



# **Resilient East Hartford**

**Public Meeting** 

June 9, 2025

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## **Virtual Meeting Controls & Logistics**



To help keep things running smoothly, please stay on mute unless you're speaking

To speak raise your hand and the facilitators will call on you on your turn

React anytime during the conversation by clicking the reaction button  $\odot$ 



#### Agenda

3 4

Project Overview: Background on Resilient Connecticut

Stormwater Assessment: Main St Railroad Underpass

Heat Risk Analysis

**Resiliency Pilot Project** 

Group Discussion and Q & A



### Attendees

#### Town of East Hartford

Steve Hnatuk, Deputy Development Director

Douglas R. Wilson, P.E. *Town Engineer/Local Traffic Authority & Designated Agent EH Inland Wetlands – Environment Commission* 

#### CIRCA

John Truscinski, CFM, Director of Resilience Planning

Mary Buchanan, Planner

Nicole Govert, *Planner* 

#### AECOM

Geoffrey Morrison-Logan, *Project Manager* Ellie Peterson, MLA, *Landscape Designer* Chayanika Mohan, *Landscape & Project Support* Christian Nielsen, *Transportation* Brad Sabean, *Drainage and Stormwater* 



# Project Overview

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Resilient Connecticut & Overview of Focus Area

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# **Resilient Connecticut**

- Reported **flooding on Main St** from Connecticut Blv. to the railroad underpass. Extensive flooding on Main St has the potential to cut off access to the Northern part of town.
- Multiple critical facilities that would be impacted by an extreme flooding event
- Wider area characterized by high flood, heat, and social vulnerability by CIRCA's Climate Change Vulnerability Index, making this area a priority for climate change adaptation



## **Resilient Connecticut**





Consideration

Flood Vulnerability

Heat Vulnerability

Social Vulnerability

Riverside Health &

UCONN

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### **Project Objectives**



**Evaluate** future projections of precipitation events by years 2050 and 2100 and communicate established flood and heat risks



**Reduce** impact on the critical facilities core to the Town of East Hartford from the effects of excessive flooding and heat.



**Consult** community and let stakeholder priorities drive the selection of strategies and projects.



**Visualize** public realm improvements in the Town of East Hartford that can support greater connectivity and withstand future environmental stresses and changes



**Calculate** costs and benefits for preferred project concepts and strategies

#### **Focus Area**



# Stormwater Assessment

Evaluating Stormwater Impacts and Infrastructure Vulnerabilities at the Underpass

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### **Overview of Stormwater Concerns**











### **Stormwater Current Conditions**



### **Stormwater Future Conditions**



### **Stormwater Future Conditions**

Pipe Capacity Comparison														
	Existing			Mid-Century (2040-2069)			Late-Century (2070-2100)				Existing Pipes		Future Pipes (50-Yr.	
	10-year	50-year	100-year	10-year	50-year	100-year	10-year	50-year	100-year				Cap	acity)
												Capacity		
	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow	Total Flow		Diameter	(Full Flow)	Diameter	Capacity
Location	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)	(ft3/s)		(in)	(ft <sup>3</sup> /s)	(in)	(ft3/s)
Main St (S)	12.86	18.58	21.33	16.71	28.86	36.90	14.51	22.68	27.66		21	11.07	30	29.00
Sterling Rd	95.58	135.97	154.06	122.31	204.75	255.71	107.11	163.79	196.05		30	59.60	48	208.16
Main St (NW)	12.58	17.04	19.02	15.62	24.17	29.25	13.90	19.98	23.36		12	6.17	24	39.18
Woodbridge Ave	12.01	15.48	16.92	14.34	20.72	24.21	13.04	17.68	20.08		12	3.58	24	22.62
Main St (NE)	16.98	22.08	24.20	20.40	29.82	35.00	18.48	25.33	28.87		12	3.57	30	41.02

# Heat Risk Analysis

Understanding Heat Stress in the Town Center and Planning for Relief

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### **Heat Risk Impacts in East Hartford**



### Heat Risk in 2050 & 2090



# Heat Impacts in East Hartford





# Heat Impacts in East Hartford







# **Resilience Center Study**

#### What is a Resilience Center?

A **Resilience Center** is more than just a shelter—it's a community stronghold designed to offer safety, relief, and stability during climate emergencies such as extreme heat, flooding, or hurricanes.



ECTORIS FLASIAL SPHELPS **Connecticut Blvd** East Hartford Public Library (East Hartford Official Cooling Center WERIRD TOTA **Pitkin St** 

## **Potential Resilience Center Locations**



# Resiliency Pilot Project

Road Diet Along Main St and Rethinking Parking Solutions to Support Growth and Resilience

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# **Identifying the Pilot Project**

#### What we've learned:

- Large fragmented parking lots
  - Adjacent businesses have individual lots with limited interconnectivity
- Existing parking supply mostly meets zoning requirements, but lots are vastly underutilized
- Wide streets with low shade cover



# **Parking Standards Review**

Facility Type	<u>Minimum</u> Space Requirement - East Hartford, CT	<u>Maximum</u> Space Requirement – Hartford, CT			
Residential					
Single Family Dwellings	Two (2) spaces.	Maximum 4 spaces per lot			
Accessory Dwelling Units		For One-Unit Dwelling			
(ADUs)		Building in N-1-1, maximum 6			
<ul> <li>Studio / One-bedroom units</li> </ul>	One (1) space per/ unit	spaces per lot			
<ul> <li>Two+-bedroom units</li> </ul>	Two (2) spaces per units				
Two Family Dwellings / Three Family Dwelling	Two (2) spaces per unit	Maximum 2 spaces per unit			
Multi-Family Development		In accordance with special			
<ul> <li>Studio / One-bedroom</li> </ul>	One (1) space per unit	permit review; guideline is			
units		maximum <u>1.5</u> spaces per			
<ul> <li>Two+-bedroom units</li> </ul>	Two (2) spaces per unit	adult resident, or for foster			
		nomes and children's nomes			
		spaces per 4 children			
		residents			
Office Tree Hees					
Office-Type Uses	4.0				
Offices (in other than a B-4	4.0 spaces per 1,000 SF				
zone)	of gross floor area,				
	(B4) zone in which the				
	following office parking				
	formula shall be				
	conformed with:				

Facility Type	<u>Minimum</u> Space Requirement - East Hartford, CT	<u>Maximum</u> Space Requirement – Hartford, CT
Retail and Service-Type Uses		
Retail Stores <u>Or</u> Similar Business	4.0 spaces per 1,000 SF of gross floor area.	Maximum 3 spaces per 1,000 square feet net floor area devoted to retail space
Personal Service Shops <u>Or</u> Similar Business	4.0 spaces per 1,000 SF of gross floor area.	Maximum 3 spaces per 1,000 square feet net floor area devoted to retail space
Retail Food Establishment	4.0 spaces per 1,000 SF of gross floor area	Maximum 3 spaces per 1,000 square feet net floor area devoted to retail space
Institutional-Type Uses		
Museums Operated <u>By A</u> Non- Profit Corporation	1.9 spaces per 1,000 SF of gross square floor area, at least one parking space per 40 total parking spaces dedicated to school buses with a rider capacity of not less than forty-five (45) people.	None
Public Assembly-Type Uses		
Houses Of Worship, Commercial Recreation, Theaters, Public Assembly Halls, And Stadiums	One (1) space for every three (3) legal occupants.	In accordance with special permit review



# **Potential Reduction of Parking Requirements**

- Permanent Parking Reduction For Multiple Properties The Commission may, by Special Permit, reduce the cumulative number of required parking spaces for two or more properties provided that a functional and interconnected parking arrangement is provided within and between the properties, that an agreement for joint access and parking, in perpetuity, acceptable to the Commission is filed on the land records, and further provided the Commission.
- Permanent Mixed-Use Development Reduction In a development with mixed-use buildings designed and built in a walkable and pedestrian friendly configuration, the Commission may consider the following shared parking factors in reviewing a Special Permit application

	Residential	Lodging	Office	Retail
Residential	100%	-		
Lodging	90%	100%		
Office	70%	60%	100%	
Retail	80%	75%	80%	100%

#### Shared Parking Factor



# **Pilot Site – Existing Layout**

#### **Current Issues**

- Existing parking supply meets zoning requirements, but lots are vastly underutilized
- Multiple fragmented parking lots between adjacent businesses
  - Interrupted or no connections between lots
- Large pervious surfaces with minimal shade options
  - Percentage of pervious surface of existing layout: **31%**



# Pilot Site – Potential Layout

#### **Potential Improvements**

- Improved spatial reconfiguration of parcels
  - Additional open green space for recreation and resilient stormwater infrastructure
  - Reduced stormwater run-off
  - Reduced heat impacts
  - Reduced driveway egress points enhances main street pedestrian experience when combined with other public realm projects (road diet, roundabouts, green stormwater infrastructure, tree canopies)
- Percentage of pervious surface of proposed layout: 46%
  - 15% increase in pervious surface



# **Pilot Site – Potential Layout**

	Square Footage	Units	Current Parking Demand	Future Parking Demand	Hartford East Apartments (City owned parking lot)	RAFT
Library	30,000		79	79		
Existing Post Office / Future Redevelopment	10,400		30	30	Future Mixed-Use Development	
Existing Inn / Future Mixed-Use Development	7,700		14	35	Future Redevelopment	
Hartford East Apartments (Shared Parking)		120	120	120	Library	
	Total Cu	rront Dark	ing Supply	246	Existing Trees	; _
	TOLAT CU		any Supply	240	Proposed Tree	es
Total Future Parking Supply				249	Removed Tree	es L



# **Key Takeaways**



Maintains current and projected supply vs demand



**Greater circulation, flexibility & useability** 



Reduction of Impervious surface







#### **Focus Area**



# Schedule







## Thank you!

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