



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Watertown's Highway Garage to Undergo Transformation with STEAP 2023 Grant

Watertown, CT – October 2, 2023 – The Town of Watertown is thrilled to announce its successful application for the STEAP 2023 Grant, marking a significant step towards the revitalization of the Highway Garage. This grant, secured with the support of the Watertown Town Council, will bring about essential improvements, enhancing safety, functionality, and sustainability. The Town Council authorized the application, leveraging a 20% match, demonstrating its commitment to these much-needed enhancements.

Mark A. Raimo, Town Manager stated that “in the 2023 budget, funds were allocated to a dedicated grant writing line item, which played a pivotal role in securing this grant.” The diligent efforts of the public works staff significantly contributed to the grant's success.

Key upgrades planned for the Highway Garage include:

1. **Roof Renovation:** Addressing storm-related roof leaks.
2. **Window Replacement/Renovation:** Enhancing safety and energy efficiency with new windows.
3. **Fire and CO Alarm:** Installation of advanced fire and carbon monoxide alarm systems.
4. **Interior Painting:** Creating a brighter, more appealing workspace.
5. **Air Conditioning Update:** Reducing energy consumption and improving security with updated HVAC.
6. **Office/Conference Room Expansion:** Providing space for meetings, training, and counseling.
7. **Enhanced Security:** New fencing and entrance gates to bolster security.
8. **Electrical Upgrades:** Ensuring NEC compliance with upgraded panels and outlets.
9. **Exterior Restoration:** Repairing damaged exterior brick and block sections.
10. **Safety Improvements:** Adding safety line striping inside bays for equipment organization.

The Highway Garage houses equipment valued at approximately \$6,000,000.00, vital for responding to winter weather and storms. These renovations will safeguard this valuable equipment while enhancing the workplace for our dedicated employees.

For media inquiries and additional information, please contact:

Mark A. Raimo, Town Manager

Phone: 860-945-5255

Email: Townmanager@watertownct.org

About Watertown Town Council: The Watertown Town Council is a governing body dedicated to serving the interests of the residents and businesses within the Town of Watertown, CT. The council is committed to transparency, open communication, and informed decision-making to ensure the well-being and prosperity of the community.