



ESTABLISHED 1659

CITY OF NORWICH CONNECTICUT

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To: Mayor Singh and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager's Report
Date: March 2, 2026

Meetings and Professional Engagements

During the reporting period, I represented the City of Norwich at the following meetings and events:

- Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECOG)
- City Coordination Meeting
- Norwich Community Development Corporation (NCDC) Executive Committee Meeting
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Emergency Operations Center was activated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 22, through 11:30 a.m. on Monday, February 23, in response to the Blizzard of 2026.

During this period, I also issued the following joint statement to the press on behalf of the City and the Volunteer Departments:

"We are encouraged by the progress made in recent communications and have agreed to meet this coming Monday to engage in a good-faith discussion regarding our next steps. This meeting represents a positive development in the spirit of collaboration. We look forward to working together to ensure the continued safety and well-being of the Norwich community through our shared commitment to public service."

Assessor

The October 1, 2025 Grand List was completed on February 26. The overall net taxable Grand List for Real Estate, Personal Property, and Motor Vehicles totals \$2,907,203,231, representing an increase of \$35,939,871, or 1.25%, over the prior year.

- Real Estate values increased by 0.57%, driven primarily by new residential construction and properties returning from assessment deferral programs.
- The Motor Vehicle Grand List increased by 4.9%, reflecting a net increase of 754 vehicles over last year, potentially related to ongoing motor vehicle investigations.
- The Personal Property Grand List increased by 5.3%.

Public Works

Through Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Public Works has responded to 12 winter weather events this season, five of which were significant storms.

The most recent blizzard began on the evening of Sunday, February 22, and continued into Monday, producing approximately 24 inches of snow. A follow-up storm on Wednesday, February 25, added an additional two inches, bringing the season's total snowfall to approximately 70 inches.

Approximately 670 tons of salt were used during these two storms, bringing the seasonal total to approximately 2,800 tons. The estimated cost of responding to the 12 winter storms to date is approximately \$380,000. As previously reported, the overtime budget has been fully expended.

Notably, approximately 62 inches of the season's total snowfall occurred during off-hours, including weekends and holidays.

Snow removal operations continue this week, progressing from the downtown area to Greeneville and then to Taftville.

Youth, Family, and Recreation Department

The Youth, Family, and Recreation Department is actively conducting seasonal hiring for Summer Camps and Spaulding Pond, including counselors and lifeguards.

The department is currently managing:

- More than 20 juvenile diversion referrals
- Approximately 10 referrals for the First Step program
- Social-emotional learning groups in four schools

Staff are also finalizing Spring and Summer program planning, with brochures and registration anticipated within the next two weeks. Session Two of Winter Programs begins the week of March 16, 2026.

Norwich Public Schools

Thank you to the students from Wequonnoc Magnet Elementary School grades 1 through 5, for providing a new collection of artwork now on display.