

**Department of Economic and Community Development
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
Community Infrastructure Projects**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded to the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) a \$3,616,527 Community Development Block Grant Recovery (CDBG-R) funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

A total of \$3,399,400 of ARRA funds are being disbursed by DECD to the towns of Enfield, Naugatuck, Plainfield, Torrington, Wallingford, and Windsor. These ARRA funds are being utilized for a variety of infrastructure and community development projects that will help create a demand for jobs while improving the quality of life in some blighted neighborhoods.

The towns have awarded contracts and projects are currently in various stages of completion.

DECD has retained \$217,127 of the grant to administer the CDBG-R Program.

Summaries of the projects follow:

- **Enfield (\$500,000)** – An area in the Thompsonville section of town is at risk to become blighted as several private properties have been foreclosed or abandoned. With a \$500,000 grant, the town plans to buy, rehabilitate, and resell these properties to promote economic recovery in the area and help those most affected by the recession. The rehabilitated properties will promote energy efficiency and conservation. It is estimated that five (5) construction jobs will be created as a result of this activity. The rehabilitated properties will be re-sold to low- and moderate-income persons as part of a Neighborhood Stabilization Program.
- **Naugatuck (\$420,000)** – The town will use its \$420,000 grant to replace 4,000 linear feet of crumbling sidewalks on the east and west sides of Cherry Street. The replacement project, which will include ADA improvements, will enhance pedestrian mobility to nearby shopping, municipal facilities, post office, senior center, banks, medical offices and other activities that are vital to downtown economic revitalization efforts. The replacement of sidewalks and curbing will allow pedestrians to cross street intersection by ramps and detections creating a sense of “walk ability”. This activity, which benefits low- and moderate-income persons, will increase pedestrian activity and reduce vehicle usage in instances. It is estimated that twenty-four (24) construction jobs will be created by this activity.
- **Plainfield (\$500,000)** – The town has a plan to increase pedestrian safety and promote homeownership and reinvestment in the Wauregan and Central Village sections.

The project uses the \$500,000 grant to replace cracked and dilapidated sidewalks, incorporate ADA requirements, and improve drainage. The goal is to improve the quality of life in the areas and encourage further private investments.

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This activity, which benefits low- and moderate-income persons, will increase pedestrian activity and reduce vehicle usage in instances. It is estimated that ten (10) construction jobs will be created by this activity.

- **Torrington (\$367,500)** – The city will receive a \$367,500 grant to replace 9,000 feet of sidewalks on Water Street from Main to Prospect Streets. The area has been severely affected by foreclosures. City officials believe the project, which is adjacent to the downtown area, will complement the city revitalization plan by improving accessibility and mobility on the street and enhance the image for existing residents and future investors. The City is working closely with the Department of Economic and Community Development to develop a Revitalization Plan for major renovation and construction. The project will complement the endeavor and have an immediate impact in stabilizing the neighborhood by providing improved accessibility and mobility on the street and improve the image and perception of the area for existing and future investors. The replacement of sidewalks and curbing will allow pedestrians to cross street intersections by ramps and detections creating a sense of “walk ability”. This activity, which benefits low- and moderate-income persons, will increase pedestrian activity and reduce vehicle usage in instances. It is estimated that twenty-six (26) construction jobs will be created by this activity.
- **Wallingford (\$971,400)** – Two sidewalk replacement projects will have an immediate impact in stabilizing areas by improving the image and accessibility on the street. The town will use its \$971,400 grant to replace deteriorated sidewalks near Ulbrich Heights, a 132 rental unit residential housing complex for low- and moderate-income families and a 40 unit elderly housing complex, and surrounding streets. The projects include new sidewalks, curbing and drainage, and addresses ADA requirements. The replacement of sidewalks and curbing will allow pedestrians to cross street intersections by ramps and detections creating a sense of “walk ability”. These activities, which benefits low- and moderate-income persons, will increase pedestrian activity and reduce vehicle usage in instances. It is estimated that twenty (20) construction jobs will be created by these two activities.
- **Windsor (\$640,500)** – The town is proposing to raze two blighted properties, one a former tavern and another a former motel near the intersection of Interstate 91 and Route 305. The demolition is a part of the town’s effort to redevelop and revitalize the area. Special considerations will be given to the construction of commercial and residential structures on these sites that will incorporate smart growth and energy efficiency standards in the design of buildings.

A second project will be to construct and/or reconstruct the sidewalks in the Deerfield section of town. The replacement of sidewalks and curbing will allow pedestrians to cross street intersections by ramps and detections creating a sense of “walk ability”. This activity will increase pedestrian activity and reduce vehicle usage in instances.

Also, the installation of additional sidewalks will effectively encourage the use of mass transit by providing a means to walk to the numerous bus stops in a safe fashion. For the third project the town is proposing to use its \$640,500 grant to create a rehabilitation/refinancing program to help existing homeowners make necessary improvements to their homes and help others stay in their home by restructuring debt. This Neighborhood Stabilization Program is intended to minimize the impact that the housing crisis is taking on both families and neighborhoods. It is estimated that these three activities, which benefits low- and moderate-income persons, will create seven (7) construction jobs.