



CCM 2015 Testimony

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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HOUSING COMMITTEE

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The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program Allocation Plan - Tranche 3

CCM appreciates the opportunity to comment on the State of Connecticut's proposed Community Development Block Grant- Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Action Plan – Tranche 3.

Since Hurricane Sandy, Connecticut towns and cities continue to repair and rebuild, as well as plan for and mitigate the impact of future events. The State continues to be a partner, providing guidance and resource to local communities, and the proposed 3rd tranche will assist those communities still rebuilding.

CCM supports the recommendation to 1) focus on the repair and rehabilitation of damaged single and multi-family housing, and 2) focus on infrastructure investments. Among these important projects are repairing water and sewer systems, and rebuilding roads and bridges. These important projects cannot be delayed. Repairs to these basic and crucial public services must be made now.

CCM is concerned that funding has not been earmarked for planning initiatives. This funding would assist municipalities in planning for future hazards – particularly how to make their communities more resilient and expedite future recovery efforts. This could include community planning and design, engineering and environmental impact analyses, as well as engagement with the community of new initiatives to assist with disaster preparedness and recovery.

In addition, CCM supports the funding specifically allocated for the Resilient Bridgeport Rebuild by Design initiative.

CCM appreciate the State's continued efforts and assistance to our towns and cities as they work to recover from the impacts of Hurricane Sandy, and implement measures to mitigate the potential impact of future storms.



If you have any questions, please contact Ron Thomas, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy; Mike Muszynski, Senior Legislative Associate; or Randy Collins, Senior Legislative Associate, at (203) 498-3000.