

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



BRIDGEPORT LEGISLATORS ANNOUNCE BENEFICIAL LEGISLATION AND MAJOR FUNDING

Representatives **Steve Stafstrom** (D-129th), **Ezequiel Santiago** (D-130th), **Andre Baker** (D-124th), **Charlie Stallworth** (D-126th), **Jack Hennessy** (D-127th), and **Christopher Rosario** (D-128th) are pleased to announce approval by the State Bond Commission of funding for various projects in Bridgeport. Legislation on pension funding relief and mixed martial arts are also making their way through the legislature.

“By investing in our city’s educational facilities and local libraries, we are investing in our students’ academic careers and futures. These investments catalyze the advancement of our workforce,” said state **Rep. Steve Stafstrom**. “I am proud to work with the Bridgeport legislative delegation to advocate for the funding of these projects and thank Gov. Malloy for recognizing the importance of investing in our city and its residents.”

“I am very pleased with the work of the delegation on behalf of our Bridgeport constituents,” state **Rep. Santiago** said. “Bridgeport received over \$6 million for various projects including continuing renovations to Housatonic Community College, a grant for Southwest Community Health Center and improvements to our library. We also passed the mixed-martial arts and boxing bill that will help to bring events to the city, and the pension bill that will save us millions of dollars on pensions.”

“As chairman of the Bridgeport legislative delegation, I am pleased with the contributions from the state to move Bridgeport forward,” said state **Rep. Jack Hennessy**. “These investments stand to benefit Bridgeport residents for years to come.”

“This is an investment in our children and the families that use the Old Mill Green Branch Library,” state **Rep. Stallworth** said. “This technology center will give East Side residents access to the latest computers and software – it will be a hub for education and learning.”

“The approval of these important projects for Bridgeport show our delegation’s effort and commitment to working together to make things happen for our communities,” said state **Rep. Christopher Rosario**. “I am proud to work with my colleagues and grateful to the governor for prioritizing this funding. I am particularly proud of the MMA bill I championed that passed the House of Representatives.”

“Through these projects, we are not only investing in our local infrastructure, we are building a better future for our residents. By ensuring that the Bridgeport Public Library offers a technologically-advanced environment that promotes higher learning, our residents will have the tools they need to succeed in their academic and professional careers,” said state **Rep. Andre Baker**.

Bond items for Bridgeport include:

- \$3,195,938 for construction contract for phase II parking garage repairs at Housatonic Community College
- \$2,000,000 to Southwest Community Health Center for replacement of its facility at the Marina Village public housing project
- \$1,000,000 for Bridgeport Public Library for construction of a technology center and purchase of technology equipment

Legislation beneficial to Bridgeport includes:

- House Bill [#6910](#), Authorizing The Funding Of Unfunded Accrued Municipal Employees' Retirement System Liabilities By Municipalities, passed the House of Representatives and is awaiting action in the Senate. It will save Bridgeport taxpayers on unfunded pension liability
- House Bill [#6266](#), Mixed Martial Arts bill (MMA), passed the House of Representatives and awaiting action in the Senate. The measure would allow MMA sessions in the state of Connecticut lifting burdens on promoters and putting protections in place for competitors.

The items were recently approved by the State Bond Commission. The Connecticut General Assembly 2017 Regular Session began January 4 and adjourns June 7.

###