



*City of Bristol
Economic and Community Development Board*

Amended Agenda

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/88677210794?pwd=M2xITXBOVIRsSDROR1VISmtnbmdudz09>

*Meeting ID: 886 7721 0794
Passcode: 379107*

An ECD Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 5:00pm in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Participation
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the March 5, 2026 Regular Meeting
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Communications
 - B. Economic Development/Grants/Marketing Report
- V. New Business
 - A. Downtown Update
 - B. Incentive Budgets & Program Update
 - C. Department Interns
 - D. Grants: Congressionally Directed Spending
 - E. Additional Development Projects
- VI. New Business by Commissioners

VII. Old Business by Commissioners

VIII. Committee Reports

A. City Council Member Report

IX. Executive Session

A. Redevelopment of 273/296 Riverside Avenue

X. Take Any Other Actions

XI. Adjournment

Per Order of Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Chair

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 5:00pm

Meeting Room 3-1, City Hall, 111 N. Main Street & on Zoom

Present: Mayor Zoppo-Sassu, Chair; Howard Schmelder; Vice Chair, Council Member Susan Tyler, and Commissioners David Mills, Marvin (Mickey) Goldwasser, Tom Hick, Louise Provenzano, LaQuita Kearney-Gonzalez, and Jason Paul Sirko

Absent: None

ECD Staff: Justin Malley - Executive Director, and Dr. Dawn Leger - Grants Administrator

Guests: Charlie Talmadge, President of Development Planning Solutions
Gino Carrier, President of Carrier Construction, Inc.

I. Call to Order

The mayor called the meeting to order at 5:02pm and led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Participation

The mayor recognized Charlie Talmadge to speak for Public Participation. Mr. Talmadge outlined the following updates for the various Carrier Construction projects in the city:

894 Middle Street – The site plan approval was received and the logistics for the closing are being finalized. Carrier has a goal to close on, or before, March 11, 2026. Mr. Talmadge thanked Mayor Zoppo-Sassu and ECD Director, Justin Malley for their impressive support on this project, most recently regarding the site plan approval. Construction on Phase I is weather dependent.

Phase II of Centre Square – The building was released to the realtor on March 1, 2026, and eight leases have since been secured. The temporary Certificate of Occupancy (COI) is expected March 15th, with an anticipated move in date of April 1st for the first round of tenants. The next COI will come the end of April, beginning of May, for the residential portion of the project to be completed. The ice cream parlor and barbershop expect to open in June, with the pizza restaurant and hair salon in July, and that will complete Centre Square Village. There is a total of 104 residential units, 52 in each building.

Funck Building – Weather conditions have delayed some of the project work but exterior construction is expected to resume this week. Permits are expected in the next 30 days with a planned completion by the end of 2026. For the last two years, the first floor has been listed for retail lease space with no interest shown. Carrier is moving forward developing their own retail mail center as a complementary use of the space.

The Eagle Federal Building – The schematic design for a 25-bed elderly care facility is in progress with exterior improvements starting in the next several months. The level of elderly care was defined as a little higher than assisted living but not a full level nursing home. This project will be staggered with the completion of the other properties.

233 Main Street -- There are some state regulations to work through while ramping up the 24 residential units in this space across from the Funck and Eagle building.

380 Main Street – This lot is currently zoned as a single-family lot. A zone change is being requested to allow for a multi-family, six-unit development. A previous request for this zone change was made in 2017/2018, but was not awarded.

The property at the bottom of Haviland Street will be moving forward with 11 townhomes. In reply to the mayor's question raised on behalf of some residents, the intention regarding the fall is that it would be salvaged or repurposed.

The demolition permit for the Chic Miller property has been issued. The current delay is the snow. Temporary fencing is expected to go up soon, and all the hazardous material abatement is completed. An additional update will be provided at the April ECD Board Meeting.

Discussion followed, including appreciation from the developers for the city's support, and the mayor's offer for additional support as needed.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the February 6, 2026 Regular Meeting

The mayor called for a motion approving the Minutes of the February 6, 2026 meeting. The motion to approve was made by Vice Chair Schmelder and seconded by Commissioner Mills. The mayor noted the need for a correction to the spelling of her name on page five. There were no additional changes or edits

noted. All voted in favor of accepting the Minutes with the one correction, and the Minutes were accepted into the record.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Communications

B. Economic Development/Grants/Marketing Report

The mayor called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was made by Commissioner Goldwasser and was seconded by Vice Chair Schmelder. All were in favor and the Consent Agenda was accepted into the record.

V. New Business

A. Downtown Update

Justin Malley reviewed a potential change to the N. Main Street streetscape to provide more parking which is needed now, and for the new retail businesses set to lease space in the second Centre Square building. This plan will add nineteen new parking spaces, and the existing materials will be repurposed within the city. The paving will be moved to the fall 2026 schedule.

Visitors to Downtown are encouraged to use the Hope Street parking garage and the Wheeler Health lot after business hours. Discussion followed, including the postal worker's concerns with their current parking options and issues they experienced after the new garage was opened. The mayor is working closely with the postmaster to address their concerns and needs which include accommodating a new fleet of larger postal vehicles.

The mayor also shared with the Board about working across city departments to permit overnight parking arrangements for the tenants and businesses at the new lot on South Street. Additionally, revitalization is coming to that area via Hearthstone Holdings run by property owner, Hilary Stoudt.

The mayor reported being in conversation with the owner of the former West End Athletic Club building. The roof has been repaired but tarps are still present. A report confirming the presence, or not, of mold, or the type of mold present from water intrusion is pending from the State Health District.

Justin Malley reported that two proposals were received for the 1.35-acre Centre Square lot. Those will be provided to the Downtown Committee for review, and a meeting will be scheduled for that discussion and developer interviews. The

Sessions Building proposals are also in process with the Downtown Committee and the city's consultants for the project.

Also noted was that the grant for the Centre Square Pocket Park was pulled for this current cycle. That area is needed for construction staging as the parcel next door is being developed. Additionally, the grant program is competitive with other projects that are shovel ready which Bristol is not. The State understood the city's decision, and the ECD will reuse and resubmit the application when appropriate.

Commissioner Mills joined the meeting at 5:32pm.

Mayor Zoppo-Sassu provided the Board with issues facing the tenants in the plaza that includes 45, 59 and 81 N. Main Street. The mayor is planning to host a tenant meeting to further discuss and address their concerns. Discussion followed.

An update was provided for the fuel cell and data center set for 234 Riverside Avenue. The fuel cell project was approved by the state, and the design site needs to approved locally. The project goes before the Wetlands Commission and the site plan would follow. Discussion followed including the environmental impact on the area.

The Vice Chair asked to confirm if any grant funding was provided to Bikers Edge which has closed. Justin Malley confirmed that only state funding, not city funding, was provided to the owner for façade work on the building.

B. Incentive Budgets & Program Update

Justin Malley provided an update on the Incentives Budget balances for the Board to review. Based on the suggestion made in last month's board meeting, he has made an appeal to the Comptroller, the Board of Finance Chair, and others for an increase to the ECD Incentives Budget if, and when, there is availability in the city's budget. Discussion followed.

C. Police/Fire Training Facility

The mayor provided an update on the new Police and Fire Training Facility coming to the city, including the \$3.15 million grant that Congressman Larson had submitted. Chief Hart and Officer Iurato have also been working to bring this

regional training facility with potential rental and revenue opportunities to the city. Discussion followed.

D. Non-Profit Assistance and CDBG

In researching the opportunities for the ECD Board to extend funding to the city's non-profits and community agencies, Justin Malley reported that the city's charter clearly limits the ECD Board to economic development. The community development side is limited to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program which is federally funded. With that in mind, the ECD Department doesn't have the authority to step outside of the CDBG aspect for non-profit items. Discussion followed.

E. BOF Transfer Request

The mayor called for the following motion regarding the request for a Board of Finance (BOF) Transfer Request:

Motion to transfer \$7,500 from ECD "Advertising" to ECD "Professional Fees" to fund Goman & York assistance with Requests for Proposals for redevelopment of the "Sessions" building and development of the final Centre Square development parcel, and to forward this request to the Board of Finance for action.

The motion was read by Vice Chair Schmelder and was seconded by Commissioner Mills. There was no additional discussion. All were in favor and the motion was accepted into the record.

F. NAA Allocation Extension

The mayor requested Vice Chair Schmelder read the motion for this item. For the record, the mayor abstained from the vote as she is a volunteer at the Historical Society which this item is in reference to.

The Vice Chair read the motion as follows:

Motion to approve extension of the project period for the Neighborhood Assistance Act allocation for the Bristol Historical Society, from September 30, 2024 to September 30, 2025, with an audit due to the City by March 30, 2026, and to forward this request to the City Council for action.

Commissioner Goldwasser seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. All were in favor and the motion was accepted into the record.

G. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Dr. Dawn Leger confirmed that all the Commissioners have submitted the required Conflict of Interest form. She then read the following required Conflict of Interest Declaration for the record:

Conflict of Interest Declaration for CDBG Year 52

March 5, 2026

In accordance with HUD regulations concerning Conflicts of Interest, there is one individual who has submitted a statement concerning a Conflict of Interest with an applicant for CDBG funding.

Councilwoman Susan Tyler presently serves on the Board of Directors of St. Vincent De Paul Mission, and she has been advised to recuse herself from any votes that directly involve the approval of funding to that agency by the Economic and Community Development Board, for which she is the City Council liaison, and votes by the City Council itself. She does not receive any remuneration for her service on the St. Vincent DePaul Board of Directors.

With this public notice of a Conflict of Interest, the ECD has satisfied the requirements of HUD Regulations 24 CFR Ch. V, 570.611.

VI. New Business by Commissioners

There was no New Business by Commissioners.

VII. Old Business by Commissioners

There as no Old Business by Commissioners.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Downtown Committee Report

Commissioner Goldwasser reported to the Board regarding the Sessions Building developer interviews held February 26, 2026. The Committee met with four developers and are moving forward with their choices into the next stage of the process.

B. Policy Committee Report

Vice Chair Schmelder reported to the Board regarding the first CDBG Public Hearing held for the new grant year. He noted that two applicants weren't present at the hearing, but one did email the following day explaining their absence. The Policy Committee will have recommendations to present to the full ECD Board after their next policy meeting.

C. City Council Member Report

City Council Member Tyler brought the following items to the Board based on conversations she's had with area businesses. Discussion on each of these items followed.

- Communication about road closures and/or parade routes for the annual Mum Festival

The mayor recommended the ECD Director and the head of other affected departments attend the Event Coordination Meetings for the large-scale events. This would be a way to identify, and address, more nuanced impacts of these events on the community.

The mayor also suggested the use of Hope Street as a smaller event venue, especially for weekend use, with the Wheeler Health's after-hours parking and the Hope Street parking garage available. This could assist with limiting street closures.

- The Giamatti Center Little League needs the city's assistance with notifying and promoting the community and visitors to their event and scheduling. Signage is of particular concern.

The Board discussed city provided signage that would welcome event visitors as well as direct them to various and participating business. The mayor will reach out the Chamber of Commerce for involvement as well, and asked the ECD Board for marketing and Welcome to Bristol ideas in support.

- A New Business Checklist was suggested as a way to more efficiently and effectively direct new business owners setting up in Bristol. Currently, the initial conversations can, and do start in any one of the city's offices.

Justin Malley reported that the ECD Department offers a checklist as part of its brochures, but noted that the business type and location is what dictates the flow of a given checklist. For example, one business may need to consider zoning while another doesn't. The idea of a concierge was noted whereby each city department that is contacted would refer the business to the designated contact. At this time, Justin Malley recommended businesses contact him at the ECD Department to start.

IX. Adjournment

The mayor called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Hick and seconded by City Council Member Tyler. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Arsego
Recording Secretary

Unapproved

FEATURED

Something to scream about: Carvel in Bristol closes up shop

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @brianjohnsonBP

Mar 6, 2026



The Carvel in Bristol.

FILE

BRISTOL — After operating in Bristol for more than a decade, Carvel has closed its shop at 650 Farmington Avenue.

Justin Malley, executive director of Economic and Community Development, said the closure mirrors similar closures of Carvel locations elsewhere in the state.

“I am told that the difficult decision to close Carvel was a business decision made after comparing the required franchise fees against the revenue generated from the ice cream shop,” Malley said.

There are 17 remaining Carvels in the state, according to the ice cream shop’s website. The Carvel in Newington, at 1018 Main St., remains open.

Malley said Fresh Craft Grille, adjacent to Carvel, will remain open — “potentially under new ownership in the future.” Fresh Craft Grille offers “fresh ground burgers, handcrafted hot dogs, hearty gyros, salads and wraps” according to its website.

“The business benefits from high traffic counts – both from Route 6 in general and specifically from Stop and Shop and Bristol Plaza,” Malley said. “The owners invested in a stunning redevelopment of the property years ago which is no easy feat for a full-service restaurant.”

Economic Development Board interviews developers for Riverside Avenue workforce housing project



The J.H. Sessions Building on Riverside Avenue. | File photo

Posted By: Laura Bailey March 10, 2026

by Lucas Amoroso-Whittles | TBE correspondent | March 10, 2026 |

The Economic and Community Development Board held a special meeting on Feb. 26, to conduct developer interviews for the J.H. Sessions and Son building on Riverside Avenue.

According to chairman Mickey Goldwasser, multiple developers had put out responses to an RFP (Request for Proposal) and had been narrowed down to 4 companies after one withdrew.

The 296 Riverside Ave. property across the street from the Sessions building is also being included in the RFP.

The developers would make their proposals and respond to Q&A's from the board in a closed executive session, with no votes being taken.

Executive Director Justin Malley said in an interview prior to the meeting that the building, a former trunk hardware factory, had received several grants to clean up contamination, and is in

ownership of the city, with the goal being to convert the 90,000 square foot building into workforce housing.

The last few years have been spent looking for a developer to convert it into apartments, according to Malley.

“We’re not going to convert it to apartments; we want to hand it off to a developer to do so” Malley said.

The city is currently prepared to sell the building for \$1 due to the high investment a developer would need to make on the building.

A prior developer, The Michaels Organization, had been involved in the project but backed out due to financial requirements that they could not commit to last year. Malley said that with the renewed interest, the board wants to be certain that the developers can complete the project.

“The goal for this project has always been to create an apartment community that is affordable for those who do not necessarily fall into the low-income bracket, but those who are just working every day, trying to make it, and they just need a little bit of help,” Malley said.

Malley said that more recently, he believes that public interest in the project has grown due to rising housing costs. Malley said that the project has been long term, taking at least 20 years to receive grants, get assessment work completed, and finding a developer.

“It’s that balance of hopefully partnering with a developer to ensure that they can do ok financially on the project,” he said, “but then also the community, there’s a benefit to the community.”

Pa-Ted Spring celebrates 80-year milestone

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @brianjohnsonBP
Mar 20, 2026



Pa-Ted Spring Company, LLC celebrated its 80th anniversary at the Iron Horse Pub in Bristol.

BRISTOL — Pa-Ted Spring Company, LLC celebrated 80 years of manufacturing success.

Pa-Ted owners Ken Dayton and Erik Tedesco and their employees celebrated the milestone anniversary at Iron Horse Sports Pub in Bristol. Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu and Justin Malley, executive director of economic and community development, stopped by to offer their congratulations.

“Justin Malley and I were honored to be part of the Pa-Ted celebration for 80 years in business,” Zoppo-Sassu said. “It’s companies like that that define Bristol — ideas born in a basement that are transformed into major hubs with dozens of employees.”

Located at 137 Vincent P. Kelley Road, Pa-Ted Spring Company has a 35,000 square foot facility. They produce a variety of custom springs including coil springs, fourslide/small stampings, gym floor springs, pool cover springs and torsion springs.

Dayton said being able to continue the Pa-Ted legacy 80 years and beyond “feels important to the area, to ourselves, employees and vendors that are local to Bristol.”

“This is especially true in a timeframe where so many of our local competitors have been acquired by much larger entities,” he said. “We are what is left of a small number of independently owned spring manufacturers.”

Dayton and Tedesco have owned Pa-Ted since Aug. 2005.

“There were originally four of us,” he said. “We bought out a partner in 2013 and another retired in 2021.”

Dayton attributed the success of Pa-Ted over the years to “perseverance, drive and willingness to do absolutely anything that’s needed to achieve success.”

“We have an internal motto of never saying no to opportunities and challenges, and it has served us well,” he said.

Dayton thanked Bristol for their support over the years.

“The support we receive from Bristol, where most of our employees reside, has been a substantial support to our operations,” he said. “During the very early stages of the acquisition, Art Ward was a councilman who helped us by getting a meeting together with the council members for a couple of small hurdles.”

Tedesco said it was “truly an honor” to stand there as the third generation of his family to lead the company and celebrate 80 years of history.

“Our story began in 1946 on St. Patrick’s Day, when my grandfather, Pascal Tedesco, started this company in the basement of his home,” Tedesco said.

Tedesco said the company grew from that basement shop, moving twice before building their current factory.

“That building represented more than just expansion — it represented belief in the future,” he said. “Not long after, his oldest son, Fred Tedesco, joined the company after graduating from Purdue University. Together, Fred and my grandfather — who many knew simply as Pat — continued building the company, customer by customer, relationship by relationship. Later, my father, Richard Tedesco, joined the business after graduating from college. Along with his brother, they carried that vision forward and expanded the company to three locations, growing the business while maintaining the values my grandfather started with decades earlier.”

In 2005, Tedesco, along with three managers, purchased the company from his father and uncle.

“Today, I’m the only remaining family member in the company, but I’m fortunate to share the responsibility of leading it with my business partner, Ken Dayton,” he said. “But the truth is a company doesn’t survive 80 years because of one person or one family. It survives because of people.”

Tedesco said Pa-Ted’s employees, past and present are “the real foundation” of the company.

“Many of you have dedicated years, and even decades, to helping this organization grow,” he said. “Your knowledge, skill and commitment are the reason we are celebrating this milestone.”

Tedesco also thanked the customers, suppliers and partners. “Those relationships are built on trust, and we never take that trust for granted,” he said.

Also acknowledged during the celebration was Vito Ventrello, who has been a Pa-Ted employee for 55 years.

“Vito is an incredible individual,” Dayton said. “Beyond being a master at his trade he has always been a kind and gentle and possesses a work ethic that you only read about. If something needed to be done, Vito was the person who would figure out how to make it work. No matter the challenge, he approached it with determination, skill and the experience that only decades of dedication can bring.”

FEATURED

Qdoba Mexican Eats opening location in city

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @brianjohnsonBP

Mar 24, 2026



Qdoba is taking over the building at 750 Farmington Ave.

BRISTOL — Qdoba Mexican Eats plans to open a location in Bristol.

The national Mexican restaurant chain has taken out a 10-year lease for the

2,692 square foot commercial retail building at 750 Farmington Ave., according to realtor Michael Doherty, who represented the landlord.

A spokesperson for Qdoba told the Press the restaurant is expected to open in early fall.

Justin Malley, executive director of Economic & Community Development for the City of Bristol, said he was glad to see a business come into the space.

“Even as downtown and other areas of Bristol grow, it is encouraging that Route 6 continues to offer healthy traffic counts and commercial activity to attract national tenants,” he said.

According to its website, Qdoba was founded in 1995 as Zuma Fresh Mexican Grill in Denver. The brand name changed to Qdoba in 1999. Today there are more 858 locations in the United States. Qdoba has a location in the Devil’s Den at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, which opened last year.

The restaurant offers “freshly-made Mexican-inspired good crafted with contemporary flavors that guests crave.”

“We believe that the most delicious flavors start with quality ingredients and thoughtful preparation, taking pride in preparing meals in our kitchens each day,” Qdoba says. “Whether it’s chopping crisp produce, flame-grilling steak and chicken, or making hand-crafted guacamole, we don’t take shortcuts.”

Second Aldi is set to open in Bristol

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @brianjohnsonBP
Mar 24, 2026



The former Big Lots location in Bristol Plaza.

BRISTOL — Aldi is planning to open a second location in town, according to city leaders.

Justin Malley, executive director of Economic & Community Development for the City of Bristol, said Aldi is preparing to occupy a portion of the former Big Lots space at 1235 Farmington Ave. Big Lots announced it was closing the location in Oct. 2024. The company had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and was closing more than 300 stores.

Aldi has another location in Bristol at 110 Middle St. which it has owned since 1999, according to city records.

Malley said The Bristol Plaza is “well positioned as a convenient location for northeast Bristol residents, but also for large portions of Farmington, Burlington, Plainville and other areas.”

“Aldi is expanding in a thoughtful way across Connecticut, so this move makes sense geographically to offer local residents as well as those in nearby communities an additional grocery option,” he said.

The Aldi supermarket chain, founded in Germany, has 13,500 stores in 18 countries. According to Aldi’s website, its number one priority is to “deliver great quality food at the lowest possible prices.”

Economic Development/Marketing/Grants/CDBG Report

April 2026

Downtown/West End Updates

- Centre Square:
 - Centre Square Village “Phase II” continues and has the following committed commercial tenants: High-end Neapolitan pizza restaurant, hair stylist, barbershop, ice cream shop.
 - It is anticipated that the Downtown Committee will schedule interviews in April to address the two Centre Square development proposals.
- The City Council approved a change order to allow the expansion of the North Main Street streetscape that the ECD Board discussed last month. We appreciate the City Council, Board of Finance, Public Works, and the Carrier team for their partnership.
- CTDOT and engineers GM2 are finalizing design of the Riverside Avenue and Park Street portions of the Route 72 streetscape project. Right now, GM2 is seeking CT DOT approval for various aspects of the streetscape and roadway redesign.
- Express Kitchens is nearly at capacity for its distribution operation and is nearing the opening of a retail outlet allowing the community to visit the building to purchase cabinets, household appliances, and similar items at discount. Ribbon cutting TBD.
- The Downtown Committee will provide an update at the ECD Board meeting regarding selection of a preferred developer for 273/296 Riverside Ave.

Development Outside Downtown

- Industrial Update:
 - Integrity Manufacturing continues to plan for Lot #9 of the Southeast Bristol Business Park. However, the company is working with a new design and construction firm(s) which may alter the original building concept. ECD staff will notify the ECD board if/when new plans are submitted.
 - ECD staff are working with a potential tenant for part of the new construction on Lot #3 of the Southeast Bristol Business Park. When the tenant is ready ECD staff will invite them to the Industrial Committee for approval.
 - ECD staff is working with Baumer on the potential of its 5-acre parcel going up for sale now that the company is expanding in place at its existing facility.
 - Staff continue to work with a longtime manufacturer in need of expanding to a larger facility to consolidate a few businesses. More to come on this potential new construction.
 - Staff will provide an update on 383 Middle Street (former Superior Electric/ESPN North property) at the upcoming ECD Board meeting.
- Forestville/Other
 - ECD staff continue to work with Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments (NVCOG) on remediation and future parking area at 43 East Main St.
 - Work on locating a future Police/Fire training complex continues, with meetings for potential land acquisition set for the week of March 30th.
 - Staff is talking with several parties with an interest in redeveloping the former Countryside Manor on Stafford Ave.

- Staff are working with bus company Dattco on location(s) for bus parking/office space/garage space for its new partnership with Bristol Public Schools.

Business Incentives

Small Business Micro Grants in Process

- Working with Seymour Media on the potential buildout of the retail space at 1 Divinity Street for office/production space.
- Working with a new nail salon in the West End.
- Hoping to work with Wojtusik's Nursery on a few projects.

Downtown/West End/Forestville Façade Grants in Process

- Working with the property owner of 176 Main Street on façade upgrades at the "Lorraine" building
- Helping Smith Cycles with new garage doors and exterior paint on Riverside Avenue
- Helping the owners of 216 Central Street in Forestville to complete exterior upgrades
- Coordinating façade assistance for the "NAPA" building at 65 Memorial Blvd.
- Working with the property owner of 1 Divinity St. and 165 School Street for façade upgrades

Marketing

Mayor and ECD staff met with the WORX group on March 30th to discuss the All Heart website and City social media from a global perspective.

Grants Administration

In Progress:

- The Grants Administrator is working with the **Bristol Fire Department** to prepare applications for future grant support from FEMA for AFG and SAFER funds.
- The Grants Administrator is assisting BristolWORKS!, the Emergency Management Department, and other departments seeking funding from the Congressional "earmarks" program.

NAA Program

Applications are available now for the 2026 Neighborhood Assistance Act program. Applications are due to the ECD office by April 30, 2026. The City is responsible for receiving and reviewing all applications, holding a public hearing, and then forwarding the eligible proposals for tax credits to the CT Department of Revenue Services for action.

CDBG Program

The Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Year 50 has been approved.

Program Year 52: We are awaiting notification of funding for Year 52 CDBG entitlements.

ECD Special Incentives Chart April 2026

Program Name	Program Description	Available Account Balance
Economic Incentive Fund	This larger fund is used to populate the ECD's incentive programs below. If approved by the Economic and Community Development Board, the fund may also be used for local development efforts other than designated incentive programs.	\$238,183.91
Revolving Loan Fund	This loan fund is managed by Community Investment Corp. to provides low interest, forgivable loans to businesses.	\$128,110.28
Small Business Grant	These grants are capped at \$5,000 and provide 75% of the cost (up to the \$5,000 cap) of projects to improve the appearance and function of small business spaces. The program will fund "fixed asset" or "permanent building improvement" projects. Startup businesses are eligible to apply for 50% of the project cost (up to \$5,000 cap).	\$31,096.30
Façade Improvement Grant	This program is available to improve the appearance, functionality, and architectural heritage of commercial buildings located in Downtown area (as defined by Census Tract 4061), the "West End" and the area known as "Forestville Center.	\$78,869.70