



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:** July 21, 2025

### Meetings and Professional Engagements

During the reporting period, I participated in the following meetings and activities on behalf of the City:

- Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECOG)
- Weekly and executive sessions with the Norwich Community Development Corporation (NCDC)
- Stakeholder discussions related to the Community Investment Fund (CIF)
- Norwich Waterfront Stakeholder Coordination meetings

A notable event included the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the redevelopment of the former Reid & Hughes Building, alongside Governor Ned Lamont and state and local officials. This long-anticipated project culminated in the creation of 17 market-rate apartments and 2,000 square feet of commercial retail space, all while preserving the structure's historically significant façade. This revitalization represents a major milestone in the City's downtown redevelopment efforts.

### Tax Collection Update

The Tax Collector's Office reports positive trends in payment activity:

- A **10% increase** in lockbox and in-person tax payments at M&T Bank.
- Distribution of a targeted outreach email to approximately 4,000 taxpayers, introducing the City's new credit card payment system.

Taxpayers are reminded that payments made or postmarked after August 1, 2025, will be subject to statutory late penalties. To enhance service efficiency, residents are encouraged to enroll in paperless billing via [InvoiceCloud](#).

### Human Services and Senior Programming

The department is now preparing to administer two newly awarded Community Development Block Grants focused on Employment Training and Housing Assistance

The Rose City Senior Center Outreach Coordinator Carolyn McAuliffe has completed the majority of Renters' Rebate applications for senior housing at AHEPA. The Senior Center also secured a CDBG grant to support free food distribution services, reinforcing its mission to address senior food insecurity.

## Youth Family & Recreation

Youth programming continues to thrive under the *Summer Jam* initiative:

- Campers engaged in community service projects, including:
  - Creating floral centerpieces with McKenna's Flower Shop and UCFS Sheltering Arms residents.
  - Preparing and donating 50 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to St. Vincent de Paul Place.

The Department launched its third Kindness Pantry, located adjacent to the Taftville Playground, furthering access to free essential items for the public. Led by Idis Andino, the initiative reinforces community generosity and resource sharing. Summer camps are operating at full capacity, and Spaulding Pond remains a well-utilized recreational amenity.

## Community Development Office

Welcome to the City's new director of Community Development, Patricia Mullins. The Community Development Office has completed the Draft 2025–2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan, now available for a 30-day public comment period on the City's website. The final submission to HUD is scheduled by the August 16, 2025, deadline.

In support of this initiative, Community Development staff:

- Hosted a public housing forum on July 3.
- Engaged municipal partners, including:
  - The Directors of Planning & Neighborhood Services, Human Services, and the Norwich Housing Authority.
  - Conducted site visits to Norwich Housing Authority properties.
  - Held a consultation session with the Norwich Youth, Family, and Recreation Advisory Committee on July 15.
- Conducted a formal public hearing on July 16; public input received will be documented in the final submission.

## Public Engagement and Special Projects

Progress continues on the Norwich Waterfront Improvement Project. Public input collected through recent community engagement efforts will be made available via the [Envision Norwich 360](#) platform, ensuring transparency and inclusivity in the planning process.

## Quarterly Reports

Attached are the City Department and Otis Library reports for the quarter ending June 30, 2025.