



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

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Governor Rell: 28 Towns to Benefit from Latest Round of Small Cities Funding

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced the state has awarded more than \$13 million in Small Cities grants to 28 towns for housing, infrastructure improvements and other capital projects.

“Our small towns are often first to feel the financial impact during tough economic times, and local governments are forced to scale back important capital projects. However, the Small Cities program is an invaluable resource that allows the state and federal governments to assist these communities,” said Governor Rell.

The state Department of Economic Development administers the Small Cities program, which is funded by a federal block grant. In the 2008 round of funding, 14 grants will be used for affordable or senior housing projects.

“It is essential that our most vulnerable citizens have safe, secure housing options,” Governor Rell said. “These grants will go a long way in assisting our elderly residents and others struggling during these tough economic times.”

Small Cities grants will also be used for senior centers, town halls, a library and several street repair projects. The complete breakdown by town follows:

- **Ashford: \$50,000** for a food bank. The town will use the funds to buy bulk food items and distribute to low- and moderate-income residents.
- **Branford: \$700,000** for safety and code renovations in 11 units of supportive housing at 31-33 Briarwood Lane. The units, owned by Harbor Health Services, Inc., a nonprofit organization providing services to persons with chronic mental illness, will receive sprinklers and exhaust fans in the kitchens, along with a new sewer line for the 20 residents.



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- **Brooklyn: \$500,000** for repairs on Paradise Drive. A drainage system will be installed, and the gravel road will be widened and paved, making it more accessible to emergency vehicles, snow plows, and delivery vehicles.
- **Canterbury: \$300,000** to begin a housing rehabilitation program. The town will target substandard housing with the new program. The first Small Cities grant will be used to renovate 11 units of low- and moderate-income housing.
- **Coventry: \$500,000** for road and drainage improvements on King's Road to make it more accessible to emergency vehicles, snow plows, and delivery vehicles.
- **East Haven: \$300,000** for a residential rehabilitation program, which provides deferred or low-interest loans to renovate eligible single- and multi-family homes.
- **Ellington: \$300,000** for a regional housing rehabilitation program in Ellington, Suffield, and Somers. The program provides grants and deferred loans for the rehabilitation of single- and multi-family residential properties.
- **Jewett City: \$500,000** to replace sidewalks on North Main Street from Palmer Avenue to Green Street, and replace deteriorated retaining walls along Mathewson and Mechanics Streets.
- **Killingly: \$500,000** for downtown Commercial Façade Improvement Program. The town has 12 businesses/storefronts targeted for assistance under this program. Business owners will receive a deferred payment loan to improve their façades in the downtown area.
- **Lebanon: \$300,000** for its home rehabilitation program. The program provides deferred and forgivable loans for the rehabilitation of single-family homes.
- **Litchfield: \$500,000** for the Litchfield Housing Trust, Inc., to renovate the former Northfield Fire House into two units of three-bedroom rental housing for families at or below 50 percent of area median income.
- **Monroe: \$700,000** to renovate 30 rental units at Fairway Acres Senior Housing complex. The units, built with state funds approximately 20 years ago, will be given modern upgrades, handicapped accessible improvements will be made to the community building and deteriorated sidewalks and paving will be replaced.



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- **New Milford: \$500,000** to improve the sidewalks on Whittlesey Avenue. Work will include raised concrete walks, handicap/ADA accessible ramps, street lighting and street improvements.
- **Norfolk: \$675,000** for the Norfolk Senior Housing Corporation to renovate 28 units of housing at the Meadowbrook Senior Housing complex. The project includes the expansion of the lower level dining room area, increasing energy efficiency and expanding ADA accessibility to and within the housing units.
- **North Haven: \$750,000** to renovate and expand the Joyce C. Budrow Senior Center. Work will include new floors, ceilings, millwork, windows, and mechanical equipment, as well as ADA upgrades in bathrooms. An 875-square-foot addition is also proposed.
- **Oxford: \$700,000** to help the Housing Authority renovate 34 elderly rental units at Crestview Ridge Housing Complex. Renovations will include weather stripping and insulation, thermostat replacement, roof replacement, an upgrade to the emergency alarm system, outside lighting upgrades, a new intercom and entry system, and “roll-in” showers for 6 handicapped units.
- **Plainfield: \$500,000** for infrastructure improvements in Plainfield Village. The sidewalks along several streets will be replaced, and an additional public parking lot will be created along Railroad Avenue.
- **Prospect: \$300,000** for its rehabilitation program. The town plans to rehabilitate approximately 10 units through its housing Rehab Revolving Loan program to benefit low- and moderate-income residents.
- **Putnam: \$300,000** to recapitalize its housing rehabilitation program. The program provides matching grants and deferred loans for the rehabilitation of eligible single- and multi-family residential properties.
- **Sprague: \$500,000** to fund the second phase of neighborhood improvements in Baltic Village. Sprague, as part of its comprehensive downtown improvement program, will replace sidewalks in the village area.
- **Stafford: \$300,000** for its housing rehabilitation program. The program provides grants for lead-based paint abatement and temporary relocation. All other rehabilitation costs are funded with deferred and/or amortized loans.



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- **Suffield: \$750,000** to help convert the Calvary Church into a permanent senior center.
- **Torrington: \$454,000** to make ADA improvements to the Town Hall. The city has approved a major renovation of its municipal facility totaling over \$14 million and this grant will be used to remove architectural barriers for handicapped accessibility.
- **Vernon: \$500,000** for the reconstruction of Prospect Street. The work will include extensive improvements to the drainage system, new sidewalks, and street repaving.
- **Watertown: \$300,000** for housing rehabilitation. The town plans on updating nine units of substandard housing for low- and moderate-income residents.
- **Winchester: \$500,000** to make pedestrian upgrades and ADA improvements on several streets. The town plans to improve the existing sidewalks, curb cuts, and related items on Chestnut, Gays, Fruit, and Perkins Streets, Greenwoods Avenue, and St. James Place.
- **Windsor: \$465,000** for renovations at the Wilson Branch Library. The town plans to make various improvements to the building, including heating/ventilation and air conditioning upgrades, duct work, additional parking, replacement windows and security cameras.
- **Wolcott: \$300,000** for its Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund Program. This funding will provide affordable financing to approximately 10 low- and moderate-income households so that they can correct serious deficiencies in their homes.

For more information:

Department of Economic and Community Development: www.decd.org