



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
April 11, 2016  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
7:00 p.m.  
AGENDA**

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CALL TO ORDER	
ROLL CALL	
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*Following adjournment per CGS §1-200(2) the Council will meet to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining for units represented by CSEA*

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
March 28, 2016  
DRAFT

Mayor Paul M. Shapiro called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved Ms. Moran seconded to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2016 meeting, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

David Palmer, Juniper Hill Village, addressed the moving of the WRTD bus stop from Route 195 to Wilbur Cross Way and the accessibility challenges the new location poses for residents. (Statement attached)

Will Bigl, town employee, member of the Housing Appeals Board, Hill Pond resident but speaking as the Chair of the Commission on Aging, addressed issues related to transportation for seniors. Mr. Bigl requested that the Council advocate that the planned transportation study be expedited and that they continue to discuss the expansion of transportation options for seniors. (Statement attached)

Martin Sommer, Warrenville Road, stated he was speaking for the children of Mansfield and questioned the possible change to the location of E.O. Smith. Mr. Sommer asked Councilors to consider the options available to students because of its proximity to the UConn campus and urged the Council to support keeping the school where it is.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, asked the Council to review the bus pass program prior to funding it for the upcoming year. Ms. Wassmundt questioned the efforts of the Economic Development Commission and the ways in which the Downtown Partnership has fulfilled the requirements of its 501-C3 status. (Statement attached)

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, asked how much longer the Town plans to support the Downtown Partnership and objected to the 7.3% increase in the proposed budget. Mr. Freudmann suggested level funding for the schools.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- Mr. Hart and Councilor Marcellino are both members of the WRTD Board and will look into the bus stop change mentioned during public comments.
- Staff is reviewing the special fare bus program and will have information for the Council during the budget discussions.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

No comments offered.

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VI. OLD BUSINESS

No items identified

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Transportation for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Mayor Shapiro stated that although he serves as Chair of the New Samaritan Board of Directors and as a member of the Juniper Hill and Glen Ridge Boards, he will be participating in the general discussion regarding transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities at tonight's meeting. Mr. Shapiro has no financial interest and will recuse himself if any proposed action would benefit the entities with whom he is involved.

Director of Humans Services Pat Schneider reviewed the currently available transportation options, identified gaps to the current services, and potential options. Staff will provide a copy of Ms. Schneider's power point presentation to Councilors.

Members agreed that the Town should take a creative look at the issues and as a next step agreed to invite WRTD to a future meeting to discuss, among other things, the dial a ride program.

2. Accessible Parking at the Mansfield Community Center

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shaiken seconded, effective March 28, 2016, to endorse Proposal #3 as presented by staff as the preferred option to construct additional accessible parking for the Mansfield Community Center.

John Carrington, Director of Public Works, outlined three available options and identified Proposal #3 as the preferred choice of staff.

The Mayor, without objection, suspended the rules to allow Mr. Bigl, Chair of the Commission on Aging, to speak.

Mr. Bigl clarified that the Commission's letter did not endorse a specific plan and that in his opinion Proposal #3 would accomplish the Commission's goals.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. UCONN Students Right to Vote on Municipal Financial Matters

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Raymond seconded that the Town Council support the efforts of Mr. Naumec to seek a review of current state laws regarding the possibility of separating votes on financial issues from other issues.

Mr. Ryan offered a friendly amendment to include in the motion the statement as to whether UConn students living on campus should be allowed to vote on financial issues in the Town of Mansfield.

The amendment was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Further discussion regarding the rights of all electors to vote at referenda, clarification of Mr. Naumec's request of the Council, the role of the Council, and whether the motion, as amended, addresses the question ensued.

Mr. Ryan and Mr. Kegler withdrew their motions.

March 28, 2016

Mr. Kegler moved and Mr. Ryan seconded that the Town Council of the Town of Mansfield support the efforts of Charles R. Naumec through the Connecticut Secretary of the State Office seeking a constitutional review by the Legislation and Elections Administration Division attorney of the voting rights of UConn students living in University housing and paying no taxes related to voting on Town of Mansfield financial issues.

Members discussed voting rights, what the term "support" means, the merits of student involvement, the need to educate the student population, and the Secretary of the State's opinion as expressed in her letters to Mr. Naumec.

The motion failed with Kegler and Raymond in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro in opposition.

4. Crumbling Foundations in Eastern CT

Town Manager Matt Hart and Councilor Kochenburger reported on an informational session they attended this afternoon sponsored by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman and Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) Commissioner Jonathan Harris regarding crumbling foundations.

By consensus the Council agreed to hold an informational public forum. Mr. Hart suggested the Town invite representatives of the DCP to the meeting and noted that CROG has been working on a letter to be sent to homeowners whose houses were built from 1983 to 2003. Mr. Kochenburger suggested representatives from the Department of Insurance also be invited.

Staff will report on the median age of homes in Mansfield.

5. Tobacco Free Campus Policy

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee, moved to endorse the Tobacco Free Campus Policy as presented, which shall be effective May 1, 2016.

Members discussed the reasons for the policy, whether public hearing would be needed, the regulation of personal behavior, and the types of behavior regulated by this policy.

The motion failed with Moran, Ryan, Shaiken, Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Raymond and Sargent in opposition.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No reports offered.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. J. Hanley (03/16/16)
7. Mansfield Neighborhood Preservation (03/14/16)
8. J. Sgro (03/11/16)
9. W. Thorne (03/18/16)
10. M. Hart re: Greenway Projects

March 28, 2016

11. D. Malloy re: State Budget

12. Investigation of Statewide Voting Referendum Policies and Practices under the Americans with Disabilities Act - The Mayor reported that CCM has assembled a group of attorneys to respond to this inquiry and our attorney is participating in this endeavor.

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

The draft Tobacco Free Campus Policy was referred back to the Personnel Committee for further review.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

March 28, 2016

My name is David Palmer and live in Juniper Hill Village. I would like to alert the town council to an accessibility problem that was brought to my attention by one of my neighbors last week. A number of months ago, the Windham Region Transit District (WRTD) changed its bus stops in downtown Storrs from along Route 195 to a block away on Wilbur Cross Way. That means that the new bus stop on the south end that serves the businesses in the Price Chopper shopping lot is now at the foot of a long set of concrete stairs up to the parking lot.

My neighbor has bad knees and cannot make it up the steps and to do her shopping she has to go from the bus stop back down to Charles Smith Way, go up to the parking lot entrance and then through the parking lot (which have no designated walkways) to reach the store. After asking around at Juniper Hill, I discovered that besides people with bad knees, it was a problem for other residents who use walkers and wheelchairs.

Clearly this is not accessible and I have initiated a search for solutions. When I contacted the WRTD about the route change, I was told that the buses could no longer make the turn at the CVS corner to get to the transportation center. Later, it was pointed out to me that the Peter Pan buses make that turn multiple times a day.

I have already contacted the Transportation Coordinator I appreciate the support and suggestions of the Town Council to remedy this issue.

Submitted by

David Palmer

505 Alder Lane  
Storrs, CT 06268  
415-321-9094

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**Commission on Aging**

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303 MAPLE ROAD  
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599  
Tel: (860) 429-0262  
Fax: (860) 429-3208  
E-Mail: SeniorCenter@mansfieldct.org

March 28, 2016  
Mansfield Town Council  
C/O Town of Mansfield  
4 South Eagleville Road  
Mansfield, CT 06268

Re: Senior and Accessible Transportation concerns;

It has come to the attention of the Commission that there are serious issues related to the transportation options that are currently available to our Senior (over age 60) residents. Of critical concern is the fact that the Dial-a-Ride transportation available in our region offers no priority to those in need of medical transportation. Additionally, the service that is provided is often unreliable. We have received numerous reports from seniors of their inability to obtain transportation within the timelines of the schedules as well as the fact that they then must wait long periods of time for return trips.

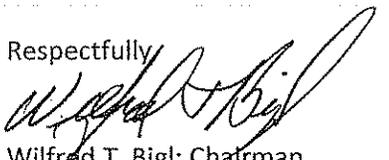
In researching other Connecticut districts we have been surprised to learn that the Dial-a-Ride region that includes Mansfield is one of the few that does not offer priority for the most vulnerable of our population to access medical care or any other form of transportation. We understand that there are several ongoing studies being implemented that will be looking into this critical issue.

We are very appreciative of the services available through the Volunteer Transportation Program at the Senior Center as it has been a lifeline for many of our frail/at-risk town residents – to be able to remain independent and access vital healthcare is a basic human need. However, that program cannot accommodate the growing numbers of those with mobility issues who have extremely limited means of transportation.

We would ask that the Council consider two specific requests from our Commission. The first is that the Council advocate for the planned studies to be expedited as this issue is so critical and the second is that there be continued conversation and support of the possibility of expanding the transportation services available through our local Senior Center. Of particular importance to this Commission are the medical transport services available to our senior population.

Thank you for your consideration of our suggestions and for your continued support of our growing population of seniors.

Respectfully



Wilfred T. Bigl; Chairman  
Mansfield Commission on Aging

3/28/16

To: Mansfield Town Council  
From: Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, Storrs

Recently I was asked to get a bus pass for a resident. This prompted me to ponder the town's subsidy for these free bus passes. This subsidy was instituted to encourage use of the bus; I doubt that's necessary today.

The subsidy, I believe, is \$32,000. I know that's very little relative to your budget but I grew up with the adage: "Take care of the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves." So I urge you to consider this expenditure.

Please quantify the need for this subsidy before you vote to continue it.

What data do you have to support this cost?  
How many Mansfield people utilize this bus service?  
Where do they reside?  
How is this \$32,000 paid out to WRTD?

I trust the Town Manager will answer these questions before you include this subsidy in this budget.

Then I went on to think of bus options which led me to think of Uber rides. That led me to think of our Economic Development Commission. I went to read their minutes and learned that often there is not a quorum at meetings. If the appointed members aren't interested in this Commission, the membership should be changed. Also, I saw no suggestions for economic development; I saw development of promotional materials for the town and for existing businesses, which seemed to provide an excuse to hire an intern, but I saw no new ideas. This Commission is supposed to promote business development throughout the region. It should do that or be terminated.

Now back to Uber rides. Over the years I've had need to hire possibly a secretary, receptionist or yard work helper. I would go to the University student population or the Willimantic area and I always found a person wanting to earn some money. There are the Uber drivers. A good Uber service can provide the rides that people seem to be asking for: pick up at your door and drop off at your destination, on your schedule and at a reasonable cost. Maybe you should not be handing an extra \$32,000 to WRTD. I urge you to understand how that money is spent before authorizing it in this budget. And, I urge the Economic Development Commission to look into developing an Uber service in this greater area.

Then I thought of our Downtown Partnership. As a 501- C3 corporation it is "to solicit, receive and administer funds for educational and charitable purposes, etc". (from the Partnership's By-laws). How is The Partnership doing that at this time? Please answer before funding the Partnership in this budget.

Thank you

## SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

March 30, 2016

DRAFT

Mayor Paul M. Shapiro called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

### I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro  
Staff Present: Town Manager Matthew Hart, Director of Finance Cherie Trahan, Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola, Fire Chief Dave Dagon

#### 1. Staff Reports/Communications

The Town Manager reviewed the flagged items and the requests for information from the previous meeting. Mr. Hart clarified PA15-244 which this year gives towns the option of implementing a different mill rate for motor vehicles but mandates a maximum motor vehicle mill rate of 29.36 for 2018.

Request for Information – Provide information regarding the impact of Algonquin Gas upgrades on the grand list.

#### 2. Budget Review

Mr. Hart requested the Council begin the budget review with Public Safety. Hearing no objections, Mayor Shapiro recognized Chief Dagon.

- Public Safety

Chief Dagon presented information and responded to questions regarding the Public Safety budget and the request for an additional firefighter. Mr. Hart reviewed the Animal Control budget.

Request for Information – Provide information regarding the increase in the number of police activities between projected FY 15/16 and proposed FY 16/17. (page 115)

Request for Information – Provide information explaining why the number of residential structures is the same for FY 14/15, FY 15/16 and FY 16/17. (Page 121)

Request for Information – Provide information explaining the decrease in revenues in the Fire Prevention budget and detail what those fees include. (Page 123)

Future Discussion Topic – Review the possibility of using a private ambulance service.

Request for Information – Provide the number of motor vehicle accidents to which fire apparatus has been sent.

**Flag** – Fire Fighter Position

Request for Information – Provide the correct total for the number of medical calls. (Page 128)

- Revenue Summaries

Ms. Trahan reviewed the revenue summaries.

Request for Information – Verify the correct amount for the estimated Storrs Center tax revenue. (Page 13 and 68)

Request for Information – Verify the correct amount for the Storrs Center operating costs. (Page 13 and 14)

- Expenditure Summaries

March 30, 2016

Ms. Trahan reviewed the expenditure summaries.

Flag – Request to include funds in the Legislative budget for a financial control audit.  
(Page 94)

- General Government

Mr. Hart and Ms. Capriola reviewed the Legislative, Municipal Management/Human Resources, Town Attorney, and Probate budgets. The Town Clerk reviewed the Town Clerk and Registrars of Voters/Elections budgets. Ms. Trahan reviewed the Finance Department budget.

### 3. Discussion of Proposed Budget/Council Questions

Council members were asked to forward any questions to the Town Manager or Director of Finance in advance of the next meeting, if possible.

## II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

March 30, 2016

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

March 28, 2016

DRAFT

Mayor Paul M. Shapiro called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent (arrived 6:40 p.m.), Shaiken, Shapiro

Staff Present: Director of Finance Cherie Trahan, Town Manager Matthew Hart

1. Staff Reports/Communications

Town Manager Matt Hart presented an overview of the Town Manager's 2016/2017 Budget. The budget is based on the Governor's proposed budget.

Request for Information – The amount of the grand list increase that is attributable to changes in the assessments of Eversource for this year and Algonquin Transmission lines for 2016/17.

Flagged – SCBA Replacement

Flagged – Capital Fund School Projects – invite Facilities Manager, Superintendent of Schools and Board Representatives to discussion

2. Budget Review

- Budget Message
- Budget in Brief
- Guide to the Budget
- Revenue Summaries  
To be discussed at the next budget workshop
- Expenditures Summaries  
To be discussed at the next budget workshop

3. Discussion of Proposed Budget/Council Questions

Council members were asked to forward any questions to the Town Manager or Director of Finance in advance of the next meeting, if possible.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

March 28, 2016



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *MH*  
**CC:** Department Heads  
**Date:** April 11, 2016  
**Re:** Town Council Goal Setting

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**Subject Matter/Background**

Following each election, staff recommends that the Town Council adopt a set of goals and objectives to guide its policy discussions and to help set priorities for the Council term.

Attached please find a draft summary of the goals and objectives compiled from our retreat held on March 5, 2016. The draft summary reflects:

- The ten Mansfield Tomorrow goals that had the greatest consensus of support from Council members
  - Mansfield Tomorrow related objectives
  - Mansfield Tomorrow related measures of effectiveness
  - Mansfield Tomorrow page numbers flagged

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Council work through the attached draft and make any necessary revisions.

Once the Council is prepared to adopt a set of goals and objectives, I suggest that you add the document to the Council's Policy Index as we have done in the past. This action would help to emphasize the importance of the document as a policy guide and make it more readily accessible to future Councils.

If the Town Council concurs with this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 11, 2016, to adopt the 2015-16 Town Council Goals and Objectives, and to add the document to the Mansfield Town Council policy index.*

**Attachments**

- 1) 2015/16 Town Council Goals and Objectives
- 2) 2014/15 Town Council Goals and Objectives

**Town of Mansfield**  
**Town Council Goals and Objectives for 2016-17 Term**

***Community Heritage and Sense of Place***

**Goal:** Mansfield's land use regulations maintain rural character in the majority of town, protect historic resources and accommodate future growth in smart growth, compact patterns in designated Mixed Use Centers and Compact Residential areas. Goal 4.2 (Page 4.29).♦

**Objectives:**

- Strengthen regulations in rural areas to maintain rural character and densities in areas traversed by public utility lines
- Update zoning and subdivision regulations for general rural districts to promote preservation of natural resources and landscape values
- Create regulations for historic villages that distinguish them from Rural Residential/Agriculture/Forestry areas
- Strengthen protections for historic and cultural features
- Establish regulations that encourage compact, village style development in designated Mixed-Use Centers and Compact Residential areas with public water and sewer

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- At least 75% of new residential development is located within areas designated as Compact Residential and Mixed Use Centers
- Increase in percentage of open space preserved through subdivision process
- New residential subdivisions maintain rural character and include neighborhood place-making elements

***Community Life***

**Goal:** Mansfield is a lifelong learning community and continues to provide high-quality public education for children and youth. Goal 5.2 (Page 5.34).♦

**Objectives:**

- Continue to provide programs that prepare children to succeed in school
- Improve long-term sustainability of the education system to ensure continued high-quality programs and performance within the context of enrollment projections and financial constraints

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Student achievement based results on State and District assessments
- All Mansfield Schools student achievement levels are established at the State and Mansfield Board of Education
- A high school graduation rate established by the State and Regional Board of Education
- Evidence of student college and career readiness based on targeting standards and outcomes established by the boards of education

**Goal:** Mansfield public safety services- police, fire and EMS- protect life and property through a robust program of education, enforcement and preparedness. Goal 5.3 (Page 5.37).♦

**Objectives:**

- Ensure efficient and effective deployment of resources

- Focus on prevention and education as tools to manage costs and demands for public safety services
- Strengthen capacity to respond to disasters

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Number of volunteer firefighters increases
- Number of fire investigations remains stable or declines
- Number of DUIs decreases
- Number of Nuisance Ordinance citations decreases
- Number of EMS calls related to substance abuse and preventable injuries decreases

**Goal:** Mansfield maintains high-quality public facilities that support town goals. Goal 5.5 (Page 5.46). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Use physical design to foster community interaction
- Identify facility improvements to meet service and sustainability goals

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Number of ADA accessibility issues in Town facilities decreases
- Increase in transit, bicycle and pedestrian access to town facilities
- Decrease in municipal energy consumption

### *Diversifying the Economy*

**Goal:** Mansfield has balanced economic development efforts with sensitivity to preserving the town's unique blend of rural character and college town amenities to create an attractive location for businesses, workers and residents. Goal 6.1 (Page 6.31). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Ensure Mansfield has sufficient resources and capacity for economic development
- Continue to focus new commercial and light industrial development in the Four Corners, Storrs Center, Perkins Corner and Route 195/Route 6 areas to preserve rural character in other parts of the community
- Maintain and enhance community services and amenities that make Mansfield a great place to live and work
- Promote Mansfield's assets and amenities
- Offer a welcoming environment to young professionals, entrepreneurs and innovators to attract and retain talent

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Number of businesses locating on previously developed sites
- Increase in assessed value of taxable commercial and light industrial properties

**Goal:** Mansfield has an entrepreneurial environment that supports business formation, expansion, and retention. Goal 6.2 (Page 6.35). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Establish a business retention and expansion (BRE) program
- Connect businesses with information and resources
- Reduce regulatory barriers to business growth
- Promote local businesses and celebrate their success
- Expand local business assistance programs

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Increase in total number of businesses

**Goal:** Mansfield has a growing and diversified economy that helps to maintain the high-quality services desired by residents. Goal 6.3 (Page 6.39). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Establish a regional business marketing program
- Collaborate with UConn to maximize the local economic benefits of the University's presence
- Promote Mansfield as a tourism destination
- Collaborate with surrounding communities to generate mutually desirable economic activity

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Increase in number of businesses in sectors identified as potential local and regional growth sectors
- Number of businesses related to UConn R&D or faculty expertise establishing operations in Mansfield
- Increases in, improvements to, or expanded access to tourism venues
- Number and square footage of new office, R&D, and light industry establishments
- Increase in assessed value of taxable commercial, industrial and agricultural properties
- Increase in number and diversity of job opportunities

### ***Housing***

**Goal:** Mansfield maintains high-quality living conditions throughout the town. Goal 7.3 (Page 7.26). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Assist low and moderate income homeowners in maintaining safe and healthy living environments
- Strengthen the Town's ability to respond to neighborhood quality of life issues
- Continue to collaborate with UConn to address quality of life issues in off-campus neighborhoods, including student behavior

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- UConn houses an average of 70% of undergraduate students over each five year period
- Number of investor-owned single-family homes in neighborhoods close to campus decreases
- Number of properties with repeat nuisance violations decreases

### ***Infrastructure***

**Goal:** Mansfield has a balanced, integrated transportation system that provides residents with viable options in getting from one place to another. Goal 9.1 (Page 9.30). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Ensure that transportation improvements reflect community character and enhance quality of life
- Develop an integrated network of sidewalks, bikeways and trails that connect residents with key community facilities and services
- Expand availability of alternative transportation options
- Participate in initiative to improve the regional transportation network

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Number of sidewalk/bikeway miles increases 20% by 2018
- Increase in miles of designated bicycle routes

- Town is designated as a Bicycle Friendly Community
- Bus routes have expanded to include the library
- Innovative transportation options have been developed to expand intra-town options
- New development includes Complete Streets
- Increase in lane miles of roadways in good condition
- Increases UConn and WRTD transit ridership
- Reduction in traffic congestion on Route 195 and other major arterials

### ***Stewardship and Implementation***

**Goal:** Mansfield's long-term financial stability underlies implementation of this Plan. Goal 10.3 (Page 10.16). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Fiscal planning and budgeting activities are guided by clear principles and policies
- Improve Mansfield's bond rating to reduce cost of debt issuance
- Work with UConn to address fiscal impact of university expansion
- Identify reasonable amount of debt that the community is willing and able to pay to support community services
- Use technology to improve efficiency and manage personnel costs

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Bond rating increases to Aa1 or better
- Fund balance increases annually
- Increase in taxable grand list
- Stable or increasing intergovernmental revenues

**Goal:** Mansfield collaborates with area communities and UConn to achieve common goals and develop regional service sharing models for mutual benefit. Goal 10.6 (Page 10.25). ♦

**Objectives:**

- Strengthen relationships with surround communities
- Continue to explore opportunities for sharing of regional services

**Measures of Effectiveness:**

- Number of grant application filed jointly with other communities
- Cost savings resulting from new service sharing agreements

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♦ Denotes accomplishment, goal or objective links to Mansfield Tomorrow.

Approved by the Mansfield Town Council on April 11, 2016  
 Added to the Mansfield Town Council Policy Index

## 2014-2015 Mansfield Town Council Goals and Objectives

### *Economic Development*

**Goal:** Establish policies, procedures, relationships and infrastructure that support a vibrant, diverse and sustainable business community in Mansfield, in accordance with sound land use and Smart Growth principles. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Focus development and redevelopment efforts in areas designated as appropriate under Plan of Conservation and Development or zoning (e.g. Storrs Center; Four Corners; Perkins Corners; Eastbrook Mall area; Frontage Road).
- Make progress on Four Corners water and wastewater project.
- Increase tax base (new growth), including completion of Storrs Center, in a responsible manner.
- Leverage UCONN Tech Park for job and business growth.
- Participate in UCONN development plans.
- Provide quality customer service to the business community and implement a streamlined permitting process consistent with zoning and other regulations.
- Research the feasibility of allocating resources for a dedicated economic development staff member under Planning and Development.

### *Education*

**Goal:** Maintain high quality, holistic education for all of Mansfield's youth while celebrating the individuality of each child. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Identify PreK-8 school infrastructure needs.
- Utilize enrollment projections, including anticipated impact associated with UCONN's expansion, to plan for infrastructure needs.

### *Financial Management*

**Goal:** Responsibly manage available financial resources to maintain quality services that are responsive to community needs.

#### **Objectives:**

- Engage in responsible budgeting; balance service needs with revenue constraints.
- Diversify revenue base in response to declining state revenues.
- Identify replacement schedules for capital needs and allocate resources through the capital budgeting process.
- Review infrastructure needs for the Town and schools; identify capital maintenance needs and lifespan for major buildings and facilities and allocate resources through the capital budgeting process.
- Review financial, human resources, and other policies as needed.

### *Open Space and Agriculture*

**Goal:** Work with stakeholders to preserve and maintain open space and viable working farms. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Preserve working farms and enhance agricultural opportunities.
- Acquire, preserve, and maintain open space.

### *Quality of Life*

**Goal:** Improve quality of life for all residents and stakeholders regardless of (dis)abilities, gender, race, religion, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Reduce blight in neighborhoods town-wide.
- Review feasibility of expanding the rental certification zone town-wide.
- Build a community supportive of young children and families.
- Enhance and maintain athletic fields.
- Ensure Storrs Center owner occupied housing is built to community vision.

### *Service Delivery*

**Goal:** Provide a range of quality services for quality living. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Re-define core services.
- Research and identify service sharing opportunities.
- Continue to improve positive Town-University relationships and partnerships.
- Continue to provide Human Services, with a focus on seniors and low to moderate income families.
- Provide support for recreation, health and wellness.
- Build organizational capacity for program evaluation, including a commitment to performance measurement.
- Continue review and implementation of the police services study, as resources permit.
- Evaluate service delivery for Fire and Emergency Services.
- Complete study of impact of Next Generation Connecticut and related UCONN initiatives on Mansfield.
- Consolidate and/or reduce the number of citizen advisory committees; review membership composition and engage residents aged 20's-40's.

### *Sustainability*

**Goal:** Embrace sustainability as a principle in decision making. ♦

#### **Objectives:**

- Embrace sustainability and energy conservation as part of economic development strategy.
- Reduce municipal government's carbon footprint.

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♦ Denotes accomplishment, goal or objective links to the Town's following strategic vision points: *Education; Historic Character, Open Space & Working Farms; Housing; Public Safety; Recreation, Health and Wellness; Regionalism; Senior Services; Sustainability; Town-University Relations.*

Approved by the Mansfield Town Council on March 24, 2014  
Added to the Mansfield Town Council Policy Index

PAGE  
BREAK



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt H*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance  
**Date:** April 11, 2016  
**Re:** Capital Improvement Program Closeouts/Adjustments

---

**Subject Matter/Background**

Attached please find the April 4, 2016 correspondence from the Director of Finance recommending a number of adjustments to the Capital Projects Fund. The Finance Committee will review the proposed adjustments at its meeting earlier that evening.

**Recommendation**

Staff will be available to take any questions that the Town Council may have, and recommends that the Council approve the Capital Projects adjustments and closeouts as presented.

If the Town Council supports this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 11, 2016, to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated April 4, 2016.*

**Attachments**

- 1) C. Trahan re: Capital Projects Fund
- 2) Proposed Capital Fund Budget Changes

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**



CHERIE TRAHAN, Director of Finance

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING  
 FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD  
 MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599  
 (860) 429-3344  
 fax: (860) 429-6863  
 E-Mail: trahanca@mansfieldct.org

TO: Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager  
 FROM: Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance  
 DATE: April 4, 2016  
 RE: Capital Projects Fund

Attached is an analysis of current and proposed Revenue and Expenditure Budgets for specific Capital Projects as of April 4, 2016. If adopted as presented, it will adjust funding and officially close out projects as listed below:

Close Project	Project	Funding Adjustment	Notes
	44120 Mansfield Community Playground	\$ 14,766	Appropriate contributions
Close	81823 Financial Control Review	-	Close project; no funding adjustment
Close	81920 NEXTGENCT Impact Analysis	(5,360)	Lower cost than projected
Close	82830 Thermal Image Cameras	(500)	Lower cost than projected
Close	82837 Chest Compression Units	(6,981)	Lower cost than projected
Close	82838 Commercial Gear Washer	(1,625)	Lower cost than projected
Close	83531 North Eagleville Walkway	51,624	Increased costs/paid by UConn
Close	83642 WINCOG Equipment – Regional	(9,681)	Move to 83836 - Regional Purchase
Close	83643 Pavement Management Study	(50)	Lower cost than projected
Close	83645 Skidsteer & Trailer	(775)	Lower cost than projected
Close	83729 Snowplows	-	Close project; no funding adjustment
	83836 Vac All Truck	9,681	Higher than projected; Fund from 83642
Close	83917 GPS Units	-	Close project; no funding adjustment
	84103 Storrs Center Reserve	252,881	Appropriate fee revenue & local support
Close	84106 Fern Road Bus Garage	(166)	Lower cost than projected
	84135 Town Square	12,390	Appropriated contributions
Close	85806 Skate Park	(71)	Lower cost than projected
Close	85812 Comm Center Facility Upgrades	(933)	Close out original project; move to 86304
	85835 Parks & Preserves Management	26,257	WHIP grant; move from 270 Fund to CIP
Close	86298 School Security Grant	-	Close project; no funding adjustment
	86304 Comm Center Repairs & Improv.	933	Move balance from project #85812
Close	86311 Tractor Replacement	-	Close project; no funding adjustment

Note: The net adjustment reduces the CNR Fund contribution to Capital by \$5,466.

PROPOSED CAPITAL FUND BUDGET CHANGES  
APRIL 4, 2016

REVENUE BUDGET

EXPENDITURE BUDGET

JOB #	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCE	REVENUE BUDGET				OVER/ (UNDER) PROPOSED	EXPENDITURE BUDGET				BALANCE TO SPEND (OVERSPENT)
			CURRENT BUDGET	PROPOSED CHANGE	AMENDED BUDGET	ACTUAL REVENUES		CURRENT BUDGET	PROPOSED CHANGE	AMENDED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPEND.	
44120	Mansfield Community Playground	State Grant	100,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Contributions	278,568	14,766	293,334	293,334	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	132,070	-	132,070	132,070	-	-	-	-	-	-
			510,638	14,766	525,404	525,404	-	510,638	14,766	525,404	514,593	10,811
81611	Pool Cars	State Support	37,000	(6,023)	30,977	30,977	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Other	13,140	-	13,140	13,140	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	132,054	6,023	138,077	132,054	(6,023)	-	-	-	-	-
			182,194	-	182,194	176,171	(6,023)	182,194	-	182,194	164,463	17,731
* 81823	Financial Control Review	CNR	52,500	-	52,500	52,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
			52,500	-	52,500	52,500	-	52,500	-	52,500	52,500	-
* 81920	NEXTGENCT Impact Analysis	Local Support - UCONN	75,000	(4,020)	70,980	70,980	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	25,000	(1,340)	23,660	25,000	1,340	-	-	-	-	-
			100,000	(5,360)	94,640	95,980	1,340	100,000	(5,360)	94,640	94,640	-
* 82830	Thermal Image Cameras	CNR	20,000	(500)	19,500	20,000	500	-	-	-	-	-
			20,000	(500)	19,500	20,000	500	20,000	(500)	19,500	19,500	-
* 82837	Chest Compression Units	CNR	48,000	(6,981)	41,019	48,000	6,981	-	-	-	-	-
			48,000	(6,981)	41,019	48,000	6,981	48,000	(6,981)	41,019	41,019	-
* 82838	Commercial Gear Washer	CNR	8,000	(1,625)	6,375	8,000	1,625	-	-	-	-	-
			8,000	(1,625)	6,375	8,000	1,625	8,000	(1,625)	6,375	6,375	-
* 83531	North Eagleville Walkway	Local Support-UCONN	245,540	51,624	297,164	297,164	-	-	-	-	-	-
			245,540	51,624	297,164	297,164	-	245,540	51,624	297,164	297,164	-
* 83642	WINCOG Equipment - Regional	CNR	25,000	(9,681)	15,319	25,000	9,681	-	-	-	-	-
			25,000	(9,681)	15,319	25,000	9,681	25,000	(9,681)	15,319	15,319	-
* 83643	Pavement Management Study	CNR	50,000	(50)	49,950	50,000	50	-	-	-	-	-
			50,000	(50)	49,950	50,000	50	50,000	(50)	49,950	49,950	-
* 83645	Skidsteer and Trailer	CNR	71,000	(775)	70,225	71,000	775	-	-	-	-	-
			71,000	(775)	70,225	71,000	775	71,000	(775)	70,225	70,225	-
* 83729	Snowplows	CNR	26,500	-	26,500	26,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
			26,500	-	26,500	26,500	-	26,500	-	26,500	26,500	-
83836	Vac All Truck	Other	45,000	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	25,000	9,681	34,681	25,000	(9,681)	-	-	-	-	-
			70,000	9,681	79,681	70,000	(9,681)	70,000	9,681	79,681	-	79,681
* 83917	GPS Units	CNR	15,000	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
			15,000	-	15,000	15,000	-	15,000	-	15,000	15,000	-
84103	Storrs Center Reserve	Permit Fees	1,064,834	98,322	1,163,156	1,163,156	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Local Support	-	13,287	13,287	13,287	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Local Support - Leyland	226,220	100,000	326,220	326,220	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Fire Safety Fees	549,465	20,443	569,908	569,908	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Other - Insurance Reimb	20,829	20,829	20,829	20,829	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	1,370,376	-	1,370,376	1,370,376	-	-	-	-	-	-
			3,210,895	252,881	3,463,777	3,463,777	-	3,210,895	252,881	3,463,777	2,816,449	647,327

REVENUE BUDGET

EXPENDITURE BUDGET

JOB #	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCE	REVENUE BUDGET					EXPENDITURE BUDGET				BALANCE TO SPEND (OVERSPENT)
			CURRENT BUDGET	PROPOSED CHANGE	AMENDED BUDGET	ACTUAL REVENUES	OVER/ (UNDER) PROPOSED	CURRENT BUDGET	PROPOSED CHANGE	AMENDED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPEND.	
* 84106	Fern Road Bus Garage	CNR	10,000	(166)	9,834	10,000	166	-	-	-	-	-
			10,000	(166)	9,834	10,000	166	10,000	(166)	9,834	9,834	-
84135	Town Square	Local Support-Leyland	125,000	-	125,000	125,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Local Support-EDR	125,000	-	125,000	125,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Local Support-UCONN	250,000	-	250,000	250,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Local Support-MDP	100,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Contributions	366,112	12,390	378,502	378,502	-	-	-	-	-	-
			966,112	12,390	978,502	978,502	-	966,112	12,390	978,502	916,416	62,086
* 85806	Skate Park	Contributions	90,500	-	90,500	90,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	40,000	(71)	39,929	40,000	71	-	-	-	-	-
			130,500	(71)	130,429	130,500	71	130,500	(71)	130,429	130,429	-
* 85812	Comm Center Facility Upgrades	CNR	56,000	(933)	55,067	56,000	933	-	-	-	-	-
			56,000	(933)	55,067	56,000	933	56,000	(933)	55,067	55,067	-
85835	Parks & Preserves Management (WHIP Grants)	CNR	9,200	-	9,200	9,200	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Other - 270 fund	-	26,257	26,257	26,257	-	-	-	-	-	-
			9,200	26,257	35,457	35,457	-	9,200	26,257	35,457	-	35,457
* 86298	School Security Grant	State Support	133,828	(18)	133,810	133,810	(0)	-	-	-	-	-
		CNR	-	18	18	-	(18)	-	-	-	-	-
			133,828	-	133,828	133,810	(18)	133,828	-	133,828	133,828	-
86304	Comm Ctr Repairs & Improvements	CNR	44,200	933	45,133	44,200	(933)	-	-	-	-	-
			44,200	933	45,133	44,200	(933)	44,200	933	45,133	43,921	1,213
* 86311	Tractor Replacement	CNR	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
			20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-
			5,910,107	342,392	6,252,499	6,257,965	5,466	5,910,107	342,392	6,252,499	5,477,875	774,624

Change in Funding:	Contributions	27,156
	CNR	(5,466)
	Fire Safety Code Fees	20,443
	Local Support	13,287
	Local Support - Leyland	100,000
	Local Support - UCONN	47,604
	Other - 270 Fund	26,257
	Other - Insurance Reimb.	20,829
	Permit Fees	98,322
	State Support	(6,041)
		342,392



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager  
**Date:** April 11, 2016  
**Re:** Proclamation in Honor of the UCONN Women's Basketball Team

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**Subject Matter/Background**

Given the record-breaking season recently completed by the UCONN Women's Basketball team, the Mayor and I thought it appropriate to issue a proclamation recognizing the team for its achievements.

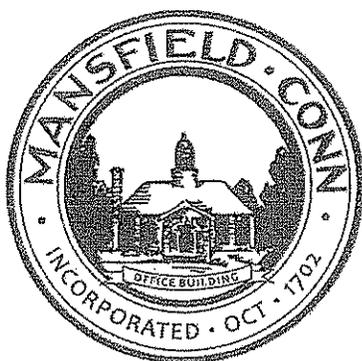
**Recommendation**

The following motion is suggested:

*Move, effective April 11, 2016, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation in Honor of the UCONN Women's Basketball Team.*

**Attachments**

- 1) Proclamation in Honor of the UCONN Women's Basketball Team



# Proclamation

## Town of Mansfield, Connecticut

WHEREAS, the 2015-16 UCONN Women's Basketball Team recently completed a record breaking season, going undefeated and winning the AAC regular season title, the AAC Championship, and, for the eleventh time and fourth consecutive year, the NCAA Division I Championship; and

WHEREAS, the senior class of Moriah Jefferson, Briana Pulido, Breanna Stewart and Morgan Tuck won a record 151 games during their collegiate careers; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Coach Geno Auriemma, aka "the Sorcerer of Storrs," the UCONN Women are the only Division I basketball team to win 11 National Championships, thereby confirming its fans' ardent belief that it is the best collegiate basketball team in the nation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Mansfield does hereby extend to the UCONN Women's Basketball Team its heartfelt congratulations and thanks for a very special and thrilling season that will be remembered for a lifetime.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Mansfield to be affixed on this April 11, in the year 2016.*

---

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor  
Town of Mansfield  
April 11, 2016

Sara-Ann Chaine

**From:** Mary L. Stanton  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2016 8:24 AM  
**To:** Sara-Ann Chaine  
**Subject:** FW: A letter for the town council

Good Morning

For the next packet.

Mary

**From:** Elle Ouimet [mailto:elleouimet@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 01, 2016 4:37 PM  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**Subject:** A letter for the town council

To whom it may concern,

Would you please make sure the following letter makes it to the town council?

Thanks so much,  
 Elle Ouimet

Dear Town Council members,

It has just come to my attention that the position of the coordinator of Early Childhood Services for the town of Mansfield is being cut to 25 hours a week. Personally, this is a bit coincidental as I was just having a conversation about this role or more specifically, about Maggie Ferron who currently holds the role. In this conversation, I was commenting about how much cohesion Maggie has brought to the town. In a matter of months there are more activities, more discussions, more opportunities for families in Mansfield than there have ever been before. Maggie is immediately responsive to issues, questions, suggestions and community needs. People from different schools, neighborhoods, countries are meeting, conversing and our community is visibly strengthening. Families of small children are talking about this all over town - this is becoming a better place to live because of Maggie and what she has made of the Early Childhood Services program in Mansfield. It should also be noted that much of what Maggie does for this town doesn't even fit within the 30 hr position she holds - rather much of it requires her personal time.

I think it's safe to say that a good way to measure the health and stability of a town is to look at those people who choose to dedicate themselves to it. A town that is supported by intelligent, compassionate, active, and dedicated people (who really could be doing any number of jobs in the private sector), who choose to make their home, their cause, is a blessed place to live. There is NO better example of this than Maggie Ferron. Cutting Maggie's position beneath the abbreviated number of hours she already has to fit in all that she does for this town will undermine the gift this community has in her. It will weaken the community that has arisen in her tenure, and I believe it will cost us an exceptional long term leader.

Please keep the Early Childhood Services coordinator position AT LEAST a 30 hrs/week position.

Sara-Ann Chaine

---

**From:** Mary L. Stanton  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:03 AM  
**To:** Sara-Ann Chaine  
**Subject:** FW: Mansfield Early Childhood Services Coordinator

For the packet

**From:** Benjamin Wiles [mailto:wiles.benjamin@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:52 AM  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**Subject:** Mansfield Early Childhood Services Coordinator

Dear Mary, please forward this email to the Town Council. Thanks.

Town Councilors:

It is my understanding that the proposed town manager's budget for FY 2017 provides for 25 hours of service per week for our town's Early Childhood Services Coordinator (ECSC). In my view, this position requires at least 30 hours per week, if not more, as well as administrative support. As you may know, this position has increased in scope over the years, particularly in respect to the increased administration and compliance duties with respect to state school readiness and child day care grants. In addition, the ECSC has taken on programming responsibilities based on Mansfield's unique needs (e.g., the "Conversation Club" with respect to the ESL families in our town) and the general interests of Mansfield families in raising happy, healthy young children (e.g., her fantastic weekly emails, which I encourage each of you to sign up for, even if you don't have small children). Our ECSC admirably uses partnerships with UConn, Joshua's Trust, and other local organizations to get the most value out of the resources we have. She has also led and nurtured the Mansfield Advocates for Children committee as a robust early childhood collaborative, building off of the tremendous success of the recent playground project. All of these vital activities take time, and reducing the ECSC's budgeted hours of weekly service would be detrimental to the gains made over the last few years.

I would suggest that funding for the ECSC be allocated to provide for 30 hours per week of service.

Best,

Ben Wiles  
87 Browns Road

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Benjamin Wiles  
[wiles.benjamin@gmail.com](mailto:wiles.benjamin@gmail.com)

## Sara-Ann Chaine

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**From:** Mary L. Stanton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:44 PM  
**To:** Sara-Ann Chaine  
**Subject:** FW: Protect Funding for MAC

For the packet

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**From:** Althea Neel [mailto:acneel78@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:40 PM  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**Subject:** Protect Funding for MAC

To Mansfield Town Council:

It has recently come to my attention that there is a proposal to reduce funding for staff for the Early Childhood Services Coordinator of the Mansfield Advocates for Children. Though I am a relatively recent member of the Mansfield community, it is apparent how much time and dedication is required for this position. As it stands the existing 30 hours/week barely covers what the holder of this position is charged with, and my fear is that reducing it to 25 hours/week will only make it more difficult for them to continue advocating for those most vulnerable in our community.

The importance of early childhood development is clear:

- Families need quality early care programs that help with physical, social, and emotional development of their children
- Unreadiness for school costs our community money in terms of poor student health, low retention, special education, and delinquency
- Just as young children need care and stimulation, their parents also need support from their community

The Mansfield Advocates for Children plays a critical role through policy and programming in ensuring all of Mansfield's children grow up healthy and become successful learners in our vibrant community. In the past year, MAC's coordinator and members focused on transportation routes and lack thereof so families can reach the public library, developed new programs to address concerns (such as the Conversation Club to assist young English language learners), and invited guest speakers to spark discussion on key topics (such as healthy eating and nutrition).

**Please reconsider any cuts to funding the coordinator's staff time. This is the sort of investment in the health of our entire community that ought to be carefully guarded.**

Sincerely,

Althea Neel

304 Gurleyville Road

## Sara-Ann Chaine

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**From:** Mary L. Stanton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 9:43 AM  
**To:** Sara-Ann Chaine  
**Subject:** FW: Early Childhood Services Position

For the Council packet

Mary  
**From:** Heather Bunnell [mailto:bunnell.heather@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 9:16 AM  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Services Position

To Whom it May Concern:

As a parent, teacher and resident of the Mansfield community, I would like to express my support for maintaining the 30 hour/week status of the Early Childhood Services Position. I understand that a cut from 30 to 25 hours is currently being considered, and I am very concerned for the services that would be compromised as a result.

The position, in it's existing state provides many critical services to residents, and acts a liaison between the community needs, early care, and student transitions into public school. I have taken particular note of the agency lately, under the leadership of Maggie Ferron.

Maggie routinely reaches out to community members to share events, state wide opportunities, and encourages parents and residents to be active players (quite literally!) in our larger community. Having worked with Maggie on the Mansfield Playground Committee, I know that her personal commitment to anything she attempts is comprehensive, ambitious and effective. It would be foolish to cut the hours of the position just at the time when the employee in question is acting so successfully to reach the community to better engage them in the services that the agency provides.

We have made a commitment in our community to increased participation, and to physical, social, and community health in the building of the Mansfield Community Center years ago, the new development of the Storrs Downtown, and the Mansfield Community Playground, just to name a few. It is counter effective to cut the very position that acted in support of these types of community efforts and that now, has ever increasing responsibility to supporting the community as it grows.

Thank you,

Heather Bunnell

418 Gurleyville Rd, Storrs, CT 06268  
860-377-4891

## Sara-Ann Chaine

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**From:** Mary L. Stanton  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2016 2:48 PM  
**To:** Sara-Ann Chaine  
**Subject:** FW: Protect Funding for MAC

For the Council packet

**From:** Jiff Martin [mailto:jiffmartin@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2016 2:41 PM  
**To:** Town Clerk  
**Subject:** Protect Funding for MAC

To Mansfield Town Council:

It has recently come to my attention that there is a proposal to reduce funding for staff for the Early Childhood Services Coordinator of the Mansfield Advocates for Children. I urge decision makers to reconsider. Cutting 5 hours of staff time, which is already limited to just 30 hours/week, will have immediate repercussions on services. The importance of early childhood development is clear:

- Families need quality early care programs that help with physical, social, and emotional development of their children
- Unreadiness for school costs our community money in terms of poor student health, low retention, special education, and delinquency
- Just as young children need constant care and stimulation, their parents also need constant support from their community

In my professional experience, the presence of adequate and reliable staff is vital to the success of collaborative initiatives such as MAC. Staff facilitate learning, build networks, connect stakeholders, monitor changes in the landscape, and maintain a focus on a shared commitment. In this case, the commitment is toward successful early childhood learning and development in Mansfield.

The Mansfield Advocates for Children plays a critical role through policy and programming in ensuring all of Mansfield's children grow up healthy and become successful learners in our vibrant community. In the past year, MAC's coordinator and members focused on transportation routes and lack thereof so families can reach the public library, developed new programs to address concerns (such as the Conversation Club to assist young English language learners), and invited guest speakers to spark discussion on key topics (such as healthy eating and nutrition).

**Without a strong MAC, I struggle to imagine how parents and service providers would come together to identify issues, share concerns, and develop solutions together. Please reconsider any cuts to funding the coordinator's staff time. This is the sort of investment in the health of our entire community that ought to be carefully guarded.**

Sincerely,

Jiff Martin

PAGE  
BREAK

April 6, 2016

Ms. Rebecca Shafer  
Mr. William Roe, Jr.  
[RShafer@MansfieldNeighborhoodPreservation.org](mailto:RShafer@MansfieldNeighborhoodPreservation.org)  
[BRoe@MansfieldNeighborhoodPreservation.org](mailto:BRoe@MansfieldNeighborhoodPreservation.org)

Dear Ms. Shafer and Mr. Roe,

We received a copy of your letter, dated March 14, to the Mansfield Town Council. This was the same day that several UConn staff members appeared before the council to discuss a number of issues you mention in your letter, which you also read before the council that evening.

Thank you for accepting our invitation to meet with us on campus on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 1:00pm to further discuss the concerns you raise and answer questions that you and others have.

As we noted to the council, because of persistent budget problems, the state funding that would have allowed our enrollment in Storrs to grow by 5,000 students by 2024 under the Next Generation Connecticut initiative, will likely not be forthcoming. Though this program will continue to be successful, we believe that our enrollment growth will be significantly lower.

UConn shares your concerns regarding single family homes in residential neighborhoods being purchased for use as rental properties, including by student renters.

Some Mansfield residents who live near single family homes being rented to students have objected to student behavior, especially with respect to noise. When this occurs, UConn and its Office of Off-Campus Student Services works closely with the students, their neighbors, the town of Mansfield, the police, landlords and, if need be, UConn's Office of Community Standards, to help resolve these issues.

Other Mansfield residents have stated that nearby students are good neighbors, but the residents object to the presence of rental properties in their neighborhoods, even if the students themselves present no problems. There are also concerns about code enforcement.

Your letter includes a number of statements and assumptions that we would like to address. We believe that providing additional information and context to you could be useful in our ongoing discussions.

For the sake of clarity, I've divided each subject by heading, roughly corresponding to the order in which the issues were presented in your letter to the council.

352 MANSFIELD ROAD, UNIT 1048  
STORRS, CT 06269-1048  
PHONE 860.486.2337  
FAX 860.486.2627

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

## **Fraternity and Sorority Housing**

You wrote that "the university houses only 30% of its fraternities and sororities" on campus, with the remainder being located off campus. You ask that UConn move off-campus fraternity and sorority houses to campus.

Greek letter organizations with housing on campus are recognized student organizations living in dedicated UConn housing for fraternities and sororities, and they are living on campus by choice. Students who choose to live in off-campus housing and promote that dwelling as being a fraternity or sorority house, for example, are making that designation themselves. The off-campus houses are not "official" fraternity or sorority houses recognized by the university or, in many cases, even the chapters' national headquarters.

In some cases, UConn has revoked its recognition of some of these organizations. The university does not have authority over where these students live and cannot control how they designate their home.

## **Local Addresses**

Your letter asked that "off campus students be required to provide their local addresses to the university and the town."

UConn uses a student information management system called Peoplesoft, as do many other institutions. This is the sole centralized software system UConn uses to track all student information, including addresses.

The system prompts all students who are not living on campus to enter a home address and a current local address. They are required to enter and confirm this information every semester. All address information is self-reported, so it is up to the student to enter these addresses. While address entry is required, there is no mechanism in the Peoplesoft system that would allow it to differentiate between address type; the system only knows that an address has been entered, as required. This means there are students who do provide both a local address and a home address, and others who provide only one or the other, twice.

For its own purposes, the university would also prefer that it have a record of local student addresses, in addition to their home address. We are exploring ways to accomplish this within the Peoplesoft system.

However, even if that were accomplished, the university would not be able to provide you or the town with a list of students living off-campus or a list of student off-campus addresses, as that information is, in this case, protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, known as "FERPA," which is a federal student privacy law.

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FAX 860.486.2627

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If your goal is to gain an understanding of UConn's off-campus commuting student population, and where they live, the university is generally able to estimate this, mainly through our work with students and the owners or managers of approximately 20 area high-density apartment complexes.

The Office of Off-Campus Student Services is also aware of students living in single family homes when they are either in a "legacy house" where students have historically lived or when that information is brought to UConn's attention for whatever reason, including code violations or complaints made to the police.

UConn is able to pinpoint the exact number of students who live somewhere off campus, and can, for example, determine how many students have listed a mailing address in a given town, including Mansfield. This would provide a minimum count of UConn students living in town, but would not capture the total number. It would also count students whose parents' home is in Mansfield.

### **Limiting Enrollment to Housing Capacity**

Your letter asks that UConn's enrollment be limited to only as many undergraduate students as "can be housed on campus." UConn currently houses approximately 70% of its students on campus, which is more than any other top 50 public university in the nation, except William and Mary in Virginia. I'm including a chart with this letter that illustrates this.

This section of your letter makes a number of assumptions: that there may be a housing shortage on campus, leading students to move to off-campus housing, including single-family homes; that more students would live on-campus if more housing was available; and that UConn is able to house 100% of its students on campus, or could reduce enrollment only to those students who were willing to live on campus.

However, data and our experience don't support these assumptions. UConn knows exactly what student demand for on-campus housing is, because all students have to apply to move into or return to UConn housing each year. If demand were exceeding capacity, the university would know that because UConn would be receiving housing applications that exceeded our available space. That is not happening. As student demand for on-campus housing has gone up in the last 10 years, as our enrollment has grown, UConn has added 1,205 more on-campus beds to meet demand. But currently, applications to live in on-campus housing almost exactly match the space available and there are vacancies every spring semester.

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PHONE 860.486.2337  
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This is because there will always be a percentage of students who prefer to live off campus, no matter what the on-campus options are. That will be true regardless of whether enrollment grows or contracts. So students are not being forced to live off campus due to a lack of space or options, they are choosing to live off campus based on what the local private housing market is offering and their own personal preference.

Even if UConn built enough on-campus housing for 100% of our students, we know from our housing application rates – and our experience – that student preference would leave this housing with a vacancy rate of approximately 30%, which is the number of students who choose to live off-campus currently.

This would also be financially unwise for the university, as UConn would have to repay the funds used to build the buildings without the necessary revenue to do so because of the high vacancy rate. Even if state bond funds paid for this construction and the state was responsible for paying the debt service, it would be irresponsible to construct residence halls that the university knew it would not be able to fully utilize. This is why no school of UConn's size and type would build housing for most or all of its students at a given moment in time, or expect that all students will live on campus.

Again, student demand for on-campus housing almost exactly matches our existing housing stock and there is no indication that an increase in our on-campus housing supply would result in an increase in demand on the part of students for that housing.

### **Freshmen and Sophomores**

Your letter asks that all freshmen and sophomores be required to live on campus. However, the vast majority of freshmen and sophomores already choose to live in on-campus housing. Currently, a combined total of 91% of freshmen and sophomores live on campus. And a percentage of those who do not are commuting from their parents' home.

### **Student Apartments Off Campus**

Your letter asks that "any necessary student apartments or dormitories be built on campus, rather than in the community."

UConn is completing construction of a new residence hall on campus that will house 727 students, opening this summer.

UConn cannot control where private companies or individuals build housing off-campus in Mansfield (or in any community). However, building more high-density housing in Mansfield or other area towns would increase the options that students have when deciding where to live off-campus, possibly drawing some away from single family homes, if that is the focus of your concern.

Importantly, UConn tracks 20 different apartment complexes in Mansfield, Willington and Tolland. There are 6756 beds in these complexes, and, working with the property managers, UConn estimates that approximately 90% of these beds are filled with UConn students. This helps to demonstrate that there is very high student interest in this kind of housing.

Related numbers also serve to contradict the belief that UConn's expanding enrollment is responsible for greater numbers of single family homes becoming rental properties: in the last 10 years, UConn's undergraduate enrollment will have increased by 2,894 students as of this fall. In that time, our on-campus bed count has grown by 1,205 beds in existing housing. Further, off-campus student-preferred bed space in the 20 high-density developments we track has grown by 1,570 beds. This means that the total growth in both on-campus and student-preferred beds off campus in high-density developments in Mansfield, Willington and Tolland *alone* has been 2,775 over that same 10 year period. Or approximately what UConn's increase in enrollment has been during that time.

This does not represent all area high-density housing, only those that we track. There are other high-density complexes stretching from Manchester to Willimantic where many students live, both undergraduate and graduate, which we do not track. It is also worth noting that of UConn's 5,900 undergrad Storrs-based commuters (as of this fall) it is estimated that approximately 1,500 will live with a parent or parents, commute to Storrs, and not participate in the local housing market.

Please also note that a substantial number of our graduate students are part-time and commute to Storrs (and other campuses) from around the state, as they are often working professionals seeking a degree and also do not participate in the local housing market.

Finally, there are approximately 70 vacancies in the private, high-density housing complexes we track, and 576 vacancies in UConn's on-campus housing, as of today.

Anecdotally, there are students who simply prefer to live in houses, rather than in apartment complexes or UConn's on-campus offerings.

## **Cars**

Your letter asks that UConn limit the number of cars that can be brought to the area. UConn already prohibits students with fewer than 54 credit hours from parking on campus. UConn does not have any authority to prevent students living off-campus from having vehicles.

## **Increasing Enrollment at Regional Campuses, Decreasing at Storrs**

You ask that UConn increase regional campus enrollment and decrease enrollment in Storrs. Enrollment is guided by student demand and UConn's ability to meet the needs of its student population, especially with respect to teaching and student services. Each campus has its own unique demand, and its own capacity to meet that demand. Enrollment decisions are always based on these factors, as well as the state's expectations of its only public research university.

UConn is responsible for providing a service – higher education – on behalf of the entire state and its 3.5 million residents and is accountable to the entire state and state government when it comes to the quality of the education it provides and the population of students it serves.

Storrs has been – and will continue to be – UConn's flagship campus and home to the vast majority of its students and academic programs in order to best serve those students and the state of Connecticut.

## **Buying Back Homes**

Your letter asks that UConn work with the town to buy homes owned by private parties and return them to family ownership. This assumes their owners are willing to sell them and that families are willing to buy them. Also, even if both assumptions are true, UConn does not currently have the resources to do this. However, we believe that it may be beneficial for the town and the university to explore related ideas going forward.

## **Moving Academic Departments Out of Mansfield**

Your letter asks that UConn move entire schools, colleges and departments to other Connecticut locations. The location of our academic units in Storrs is essential to running a successful university and academic enterprise, and the notion that they should or could be moved is not practical or beneficial for our mission as a university, our students, or the state of Connecticut.

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Again, the university agrees with the root of your concern with respect to single family homes becoming rental properties in residential neighborhoods, which are often then rented to students.

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FAX 860.486.2627

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It is clear that private individuals and companies are purchasing these homes with the intention of turning them into rental properties. However, UConn cannot control what the private market does.

We do not disagree about the effect the growth in rental properties may have, but rather on how that problem can be effectively addressed and what role UConn can play in support of the town.

This issue is clearly a complex one. Some other questions to consider include: Is some amount of the Mansfield housing stock more attractive as rental property versus being owner-occupied because of its age or condition, or both? And: Are realtors in the area actively marketing properties as investment opportunities and not as owner-occupied properties?

Please know that we take your concerns very seriously. The university, as the primary employer in Mansfield and surrounding towns, has a strong interest in seeing more owner-occupied housing in close proximity to the university, first, because it is important to the town. In addition, it is also helpful to the university when recruiting faculty and staff.

We will have ongoing conversations with the town of Mansfield regarding ways this issue can be addressed, and what role UConn can play.

We look forward to speaking with you in person.

Sincerely,



Michael Kirk  
Deputy Chief of Staff to the President  
University of Connecticut

CC: State Senator Mae Flexer  
State Representative Gregg Haddad  
Chairman Lawrence McHugh  
Trustee Shari Cantor  
Mansfield Town Council  
Town Manager Matthew Hart

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PAGE  
BREAK

## Background on Crumbling Foundations in Connecticut

The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection is here to provide homeowners and professionals with information and resources that can help determine if a concrete foundation is failing, and help find potential options for repair.

In July of 2015, Governor Malloy called on the Department of Consumer Protection and the Office of the Attorney General to conduct an investigation into crumbling foundations. The Insurance Department and Department of Banking, along with federal, state and municipal officials have been collaborating with DCP's investigative team since July 2015 to provide resources to homeowners and professionals.

All up to date information on our on-going investigation for consumers and professionals can always be found at [www.ct.gov/DCP/concrete](http://www.ct.gov/DCP/concrete).

## Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection

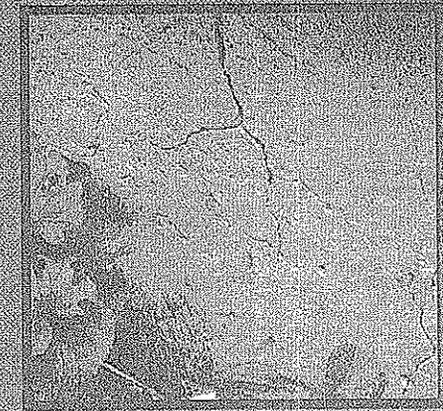
Phone: 860.713.6100  
Toll Free in CT: 800.842.4649  
[dcp.concrete@ct.gov](mailto:dcp.concrete@ct.gov)  
[www.ct.gov/DCP/concrete](http://www.ct.gov/DCP/concrete)

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## Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection



## Crumbling Concrete Foundations

What you can do if you think  
your home may be affected

# DCP

## Complaint Center

If you wish to file a complaint with the Department of Consumer Protection, you may do so by completing and returning a complaint form through mail or email.

When you fill out your complaint form it is important to have as much information as possible. You may also include pictures, or other evidence from your foundation to show the issues you may have.

If you don't have answers to all questions on the form, fill out the form as completely as you can and submit it. It's okay if you need to leave something blank. We ask the questions on this form so we can have as much information as possible to contribute to our investigation.

# For Professionals

We know part of the solution to this challenge is working with professionals such as real estate agents, engineers, home inspectors, home improvement contractors and others.

All information available to homeowners who may be affected is also available to professionals who would like access to it. Professionals can also find all available information at [ct.gov/DCP/concrete](http://ct.gov/DCP/concrete).

# Support from the Insurance Department

The Insurance Department has notified insurance companies that they cannot cancel or non-renew a homeowner's policy due to a crumbling foundation.

The Insurance Department is also advising homeowners to read their policies, particularly the section titled "Duties After Loss." That section explains the process that a policyholder needs to follow when notifying his or her insurance company of damage or a loss. The homeowner's policy also provides information on the timeframe a policyholder has to file a lawsuit against the company should he or she choose to do so.

If you have questions about your policy, you are encouraged to contact the Insurance Department at [cidca@ct.gov](mailto:cidca@ct.gov), or call 800-203-3447.

## Home Purchases & Inspections

The Department of Consumer Protection issued an advisory to home inspectors in August of 2015 that reminds inspectors what needs to be examined in a home inspection, and discusses signs of crumbling foundations.

If you are purchasing a home, make sure that the owner you are purchasing the home from has filled out the Residential Property Condition Disclosure Report completely.

## LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

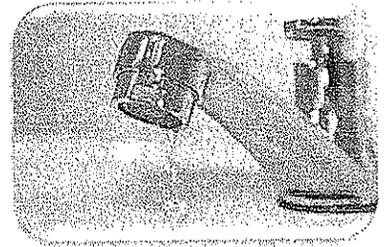
Lead in drinking water has been in the news recently with the situation going on in Flint, Michigan. The specifics in the Flint case are unique and we want to assure you that we do not have similar circumstances in our systems at Connecticut Water.

Item #7

- Connecticut Water conducts extensive water quality testing at our sources and within our distribution system.
- We have not detected lead in any of our sources of supplies or distribution system.
- We fully comply with the EPA requirements regarding sampling for lead in drinking water and have provided documentation to State health officials of our results.
- We are confident in the water quality that we provide our customers.

Q. What happened in Flint, Michigan?

A. The situation in Flint was triggered when they changed their water supply source to one with significantly different water chemistry characteristics without corresponding measures to provide for corrosion control designed to maintain the conditions of their pipe system. It appears it was further compounded when there was not a timely response to customer inquiries and response to water quality test results.



Q. What is being done in Connecticut Water's systems so that this does not happen here?

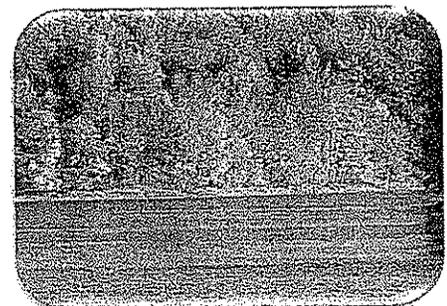
A. Regular water quality testing is done in all of our water systems and continues to show that the water delivered to our customers is in compliance with state and federal drinking water standards and is safe to drink. Ongoing sampling is done for a host of water quality standards, with more than 170,000 samples tested annually at state certified laboratories. Our water quality testing data is regularly reviewed for potential changes or trends and any customer water quality complaint is escalated to professionals in our water quality team.

Q. Where can customers review water quality test results for their system?

A. Water quality reports are made available annually to all of our customers and are on our website at [www.ctwater.com](http://www.ctwater.com) >Customers > Water Quality Report.

Q. What is done specifically to protect our water sources?

A. Connecticut Water has an extensive program of water quality protection that includes land ownership, watershed inspections, and source water quality monitoring. These programs are overseen by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health. Further, Connecticut is the only state that prevents water bodies that have sewer treatment plant discharges, or receive other waste discharges, from being used as drinking water supply sources.

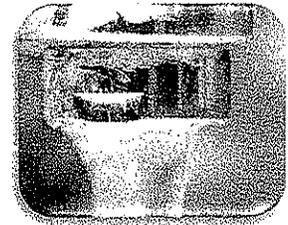


**Q. What is done specifically to protect customers from lead in water?**

**A. In addition to limiting our supplies to quality sources with source protection measures, we also have a comprehensive approach to control lead in our water systems. This approach includes sampling and chemical addition in our treatment and distribution systems for corrosion control to maintain water quality and protect our customers from the potential for lead to enter their drinking water. We have a program in place, as required under Federal law, to minimize the potential for lead to enter your drinking water.**

**Q. How does lead get into the water in a customer's home?**

**A. Lead typically enters drinking water as a result of corrosion, or wearing away, of materials in household plumbing containing lead. These materials include lead-based solder that in the past had been used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-plated brass faucets, and in some cases, the service line that connects your house to the water main, if the pipe is made of lead.**



**Q. What has been done to limit the risks of lead in household plumbing?**

**A. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0%, however the internal plumbing in older homes may still contain lead piping.**

In homes where there is still lead in internal plumbing and fixtures, under certain pH conditions, lead may dissolve into the drinking water after it has sat in the internal plumbing for some time. As such, sampling under our lead and copper program intentionally focuses on homes with older plumbing and samples are taken with the first water drawn from the tap in the morning.

**Q. What does the Company do if they detect lead in a customer's water?**

**A. We monitor for lead from customer's homes to confirm that the chemical treatment processes remain effective. In instances where the lead in a customer's home is above the action level set by Federal Standards (15 part per billion), we notify the customer right away. If 10% or more of the samples collected from a public water system are above the Federal Standards we notify all customers within the service area.**



**Q. What can you do if you are concerned about lead in your internal plumbing?**

**A. See the Center for Disease Control at <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tips/water.htm> or the US EPA to learn more, including steps you can take to reduce your risk of consuming lead from drinking water.**



If you need additional information on this topic or have specific questions, please feel free to contact Connecticut Water Company Customer Service staff at 1.800.286.5700.