

Agenda
Town Council Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 2021 at 8:00 AM
Via GoToMeeting Teleconference

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1. Pledge
2. Visitors
3. Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2021
4. Appointments/Reappointments
5. Partners in Community Grant Application
6. Ordinance Prohibiting Cannabis Establishments as Land Use
7. Ordinance Prohibiting Cannabis on Town Property
8. Authorizing Resolution Supporting the Expansion of the Estuary Transit District
9. Line Item Transfer
10. Council Discussion on Future Projects
11. Chairman's Report
12. Town Manager's Report
13. Town Council Committee Liaison Reports
14. Executive Session – Personnel, pursuant to CGS 1-200(6)(A)
15. Public Works Truck Driver
16. Police Department Executive Assistant
17. Senior Program Coordinator
18. Adjourn

LPC Town: Clinton LPC Applicant: Partners in Community

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

1	Application Date	Funding Start Date TBD - June 30, 2022
2	Applicant Agency (Legal Name & Address) Town of Clinton – Partners in Community 48 E Main St Clinton, CT 06413	Applicant Agency FEIN 06-6001973
3	Has a permanent Local Prevention Council been established? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
4	Local Prevention Council name and address Partners in Community 48 E Main St Clinton, CT 06413	
5	LPC Contact Person (Programmatic) Kelley Edwards	Telephone Number/Fax Number 860-664-1142
	Title Prevention Coordinator	Email Address kedwards@clintonct.org
6	Contact Person (Fiscal) Kelley Edwards	Telephone Number/Fax Number 860-664-1142
	Title Prevention Coordinator	Email Address kedwards@clintonct.org
7	List town(s) impacted/included in application Clinton, CT	
8	Is litigation pending on any of the applicant organization's programs? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, briefly explain below.	
FUNDING SUMMARY		
9	Total Program Budget \$294,000	Amount Requested 7102.79

LPC Town: _____Clinton_____LPC Applicant: _Partners in Community_____

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

ATTESTATION			
10	I attest that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application is true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the contractor, the contractor has legal authority to apply for assistance, the contractor will comply with applicable state and/or federal regulations, and that I am a duly authorized signatory for the contractor.		
	Name (Print Or Type)	Title	Signature
	Kelley Edwards	Prevention Coordinator	
AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE(S)			
11	In order for this application to be considered for funding, it must be signed by an official signatory of the prioritized municipality.		
	Name (Print Or Type)	Title	Signature
	Karl Kilduff	Town Manager	Date
12	If proposed activities involve the public schools in the prioritized community, the signature of the Superintendent of Schools (or designee) is required.		
	Name (Print Or Type)	Title	Signature
			Date

13. Partnership(s)

A. Why was this partner(s)/community based-organization chosen? Partners in Community has been “housed” under Clinton Human Services in the Town of Clinton Municipality for more than 30 years.

B. What is the evidence of this partner(s)/community based-organization’s capacity to manage community based coalitions? There is a multi-decade relationship between the Town of Clinton and the prevention council. The same prevention coordinator has been in place under Clinton Human Services for the last 11 years. The LPC has maintained 12 sector membership, sought and has been awarded funding from the state and the federal governments, and has met goals and objectives to reduce substance use over those years.

C. What is the evidence of this partner(s)/community based-organization’s commitment to the community?

We have switched town leadership models in the last year, and have more connection with the town leaders than ever before. The Chairman of the Town Council is very committed to prevention and has attended every meeting since he was appointed. The Human Services department has provided prevention and positive youth development activities for over 30 years as well. The director of Clinton Human Services has been a YBS director for more than 30 years also and is very knowledgeable about prevention as well as addiction and treatment.

LPC Town: Clinton_____LPC Applicant: Partners in Community_____

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

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14. WORKPLAN (use as many pages as needed)					
LPC Town Served: Clinton					
Statewide Priority Problem Substance: Vaping					
Goal 1: Reduce vaping use rates by 5% by 2025 among 12-18 year-olds by targeting related risk and protective factors.					
Service Type Code	Activity	Resources/Partners	Proposed Priority Population(s)	Estimated numbers served	Proposed Service Dates/Ranges (MM/YY)
STN16	Anti vaping campaign	REACT youth, schools, School resource officer	Middle and high school students	750	01/22
STN11	Vaping materials handed out at school events and online social media	Parents, schools, youth	Middle and high school parents and students	1500	09/21-06/22
STV02	Compliance checks with nicotine retailers in town	Police	Middle and high school students	750	11/21, 03/22
STE05	REACT and Peer Advocates create and implement positive peer influence about not vaping/stopping vaping	Youth Services, Youth, Schools	Middle and high school students	80	07/21-06/22
STA07	REACT leadership group	Youth, Parents, School	Middle and High School students	80	07/21—6/22

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

14. WORKPLAN (use as many pages as needed)					
LPC Town Served: Clinton					
Statewide Priority Problem Substance: Vaping					
Goal 2: Increase public awareness of vaping risks and prevention.					
Service Type Code	Activity	Resources/Partners	Proposed Priority Population(s)	Estimated numbers served	Proposed Service Dates/Ranges (MM/YY)
STN16	Anti vaping campaign; fliers, news ads, billboards	REACT youth, schools, School resource officer	Middle and high school students	8000	01/22
STN11	Vaping materials handed out at school events and online social media	Parents, schools, youth	Middle and high school parents and students	1500	09/21-06/22
STC015	Administration of 7-12 gr student survey	Clinton Schools	Middle and high school students	800	10/2021
STC05	Coalition meetings monthly	All sectors	General public	25	Monthly throughout year
STC02	Assessing survey data	All sectors	General Public	25	11/2021-1/2022
STC014	Increase coalition capacity	All sectors and coordinator	General Public	25	11/2021-6/2022
STC013	Coalition Building	All sectors and coordinator	General Public and youth	6	9/2021-6/2022

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

14. WORKPLAN (use as many pages as needed)					
LPC Town Served: Clinton					
Local/ Priority Problem Substance(s): Marijuana and Alcohol					
Goal 1: Reduce 7-12 graders' use of marijuana and alcohol by 5% as measured by semi-annual student survey (2019, 2021, 2023)					
Service Type Code	Activity	Resources/Partners	Proposed Priority Population(s)	Estimated numbers served	Proposed Service Dates/Ranges (MM/YY)
STC014	Presentation by coalition members at public hearing to oppose retail marijuana sales in community	All sectors	General public	1 zoning law	09/2021
STV001	Sobriety checkpoint	Police	General public	8000	09/2021
STV03	Provision of ID Checking Guides to all alcohol retailers	Youth, alcohol retailers, police	General public	8000	07/2021
STN11	Dissemination of marijuana and alcohol abuse materials at open houses and community events	Schools, civic groups	Parents, youth	500	9/2021-6/2022
STA01	Post graduation event for graduates	Project Grad committee, students, parents, school, police	High School seniors	125	06/22

LPC Town: Clinton_____ **LPC Applicant: Partners in Community**_____

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

14. WORKPLAN (use as many pages as needed)					
LPC Town Served:					
Local Priority Problem Substance(s): Marijuana and alcohol					
Goal 2: Increase 7-12 grade students' perception of harm by 10% to establish baseline (using new data collecting in 2021)					
Service Type Code	Activity	Resources/Partners	Proposed Priority Population(s)	Estimated numbers served	Proposed Service Dates/Ranges (MM/YY)
STC015	Administration of 7-12 gr student survey	Clinton Schools	Middle and high school students	800	10/2021
STC05	Coalition meetings monthly	All sectors	General public	25	Monthly throughout year
STC02	Assessing survey data	All sectors	General Public	25	11/2021-1/2022
STC014	Increase coalition capacity	All sectors and coordinator	General Public	25	11/2021-6/2022
STE05	REACT and Peer Advocates create and implement positive peer influence about non use of alcohol/marijuana	Youth Services, Youth, Schools	Middle and high school students	80	07/21-06/22
STA07	REACT leadership group held 2x month	Youth, Parents, School	Middle and High School students	80	07/21—6/22

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council**15. Budget Narrative**

Please use or replicate the format below to complete your Budget Narrative and Budget Justification below for each line item. This budget amount is located in Appendix A. of the Announcement and should show exactly what requested dollars will purchase keeping the following in mind:

- Allowable administrative costs may not exceed 15% of total funding.
- Honorariums not to exceed \$500.00.
- Allowable program expenses may include materials/supplies, equipment rentals, and programmatic food expenses; however, food expenses may not exceed more than 5% of the total budget for the entire funding period.
- Direct services for intervention or treatment are not allowed.
- Receipts must be maintained as you may need to submit them upon request.

Budget Narrative	
Item(s)	Total Costs
Personnel	0
Fringe	0
Supplies, printing, postage	\$2375.00
Travel	
Campaign/print materials/website	\$4727.00
Total Direct Charges	
Indirect Charges	
Total	\$7102.00

Please provide a Budget Justification for the items noted in the narrative above:

\$10x 80 shirts for REACT identity and inclusion campaign = \$800

Misc food items for youth group = \$300

Printing of tax inserts with marijuana information = .25 x 5100 households = \$1275

Development of campaigns for suicide prevention, alcohol, vaping and marijuana = \$2000 for marketing

Printing and creating hand outs on the above = \$2727.00

LPC Town: Clinton_____LPC Applicant: Partners in Community_____

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

Budget Narrative	
Item(s)	Total Costs

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

16. Local Prevention Council Membership List

Member Name	Gender	Race	Email Address	Title	Sector Representation
Kim Inglis	F	W	inglisfamily@sbcglobal.net	President of Friends of Youth and Family	Parent
Shelby Mehmet	F	W	smehmet@clintonct.org	Coalition Coordinator	Staff
Spencer Mangs	M	W	smangs@clintonct.org	Youth Officer	Police
Brian Corbin	M	W	bcorbin@clintonct.org	School Res Officer	Police
Kelley Edwards	F	W	kedwards@clintonct.org	Prevention Coordinator	Staff
Keri Hagness	F	W	khagness@clintonpublic.net	HS Principal	School
Marc Goldstein	M	W	goldstenm@ccsu.ed	Evaluator	Evaluator
Rachel Lupone	F	W	rlupone@clintonpublic.net	HS Health Teacher	School
Tracey Leary	F	W	Tracey.leary@wakefern.com	Supervisor of Pharmacy	Medical
Lourdes Rojas	F	Hisp	Loudes.rojas@yale.edu		Civic
Lew Pappariella	M	W	lpappariella@clintonpublic.net	Athletic Director	School
Elizabeth Smith	F	W	Lizsmith2492@gmail.com		Parent
Chris Luther	M	W	cluther@clintonpublic.net	HS Vice Principal	School
Laura Luther	F	W	lluther@clintonpublic.net	HS Teacher	School
Shelby Auletta	F	W	auletta@comcast.net		Parent
Jill Paglino	F	W	jpaglino@clintonct.org	YS Program Coordinator	Other Youth Serving
Shannon Ayer	F	W	Sayer1@comcast.net		Parent
Marie Pinette	F	W	mpinette@clintonct.org	YS Therapist	Treatment
David Melillo	M	W	dmelillo@clintonct.org	HS Director	Other Youth Serving
Eric O'Connell	M	W	e.oconnell@shorepublishing.com	Reporter	Media
Nancy Darr	F	W	darr@groveschool.org		Parent/Therapist
Liese Zitzkat	F	W	Liese.zitzkat@gmail.com	PTA Officer	Parent/Other Youth Serving
Heather Moore	F	W	Hbernard28@hotmail.com	PTA President	Parent/Other Youth Serving
Erin Gaudet	F	W	eringaudet@yahoo.com	Human Services Chair person	Parent
Susan Landino	F	W	landinofamily@comcast.net		Parent

Funding Application for Grant to Support Local Prevention Council

Mac Burns	M	W	mburns@projectcourageworks.com	Therapist	Treatment
Chris Aniskovich	M	W	caniskovich@clintonct.org	Town Council Chair	Government
Ben Auletta	M	W	Benjamin.auletta@clintonpublic.net	Peer Assistant	Youth
Addison Auletta	M	W	Addison.auletta@clintonpublic.net	Peer Assistant	Youth
Sydney Giuliano	F	W	Sydney.giuliano@clintonpublic.net	Peer Assistant	Youth
Samantha Way	F	W	Samantha.way@clintonpublic.net	REACT officer	Youth
Sara Carey	F	W	Sara.carey@clintonpublic.net	Peer Assistant	Youth
Sean Cockley	M	W	dozeforlife@yahoo.com		College Student
Laura Colebank	F	W	lcobank@gmail.com	PTA VP	Other Youth Serving
Cheryl Church	F	W	cchurch@clintonct.org	Social Services Director	Other
Kelley Nichols	F	W	knichols@clintonct.org	Park and Rec	Other Youth Serving/Parent

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS AS LAND USE

1. Authority

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to General Statutes Sections 7-148(c)(7)(A)(ii), 7-148(c)(7)(H), and 7-148(c)(10)(A), as amended by Public Act 21-1, Section 148 (June 2021 Special Session), which allows municipalities to regulate activities deemed harmful to public health. Said law permits municipalities to prohibit cannabis establishments within their jurisdictions by identifying such uses as a "Prohibited Use" in their respective local zoning regulations or land use ordinances. Section 148(b) of such law provides, in relevant part: "[a]ny municipality may, by amendment to such municipality's zoning regulations or by local ordinance, prohibit the establishment of a cannabis establishment.

2. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to this Article:

Cannabis Establishment - A producer, dispensary facility, cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer (i.e., licensed to sell both recreational cannabis and medical marijuana) of products containing cannabis; or a manufacturer, packager, delivery service, or transporter of products containing cannabis, including cannabis-infused food and beverage products.

Cannabis Producer - An individual or business that possesses a state or municipal license to grow, harvest, dry, trim, cure, and package cannabis.

Cannabis Cultivator - An individual or business producing cannabis flowers.

Cannabis Micro-Cultivator - An individual or business that produces cannabis flowers in a limited-sized grow space.

Cannabis Food and Beverage Manufacturer - An individual or business that produces cannabis- infused foods and beverages.

Cannabis Product Manufacturer - An individual or business that participates in any aspect of the cannabis extraction and infusion processes, including processing, preparing, holding, storing, packaging, or labeling of cannabis products. Cannabis manufacturing also includes any processing, preparing, holding, or storing of components and ingredients.

Cannabis Product Packager - An individual or business that focuses on assisting the proper and accurate packaging of cannabis products into pre-weighted containers and pre-rolled joints.

Cannabis Dispensary Facility - Regulated locations in which a person can purchase cannabis and cannabis related items for medical or recreational use.

Cannabis Retailer - An individual or business that sells, supplies, or offers recreational cannabis products for sale directly to consumers.

shall report the land use changes made by this Ordinance, in writing, to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and to the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection not later than fourteen (14) days after the adoption of this Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING USE OF CANNABIS ON TOWN PROPERTY

1. Authority

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to General Statutes Sections 7-148(c)(7)(H), as amended by Public Act 21-1 (June 2021 Special Session), Section 84, which allows municipalities to regulate activities deemed harmful to public health, including smoking, on municipally-owned or controlled property. Said law further allows a municipality to control smoking of tobacco or cannabis, including cannabis e-cigarette use (i.e., electronic delivery systems and vapor products), as well as and other types of cannabis use or consumption.

2. Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter, the Town of Clinton adopts the definitions used in Public Act 21-1 (June 2021 Special Session), as the same may be amended from time to time.

3. Cannabis Product Use Prohibited on Town Property

It shall be unlawful for any person to use cannabis or cannabis-derived products, regardless of form or manner of ingestion, on any property owned or controlled by the Town of Clinton. This prohibition includes but is not limited to: the lighting or carrying of a lighted cannabis or marijuana cigarette or cigar or pipe, use of a vaping device producing vapor of any cannabis product, or carrying or ingestion of a cannabis edible substance. Violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of \$50.00 per offense.

4. Sale, Gift, or Transfer of Cannabis Products on Town Property Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person, organization, entity, or any other party to sell, give, trade, or in any other way transfer cannabis products of any sort to another person, organization, entity, or other party on property owned or controlled by the Town of Clinton. Such products include but are not limited to: cannabis or marijuana cigarettes or cigars or pipes, vaping devices and vaping substances, and edible substances. Violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of \$50.00 per offense.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF THE ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT

WHEREAS, a strong public transportation system is vital to the health, economy, environment and overall well-being of a community;

WHEREAS, effective public transportation requires a regional approach to meet the mobility needs of constituents;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 7-273b, the Estuary Transit District ("ETD") was established in 1981;

WHEREAS, the Lower Connecticut River Valley Transit Study has determined that combining the ETD with the Middletown Transit District ("MTD") will result in improved transit services to the regions respectively served by the ETD and MTD by: enhancing the fiscal sustainability of a larger district; providing efficiencies of scale that will result in reduced costs for fleet maintenance; enhancing staff recruitment and retention by providing more opportunities for advancement; providing significant service improvements including better customer service, expanded service areas, frequencies and hours; and providing for new and upgraded capital facilities that will improve both operational and financial efficiency;

WHEREAS, to improve efficiencies of operations by ETD and MTD and in anticipation of the MTD member municipalities joining ETD, ETD and MTD entered into an Employee Sharing Services Agreement whereby ETD and MTD agreed to share certain employees during the transition period as jointly determined by ETD and MTD and their respective boards;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Clinton does hereby support the combination of the Middletown Transit District and the Estuary Transit District into an expanded Estuary Transit District on condition that the necessary funding commitment is provided by the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Estuary Transit District
Briefing Summary for Boards of Selectmen Regarding the Consolidation of the Middletown
and Estuary Transit Districts
September 22, 2021

BACKGROUND

The CTDOT commissioned a study conducted by RiverCOG to evaluate the potential of combining the Middletown and Estuary Transit Districts. This Lower Connecticut River Valley Transit Study was completed in June 2020 and recommended that combining the districts would improve transit service in the region. This restructuring is jointly supported by MTD, ETD, CTDOT and RiverCOG. RiverCOG unanimously approved a resolution in support of the expansion of ETD on September 22, 2021.

BENEFITS OF EXPANSION

Staffing

Combining the workforce of two relatively small districts will increase opportunities for advancement, provide backup capabilities and enhance recruiting and retaining quality staff. There will be only one Executive Director and Finance Director, freeing up funds for other needed mid-level management positions. No existing positions will be lost as a result of the expansion and it will not be necessary for staff to relocate.

Technology

Upgraded technology and equipment across the region reduces redundancies and adds conveniences for transit riders.

Service

The expansion will improve connectivity to various statewide transit services and result in improved efficiencies that will result in savings that can be used to expand services.

Facilities

The expansion will result in the following new and upgraded facilities that will improve vehicle maintenance capabilities, provide for growth and incorporate the latest energy-efficient technology:

- Expansion of the facility at 91 North Main St. in Middletown to increase functionality for operations management and vehicle servicing;
- Construction of a new, shared vehicle maintenance facility in Middletown to provide in-house vehicle maintenance functions for all vehicles;

- Construction of a new satellite facility on the shoreline for dispatch and vehicle staging (a site in Westbrook has been identified and is currently being vetted).

EXPANSION IMPLEMENTATION

The expanded ETD would combine the staff, budgets, all operating and capital assets and governing boards of both districts. The expanded district would operate at the Middletown campus. Middletown members will vote to join ETD; ETD will vote to accept them; MTD will eventually dissolve. The expanded ETD will initially comprise 12 municipalities (addition of Middletown, Middlefield and Durham) and six other towns may join in the future (Portland, East Hampton, Haddam, East Haddam, Cromwell and Madison).

The legal name will continue to be Estuary Transit District, with a new dba reflecting the expansion. Transit services will be rebranded with new bus designs, signage, schedules, etc.

MTD has a \$900,000 liability on its balance sheet owed to CTDOT that will be forgiven by CTDOT once the expansion occurs.

MTD drivers are unionized while ETD drivers are not. ETD salaries and benefits are higher than those for MTD and parity will be required as part of the implementation process.

ETD currently has an annual budget of about \$2.5 million, 25 employees, and a fleet of 18 vehicles. The expanded ETD will have an annual budget of about \$6 million, more than 50 employees and 38 vehicles.

EXPANSION FUNDING

The expansion as recommended in the 2020 Transit Study will require significant additional investment, as follows:

- Operating funds for new positions and benefit parity (\$1.3 million annually);
- Funding for land acquisition (\$1.6 million);
- Construction and renovation of facilities (\$27.4 million);
- One-time operational projects and planning studies (\$1.6 million).

The Districts have requested the CTDOT allocate \$2.5 million from available Federal COVID relief acts to fund the necessary increase in operational costs for the next three years. Action on this request is pending.

No increase in local matching funds or change in the formulas for local contribution for the Middletown and Estuary members is anticipated due to the expansion.

Actions to Date

A Joint Board Expansion Committee is overseeing the transition and expansion. The Boards have signed a Memorandum of Agreement and Shared Staffing Agreement to govern the implementation. Proposed Bylaws and Board Policies for the expanded ETD have been developed. Administrative offices of ETD have moved to the MTD campus.

Commitment of CTDOT

The Boards have negotiated an appropriate level of support for a successful expansion with CTDOT in the form of a letter that is legally non-binding. This support includes:

- Preparation of a Facilities Master Plan that incorporates the new/upgraded capital facilities;
- Funding for land acquisition, design, construction and maintenance of new/renovated capital facilities;
- Funding for additional mid-level management positions;
- Satisfaction of MTD outstanding debt to CTDOT;
- Funding for one-time Special Studies and Capital Projects necessary to implement the expansion.

Approval of Municipalities

In order to proceed with negotiations and effectuate the expansion of ETD, ETD is requesting that its members signify support for this expansion via a Resolution or other means of its choosing.

**TOWN OF CLINTON
TRANSFER OF FUNDS REQUEST FORM**

DATE OF REQUEST:	9/16/21
DEPARTMENT OF REQUEST:	Other General Government
FISCAL YEAR OF REQUEST:	FY22
REASON FOR REQUEST:	To cover Pierson Cost Study

INCREASE ACCOUNT(S)	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
014199-58964	Pierson Costs	\$12,000.00

DECREASE ACCOUNT(S)	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
014197-58086	Contingency	\$12,000.00

1) Department Head Signature*: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____

**when completed forward to Director of Finance for review*

2) Director of Finance:

Funds are available: Yes ☒ No ☐



Date Approved: 9/16/21 Denied: _____

3) Town Manager:

Date Approved: _____ Denied: _____

4) Town Council:

Date Approved: _____ Denied: _____

5) Finance Dept:

Date Transfer made: _____

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: October 6, 2021

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

1. Council Business:

- Hiring – A number of approved positions are ready for Council action to ratify the Town Manager's hiring choice. I will have candidates in three positions to discuss with the Council now that the hiring/interview process is completed.
- ARPA Funding – I am still collecting additional information on potential projects. Additionally, some funding projects that are regional in nature have advanced in other communities. Specifically, funding to support a new refrigerator truck for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen has been appropriated by Old Saybrook, Essex and East Lyme. This effort is on the list of projects that has been discussed. Funding commitments are still being sought from Chester, Deep River, Killingworth, Lyme, Madison, Old Lyme and Westbrook (in addition to Clinton).

2. CCM:

CCM launched a new task force in response to the recent increases in crime seen in some cities and towns. Its title is the Task Force on Violence Prevention, Recidivism and Community Relations. The intent is to de-politicize the issues being faced by communities, share ideas and possibly offer solutions during the next legislative session. The task force had an initial kick-off meeting with more to come in the future.

The Legislative Committee is scheduled to meet again on October 7, 2021.

3. River COG:

The Council of Governments met on September 22, 2021. Highlights of that meeting included:

- DEMHS Update – The State will open more state-sponsored COVID testing facilities in response to the spread of the delta variant. It was also reported that the State is looking for councils of governments to play a larger role in long-term recovery efforts. Every COG will be meeting with the State and FEMA on regional and local projects that can aid in economic recovery. FEMA has taken on the role of providing funding "match-making" services to try and connect projects with funding sources.
- Transit District Merger – The COG voted to endorse the merger of the Estuary Transit District with the Middletown Area Transit District pending DOT funding. Each town in the two districts are also being asked to take similar action.

- Regional Plan of Conservation and Development – The regional plan was finally approved.
- ARPA Funding – COG members were briefed on the ability of the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission to support towns in vetting projects and funding request for ARPA funds. The Commission already has a number of small lending/grant programs and ARPA funding decisions could follow their process.
- Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan - The plan received its final FEMA approvals and the COG is preparing hard copies of the final document for distribution to the participating municipalities.

4. 9 Town Transit:

The Board of 9 Town Transit met on September 17, 2021. The primary business of the transit district continues to focus on moving forward with the merger with Middletown Transit. The bylaws for the transit district need to be updated and a series of operation studies will need to move forward with DOT funding that will support the merger of the districts.

Additionally, a number of vacancies will occur as representatives from other municipalities retire or relocate. As result, remaining board members have been asked to assume added responsibilities. I will serve on the Finance Committee, Chair the Personnel Committee, and be a member of the “Expansion Transition Committee” which is working on the merger of the two transit districts.

5. Miscellaneous:

- MIRA – The board for the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) met in September and are looking for a group meeting date with member towns to given them an update on the project and direction MIRA is headed. The date for the meeting has yet to be scheduled, but will take place later in October. I will brief the Council on the contents of the MIRA meeting which I would anticipate will address the future, the direction of solid waste and tip fees.
- Preparation of Issuing Bonds – The Town will need to go back out to the marketplace in early 2022 to place new Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) and convert existing BANs into long-term bonds. While the actual placements won’t take place until February, we do need to plan now and make the necessary preparations. Also, this placement will see us work with a new firm, but we will still be represented by the same Financial Advisor who has been assisting the Town for a number of years which will provide continuity.
- Discussions with Amtrak – There has been interest by some members of the community to beautify parts of Clinton and those concepts require coordination with, or possible permission from, Amtrak. While time consuming on both ends, this was a worthwhile discussion to understand the Amtrak process for work near their right-of-way and their expectations. The Town was also given the limits of their right-of-way in certain areas. The age of the maps and the lack of local documentation made this helpful. Parts of the right-of-way will be formally marked by Amtrak staff.

- Budget Development – As I noted during our budget workshop, I am looking for department heads to provide more detail on capital projects in advance of the budget review workshops in February and March so the Council can have a multi-year capital improvement plan that provides details on project needs, priorities, alternatives and consequences.

Additionally, Maryann and I will meet and discuss the next steps in our budget processes based on the input given from the Council during the workshop.