

TOWN OF VERNON

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Town of Vernon Partners with Vernon Housing Authority to Obtain \$2 Million Grant

Major Renovation of Grove Court and Grove Court Extension Complexes Planned

(VERNON, Connecticut) – The Town of Vernon in partnership with the Vernon Housing Authority has obtained a \$2 million grant through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant that will go toward rehabilitation and renovation work at the Grove Court and Grove Court Extension housing developments on Grove Street. The Town Council recently and unanimously accepted the grant via a resolution.

Vernon Project and Grant Coordinator Nichole Greco worked closely with Vernon Housing Authority Executive Director Betsy Soto to prepare the grant application.

“The Vernon Housing Authority plays a vital role in providing seniors and other qualified residents of our community with safe and affordable housing,” Vernon Mayor Dan Champagne said. “That’s why I directed staff in my office to work with housing authority leadership to prepare and submit this grant request. We are grateful to the state and federal governments for awarding these funds to Vernon.”

The Connecticut Department of Housing recently notified the Town about the grant award.

Grove Court is a state-funded seven-building complex with 54 affordable housing units. It is one of six complexes and several homes that the Vernon Housing Authority manages.

The work planned for Grove Court is estimated to cost several million dollars and will include building and fire code updates, handicapped accessibility upgrades to apartments and common areas, Energy Star appliances, new bathrooms, new roofs, windows, siding and site improvements that will enhance accessibility.

“This work is needed and will enhance everyday life for residents at Grove Court,” Soto said. “The partnership with the town was essential in obtaining this grant, and the work will ensure our residents have safe, comfortable housing for decades to come.”

Grove Court was built in 1968 and Grove Court Extension was built in 1977.

“These building improvements and code updates are the right thing to do and, when complete, will benefit every resident of Grove Court,” Town Administrator and Emergency and Risk Management Director Michael Purcaro said. “We’ve been working with the Vernon Housing Authority for more than a year to secure this funding, and we will continue to seek additional grant funding to support this vital community project.”

About the Town of Vernon

The Town of Vernon is a celebrated place to live, work and visit. From its beautiful parks and lakes, to its vast trails and historic homes and buildings, Vernon is a resilient and thriving community that promotes the health and wellbeing of its residents and values the natural environment. With a resident population of more than 30,000 and occupying 18.03 square miles, Vernon combines a balanced appreciation of history, and a strong economic base for growth, both residential and commercial. Located 15 minutes east of the Connecticut capital of Hartford, and 25 miles from the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, the Town of Vernon is strategically located in “New England's Knowledge Corridor” with close proximity to some of the top colleges and universities in the country.

Designated a certified Sustainable Community, the Town of Vernon offers a wide range of benefits and services to its residents. The Town of Vernon is a full-service municipality that practices a management philosophy of continuous quality improvement. To learn more about the Town of Vernon, please call (860) 870-3670 or visit www.vernon-ct.gov.

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