

The Connecticut General Assembly



For IMMEDIATE Release
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Contact: Jason York
jason.york@cga.ct.gov

FUNDING REQUEST FOR STODDARD AVENUE BUSINESS DISTRICT STREETSCAPE ON AGENDA FOR STATE BOND COMMISSION MEETING NEXT WEEK

*Program builds walkable communities and improves pedestrian access
to retail shopping and public services in Newington*

NEWINGTON — More than \$800,000 in funding for the Stoddard Avenue Business District Streetscape Project is on the agenda for the State Bond Commission's meeting next week, which was applauded by the Newington Democratic delegation in the General Assembly.

The State Bond Commission is set to approve the funding during a meeting Tuesday, December 21. The Commission will meet via teleconference at 2 p.m. The meeting will be broadcast at www.CT-N.com.

"This project improves Newington's attractiveness for businesses and customers, as well as ensures better safety for pedestrians and bicycles," said **State Rep. Gary Turco (D-Newington)**. "I appreciate Governor Lamont putting this item on next week's agenda, and for being a great friend to Newington by signaling his support for our economic development and beautification."

The Streetscape Program began in 2000 to build walkable communities consistent with the historic character of Newington. The Stoddard Avenue project includes improving pedestrian access to retail shopping and public services with sidewalks where they are lacking, in addition to a new granite curb, landscaping, decorative streetlights and safety improvements. The continued enhancement of streetscapes is expected to attract business, which will help grow Newington's grand list, bring well-paying jobs to the area, and improve the quality of life.

"I am very excited that this project for the Town of Newington is being considered by the State Bonding Commission," said **State Rep. Kerry Wood (D-Newington/Rocky Hill/Wethersfield)**. "Streetscape improvements, as we all know, are important to safety, a continued and strong business presence, and longevity."

"Facilitating access to our local businesses is a good investment and will contribute to our overall efforts to enhance economic activity in Newington," said **Rep. Manny Sanchez (D-New Britain/Newington)**. "I would also like to thank Governor Lamont for including this item in this round of funding and look forward to the seeing the great improvements."

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State Sen. Matt Lesser (D-Middletown) added: "This bonding will be critical to Newington's quality of life and economic development. I am grateful to Governor Lamont for his support and pleased to support Newington's House Delegation in getting it funded."

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