

Larson, Murphy Announce \$750,000 for Torrington's Downtown Redevelopment Project

Today, the House of Representatives passed a collection of annual appropriations bills that includes a \$750,000 grant for the City of Torrington's Main Street Realignment Project, an effort which will make the downtown business and entertainment district safer for residents by building new roadways and intersections.

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Washington, D.C. - Today, the House of Representatives passed a collection of annual appropriations bills that includes a \$750,000 grant for the City of Torrington's Main Street Realignment Project, an effort which will make the downtown business and entertainment district safer for residents by building new roadways and intersections. Currently, The Connecticut Department of Public Safety grades the intersection with near failing grade of "D" for vehicular traffic disruptions and overall risk to public safety.

Both U.S. Congressmen John B. Larson (CT-01) and Chris Murphy (CT-05) advocated for the funding in Washington.

"The reconfiguration of Downtown Main Street is essential to Torrington's economic development efforts. This project ensures the safety of residents and visitors to Torrington, while supporting the overall growth of the city," said Larson

"Downtown Torrington is on the cusp of a new era, with older businesses anchoring the area, and new businesses sprouting up. But with that comes traffic. I know that discussions are ongoing to make sure that all downtown businesses are on board, but this road project will alleviate a lot of the gridlock we see now, and make it safer for pedestrians," said Murphy.

The City of Torrington is currently in the process of redeveloping its downtown district. A major component of these redevelopment efforts includes reconfiguring the existing roadway on Main Street to be both pedestrian- and vehicle-friendly. Furthermore, the realignment of Main Street will improve public safety and meet state-imposed standards on safety and traffic flow. Downtown Torrington is home to many small and emerging businesses.

Earlier in the year, both Congressmen Larson and Murphy met with Torrington Mayor Ryan Bingham in Washington, D.C. to discuss the downtown redevelopment project and the overall benefits of growing the economy in Torrington and Litchfield County.

In November, Murphy met with the Torrington Development Corporation (TDC) to get an update on the downtown

redevelopment plan and stopped in to local businesses to check in with business owners about the state of Torrington's economy.

In June, Larson wrote a letter to the TDC applauding the efforts of the City and the organization, and pledging to help secure federal funding to support redevelopment efforts.

The legislation will now go on to the Senate for final passage and then the White House for the President's signature.

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