



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 7, 2021

City Hall reopened to the public on Monday, May 24th with a very smooth transition and no issues.

Meetings attended included: State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments (SCCOG), Southeastern Area Transit (SEAT), NPU-City Coordination Meeting, Department of Health COVID-19 updates, NCDC Board Meetings, Fire Chiefs, Passport to Norwich Campaign and American Rescue Plan meetings.

The City has received the \$10.6 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) which has been invested in short term safe bank investments. We are still getting clarification on the guidelines and there will be a presentation at the July 6th Council meeting on how the funds will be dispersed.

Norwich Public Works Department staff participated in a training session to clean and reset historic burial markers at the Norwichtown Burying Grounds so that it may be enjoyed and studied by visitors for years to come. On June 5th approximately 50 student athletes from NFA participated in a community service project in conjunction with Public Works. In addition to picking up litter on some downtown streets, the students painted the primer coat of white paint on the "bump outs" of four intersections along Central Ave. in Greenville. The primer paint will then be covered with various colors as a community enhancement, complete streets project.

Thank you to Norwich Youth Grants who awarded a total of \$156,406 to Norwich based organizations. The grants support youth development programs and services for economically and socially disadvantaged Norwich youth. The City's Recreation Summer Day Camp was awarded \$25,000 and \$12,000 was awarded to Norwich Youth and Family Services for Summer Jam and Learn. The grants are administered by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

The Passport to Norwich program began June 1st to encourage local tourism in Norwich. The City partnered with US Foods, Norwich Historical Society, Eastern Regional Tourism District, Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce and NCDC to help the local small business restaurant operators and provide them with the resources and support to succeed after the pandemic. The passport includes a map with the Walk Norwich heritage trails of scenic routes through historically significant places. Full details are available at passporttonorwich.com.

My assistant, Jacquie Barbarossa, who is also the city's liaison for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program has received 11 applications for the 2021 program year totaling \$862,348.00. The public hearing for the applications will be held June 21st and forwarded to the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services before the July 1st submission date. The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program provides funding for municipal and tax exempt organizations by providing corporation business tax credits for business that make cash contributions to the organizations that are approved by the Department of Revenue Services.