



## **COMMISSIONER KLEIN ANNOUNCES FEDERAL FUNDING TO ASSIST DISASTER RECOVERY EFFORTS FOR RESIDENTS**

*\$7 Million Awarded towards Superstorm Sandy Recovery*

(HARTFORD, CT) – Today, State Department of Housing (DOH) Commissioner Evonne M. Klein, announced more than \$7 million in grants that were awarded to cities and towns across Connecticut who were most affected by Superstorm Sandy. These grants will be used for planning activities to develop mitigation and resiliency plans.

Last year the state was awarded \$71.8 million through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. The CDBG-DR funding has been distributed by DOH to help the most impacted and distressed communities in Connecticut recover from Superstorm Sandy. This is one of the final allotments being made under the program to help improve infrastructure and planning to make critical upgrades that will combat against future storms.

“These grants are yet another way that Connecticut is rebuilding after the devastation of Superstorm Sandy,” said Commissioner Klein. “Thanks to the leadership of Governor Malloy, who has made housing and resiliency a top priority, we were able to award these grants to several municipalities, state agencies, and organizations across the state to make proactive efforts to combat against future storms.”

The CDBG-DR Tranche # 2 Planning for Mitigation and Resiliency award recipients are as follows:

- **Fairfield—South Benson Pump Water Station & Drainage Improvement- \$300,000**  
The grant will be used to provide flood protection to more than 1,000 residences, a school, a museum, and Town Hall.
- **Fairfield—Planning Resiliency for Downtown Fairfield Using Green Infrastructure- \$100,000**  
The grant will be used to provide guidance needed to direct all future development and redevelopment of downtown. It will incorporate green infrastructure that will reduce future storm water flooding problems.
- **Fairfield—Pine Creek Dike Elevation Plan- \$300,000**  
The grant will provide funding needed to determine the appropriate height to raise the existing dike, helping to protect against future storms.

- **Fairfield—Fairfield Beach Design of Beach Sand Replacement- \$100,000**  
This grant will help make town owned beaches more resilient against future storms.
- **Fairfield—Riverside Drive Coastal Resiliency and Flood Mitigation Study- \$250,000**  
This grant will fund a study to determine needed infrastructure upgrades to alleviate damage from future flooding.
- **Milford—Pelham Street Planning and Design for Resiliency and Public Access- \$150,000**  
This grant will provide funding to replace a seawall and a staircase on Pelham Street to reduce erosion and will improve public access to area beaches.
- **Milford—Crescent Beach Planning & Design for Beach Resiliency and Stabilization- \$225,000**  
The proposed project contains 3 phases that will increase resiliency on Crescent beach and the surrounding area to protect the community against future storms.
- **Milford—Gulf Street & Welch’s Point Road Planning and Design for Stabilization & Resiliency- \$275,000**  
This project will determine needed infrastructure upgrades and will stabilize the shoreline and harden nearby roads against future storms.
- **Milford—Walnut & Wildemere Beach Study for Resiliency and Stabilization- \$325,000**  
This project will help make hard and green infrastructure improvements to stabilize the shoreline.
- **Stonington—Coastal Resilience Plan- \$150,000**  
The project is intended to be a comprehensive study of coastal resiliency and is intended to improve area infrastructure, housing, transportation, and economic development.
- **West Haven—Community Coastal Resilience Plan & Wastewater Treatment Facility Outfall Feasibility Study- \$278,000**  
The project is intended to be a comprehensive study that will produce recommendations that will benefit housing, transportation, public facilities, and infrastructure.
- **Old Saybrook—Community Coastal Resilience Study & Infrastructure Evaluation- \$125,000**  
The project will fund a Community Coastal Resilience Study for the Town of Old Saybrook. The study will produce recommendations for regulatory tools that will benefit housing, transportation, public facilities, and infrastructure.

- **New Haven—Residential Planning and Demand Analysis for the Redevelopment of Church Street South \$500,000**  
 The project will outline strategic goals for the redevelopment of a blighted and environmentally hazardous residential property. It will determine the most appropriate residential and mixed-use developments needed in the area, and will make use of planning initiatives included in existing storm water and flood mitigations studies. The plan will also evaluate current roadway design, potentially resulting in a new road and pedestrian corridor from Union Station to Church Street.
- **Westport—Downtown Westport Flood Resiliency Planning: Master Drainage Plan & Stream Study \$650,000**  
 This grant will fund a study of the major stream tributary that collects water from the upper reaches of the town and causes flooding in Downtown Westport. The study of current drainage conditions and issues will attempt to identify the causes of flooding and provide suggested improvement measures.
- **New London—Shaw’s Cove Pump Station Steel Pile Wall Reconstruction \$120,000**  
 This project will evaluate the Shaw’s Cove levee and reconstruction, which is a critical infrastructure component in the city’s flood control plan. Located in a vulnerable location, the levee protects the Shaw’s Cove Pump Station and the fuel holding tanks as well a variety of housing units and businesses and is in need of improvements.
- **Waterford—Climate Change Vulnerability: Risk Assessment & Adaptation \$175,000**  
 The study will focus on municipal infrastructure and natural resources most likely to be affected by future storms. The study will complete an analysis of its drainage infrastructure, roadways, and sewer pump stations in order to identify priorities for increasing resiliency.
- **University of Connecticut—Scoping of Dredge Material Islands & Wetlands for Green Infrastructure Resiliency Projects- \$317,709**  
 This grant will fund a study to determine the feasibility, of using dredge materials to build fringe wetlands or offshore islands to prevent erosion and improve drainage.
- **CT Rises—Long Term Planning & Recovery \$111,550**  
 Individual plans for cities and towns across the state will be developed to implement a Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC), which is the most effective method of getting information and assistance to residents in a timely manner following a major storm. The grant will help develop a permanent portal for future disaster assistance.
- **Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments—Regional Long Term Recovery – Land Use Resiliency Plan \$100,000**  
 The goal of the study is to create a clear path to recovery after future storms and plan for initiatives to build resiliency throughout the region. The plan will establish the overall responsibilities for emergency recovery operations as well as plans for responding to future storm events. This will be done by encouraging partnerships between local, regional and state governing bodies, the private business sector, nonprofits, social service agencies, emergency responders, and area residents.

- **Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH)—Drinking Water Vulnerability Assessment and Resiliency Plan- \$600,000**

The plan will help identify vulnerabilities, as well as take measures to enhance resiliency in areas with drinking water supplies.

- **Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)—Municipal Resilience Planning Assistance Project \$1,205,450**

DEEP will develop tools for municipalities in the four counties affected by Superstorm Sandy to assess the vulnerability of infrastructure (including waste water treatment plants, pump stations, roads, and public safety assets) to flooding from rivers and storm surges now and in the next 25-50 years when it is likely that sea levels will be higher. DEEP will create technical assistance programs for municipalities to test and evaluate their tools and supports that currently exist.

- **Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP)—Fuel Study: Improve Resiliency through the Strengthening of the Fuel Network \$200,000**

The study will enhance public safety measures by addressing current municipal plans that could adversely impact evacuations of residents from at-risk areas following an emergency event. The study will evaluate rapid response planning and responding immediately following a major storm.

- **Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security (DEMHS)—Update of the State of Connecticut’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan \$50,000**

This grant will fund a plan to identify the State’s mitigation policies and capabilities to reduce risk and future losses. This task includes a review of the current plan, updating the risk assessment model, and determining a final outcome with FEMA.

- **Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)—Development of a Data Management System & Decision Support Tool to Assess Water Availability & Sustainability \$530,000**

This grant will fund a study to address the predictive tools needed to evaluate the state water resource capacity, sustainability, and infrastructure. The proposal is for a pilot project in the southeastern Connecticut coastal area including New London County and part of Middlesex County.

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