volunteers from the town's senior center to provide food to eligible town recipients.

Bethlehem — \$461,000

The funding will be used to complete phase 2 modernization of North Purchase, a 24-unit federally subsidized Section 8 senior housing facility at 11 Jackson Lane. Renovations will focus primarily on kitchens, which suffer from poor lighting, cracked flooring, inadequate storage space, and inefficient ranges.

Canterbury — \$300,000

The funding will be directed to rehabilitating 10 housing units for individuals with low to moderate income.

Clinton — \$300,000

The funding will be directed to the town's housing rehabilitation program.

Coventry — \$500,000

The funding will enable the town to make improvements to its low- and moderate-income housing units. Upgrades include siding and windows, new insulation, outside light fixtures with energy efficient lighting, water saver toilets, thermostats and storm doors.

East Haven — \$300,000

The funding will help East Haven continue its townwide housing rehabilitation program, which provides funds as deferred or low-interest loans to low- and moderate-income persons for rehabilitation of their housing units.

East Windsor — \$500,000

The funding will help East Windsor correct serious drainage and flooding problems in the Prospect Hill neighborhood.

Ellington — \$500,000

The funding allows Ellington to continue its successful regional housing rehab for the towns of Ellington, Suffield and Somers.

Essex — \$500,000

The funding will help to make ongoing improvements to the Essex Court Senior Housing Complex. Essex Court is a 36-unit complex in need of new gutters, improvements to baseboard heat, a new generator in the community room and ADA improvements to the units.

Farmington — \$300,000

The town plans to use its funding for a townwide rehabilitation program. The funding will correct substandard conditions and incorporate energy efficient/energy star technologies in 12 low- and moderate-income housing units.

Franklin — \$300,000

The funding will address roofing, siding and structural deficiencies at multiple low- and moderate-income housing units. The funds also will be used to address health care violations and repair septic systems in these units.

Guilford — \$375,000

The funding will provide for improvements to the town's Senior Housing Community Center. The funding will also enable ADA improvements to be made at the community center.

Hampton — \$400,000

The funding will allow Hampton to continue its successful regional housing rehabilitation for the towns of Hampton, Scotland, Chaplin, Pomfret and Eastford.

Jewett City — \$575,000

The funding will provide for the continued rehabilitation of senior housing. The borough plans to rehabilitate 32 units at Ashland Village Senior Housing and improve handicap accessibility.

Killingly — \$610,000

The Killingly Housing Authority will use the funding to expand 20 units of elderly housing at the Maple Court Housing Complex.

Lebanon — \$300,000

The town will use the funding to continue the townwide housing rehabilitation program, which provides funds as deferred or low interest loans to low- and moderate-income persons for rehabilitation of housing units.

Morris — \$555,000

The funding will be used to rehabilitate the town's 20-unit senior housing complex by eliminating drainage problems, updating code deficiencies, replacing roofs on five residential buildings, installing an updated safety alarm system, making ADA upgrades to units designated handicapped accessible and the installation of 17 energy efficient hot water heaters.

Naugatuck — \$500,000

The borough will use the funds to complete drainage improvements on Nettleton Drive. Approximately 650 feet of existing undersized storm drainage pipe will be replaced with new 54 inch diameter pipe to eliminate flooding issues.

New Fairfield — \$300,000

The funding will be used townwide to rehabilitate 10 existing housing units.

Newtown — \$546,000

The funding will be used to complete a thorough and comprehensive upgrade for handicap accessibility for all bathrooms in 120 units of senior housing at Nunnawauk Meadows.

Plainville — \$300,000

The town plans to use the funds to rehabilitate and address the needs of 12 to 15 homes. Plainville will address code violations and energy upgrades.

Plymouth — \$300,000

The town plans to continue its townwide housing rehabilitation program, which provides funds as deferred or low interest loans to low- and moderate-income individuals for rehabilitation of their housing units.

Sprague — \$500,000

The town plans to use its funds to improve drainage on Upper High Street in downtown Baltic.

Stafford — \$500,000

The funds will be used to replace uneven, broken and dangerous sidewalks, install new drainage lines, replace catch basins, existing sewer lines, manholes and repave streets.

Tolland — \$480,000

The funds will be used to make the Hicks Memorial Municipal Center more accessible by installing an elevator.

Torrington — \$300,000

The city will use the funds to continue its townwide housing rehabilitation program. The program provides funds as deferred or low-interest loans to low- and moderate-income individuals for the rehabilitation of their homes.

Vernon — \$250,000

The town will use the funds to continue the reconstruction of Prospect Street, which includes resetting of granite stone curbs, installing new concrete sidewalks, building new driveway ramps, improving drainage and replacing catch basins.

Watertown — \$300,000

The funding will be used to provide affordable financial assistance to 14 households to correct health and safety violations.

Wethersfield — \$600,000

The funding will be used to renovate the Harvey Fuller Senior Housing complex by making drainage and parking lot improvements, replacing the roof and improving accessibility.

Windham — \$300,000

The town will use the funding to undertake a housing rehabilitation program and fix approximately 10 units.

Windsor — \$350,000

The town will use the funding to undertake comprehensive energy improvements at the Fitch Court Apartments, a 40 residential unit complex for households with income at or below 60 percent of area median income. This project includes replacement of the existing “chiller tower,” new entry doors, new hot water heaters, and the replacement of approximately 70 hot water heat source pumps.

Windsor Locks — \$500,000

The town will use the funding to improve the road and utilities on both Pleasant Street and Olive Street. The town will correct the existing sewer system deficiencies, improve drainage and upgrade accessibility and mobility for pedestrians and vehicles in the area.

Wolcott — \$300,000

The town will use the funding to continue its housing rehabilitation program. The town anticipates assisting 12 households.

Woodstock — \$300,000

The town will use the funding to rehabilitate approximately 10 housing units.