**Priority areas for core services:**

• The Department of Economic and Community Development is the state’s lead agency responsible for strengthening Connecticut’s competitive position in the rapidly-changing, knowledge-based global economy. The agency takes a comprehensive approach to economic development that incorporates community development, transportation, education and arts and culture.

• Support business growth that helps companies succeed and drives CT’s economy to retain and grow jobs, strengthen CT’s position in the global marketplace and spur innovation.

• Focus arts and historic preservation grants on projects that catalyze economic and community development and support the existing arts and cultural ecosystems. Make artistic and cultural experiences widely available to residents and visitors to help build vital communities.

• Continue investments to turn brownfields into usable and productive properties.

• Promote economic growth through the “Still Revolutionary” brand and by enhancing the perception of CT as a tourist destination and business location.
Strategies to manage with limited resources:

• Administer all budgets to maximize the return on limited resources.

• Increase efficiencies and return-on-investment through LEAN and other process improvements.

• Control personal services costs by limiting hiring to critical positions and re-deploying staff in line with agency priorities.

• Increase productivity, improve performance and reduce costs by enhancing employee engagement.

• Complete the IT Revitalization project to drive IT investments and upgrades that will improve efficiency and increase the department’s ability to effectively serve it’s customers and ultimately contribute to CT’s economic development.