



ESTABLISHED 1659

CITY OF NORWICH CONNECTICUT

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To: Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager's Report
Date: June 17, 2024

Meetings attended were Southeastern Council of Governments Meeting (SCCOG), Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) Investment Committee, NPU-City Coordination Meeting, CT Investment Fund (CIF) Stakeholders, Chelsea Harbor/Downtown Mobility Study, and NCDC Executive Board of Directors meeting.

I also attended Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative exercise at the Emergency Operations Center. The statewide election drill was designed for Election Security. Norwich was one of the state's 147 cities that participated. Personnel from the Registrar, City Clerk's Office and MIS along with the standard EOC participants were in attendance.

The Department of Economic and Community Development Office announced that the City will receive \$4,000,000 under the Brownfield Municipal Grant Program Round 19 for the redevelopment of the Capehart Mil Riverfront Park Remediation which was submitted by the Planning Office with assistance from Public Works.

Public Works was notified that the FY25 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request submitted to Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, for \$6.6M, was selected for funding. The \$6.6M represents 80% of the funds needed for the replacement of the New London Turnpike Bridge over the Yantic River. Last year \$800K of CDS funds were awarded to the City for the design of the Bridge Replacement. The City is currently seeking qualification statements from bridge consultant engineers. The grants require a 20% local match, which will be funded from the Infrastructure Improvement Bond.

Public Works hosted the annual HHWC on Saturday June 15th. This event is one of the benefits that the SCRRRA towns receive, and helps to ensure that hazardous materials are disposed of properly, and at no direct cost to the City.

The curbside recycling carts in Norwich will soon be checked by camera and computer to better identify sources of contamination. This is the same technology, which has been utilized as a pilot program through SCRRRA in the towns of East Lyme, and Ledyard since earlier in the year. When a contaminant is detected, something like plastic bags, or styrofoam, a personalized post card is sent to the address associated with the cart. The postcard provides the image of the contaminant (all other items blurred for privacy) with educational messaging about what can and cannot go in our curbside recycle carts. The goal is to decrease contamination, which adds cost to recycling.

Mohegan Park's Spaulding Pond will be open to the public beginning June 17th. Hours are Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Friday from 10-6; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-6; and closed Wednesdays to the public for Recreation Department swim lessons.

The Rose Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, June 29th at Chelsea Parade. A complete list of entertainment is on their website www.roseartsfestival.com.