

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DANIEL J. FOX

PROUDLY SERVING THE 148TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
STAMFORD - GLENBROOK, COVE, AND THE EAST SIDE

FUNDING FOR STAMFORD RAILROAD BRIDGE PROJECTS



The State Bond Commission approved \$10 million in funding for railroad and road replacement projects in Stamford. The funds will finance preliminary engineering associated with bridge replacements and related road reconstruction for the Metro-North Railroad bridges over East Main and Atlantic Streets in Stamford.

HELP FOR JOBLESS VETERANS

This session we worked to streamline the state licensing process for our job-seeking veterans. Connecticut veterans can now apply their military training toward occupational licenses, including public safety positions and a variety of trades. In addition, college credits can be awarded for specialty training and apprenticeship credits applied to specific trades. (HB 5299)

STAMFORD AID FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

Bonded MRSA Payments	\$391,381
PILOT: State Owned Property	\$1,508,565
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	\$1,995,685
Pequot/Mohegan Revenue Sharing	\$927,535
School Transportation	\$63,776
Local Capital Improvement Program	\$812,613
Town Aid Roads	\$1,196,828
Public School Transportation	\$96,188
Adult Education	\$307,449
Education Cost Sharing	\$10,605,319
TOTAL STATE FUNDS TO STAMFORD	\$17,905,339
TOTAL STATE FUNDS TO STAMFORD IN FY 2014	\$16,563,814
<u>INCREASE FUNDING FROM 2014-2015</u>	<u>\$1,341,525</u>

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2014

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To My Friends & Neighbors:

I am pleased to share with you this update on the recently concluded legislative session. Each year brings a new set of challenges, and the 2014 session was no different. The need to encourage economic growth, help working families, and make critical investments in the future of our children, as well as our state, was clear.

I hope you find the enclosed information helpful and will feel free to call or email me for any reason — legislative or otherwise. It is my pleasure and honor to serve as your state representative. Enjoy your summer!

Thank you,

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ADDRESSING ILLEGAL DUMPING ON STAMFORD'S EAST SIDE

Stamford's East Side has seen an increase in illegal dumping particularly on the property abutting I-95. We've worked to coordinate efforts with the State Department of Transportation to increase clean up efforts in this area. Along with residents of the, East Side Partnership, the City of Stamford, the Stamford Police Department and the State Department of Transportation we will continue to work to keep our neighborhood clean.

EXPANDING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

A new law redesigns an existing teachers' loan reimbursement program, administered by the Office of Higher Education (OHE), as an incentive grant and loan reimbursement program for college and university students studying to be teachers. Both the existing and proposed programs target those seeking credentials as bilingual education teachers or teachers of English to speakers of other languages.

DEVELOPING A WATER PLAN FOR CONNECTICUT

This year we took a major step towards a comprehensive and dynamic statewide strategic plan for the supply, distribution, quality, protection, conservation, and oversight of one of the state's most vital resources – our water.



The Water Planning Council (WPC) will prepare a state water plan (with public input) and submit it to the legislature by January 2018. In developing the plan, the WPC must seek input from stakeholder groups, consider the various planning activities already underway; promote the adoption of the state's model water use restriction ordinance, and recommend utilization of the state's water resources in a manner that balances public water supply, economic, recreation, and ecological needs. **(HB 5424)**



STRENGTHENING THE STATE'S DRUNK DRIVING LAW

New legislation will strengthen the state's drunk driving law. This new law now requires that all offenders use ignition interlocks, including those who are ordered to participate in an approved alcohol education program. "MADD applauds the leadership of Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, co-chairmen of the Judiciary Committee Sen. Eric Coleman and State Rep. Gerry Fox, as well as State Reps. Dan Fox and Richard Smith. Requiring all convicted drunk drivers to use an interlock is MADD's highest legislative priority and will reduce drunk driving and protect the public," said MADD National President Jan Withers. **(SB 465)**

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Thanks to a law we passed providing additional School Readiness opportunities for children, Stamford will be receiving 37 of these Pre-K slots. A quality early childhood education experience is key to a young child's educational success. Stamford received these 37 new slots in the Priority School District category and they will become available at the beginning of the upcoming school year.

J. M. WRIGHT TECHNICAL SCHOOL

162 freshmen beginning their fall semester this August at the newly-renovated J.M. Wright Technical High School in Stamford will benefit from the school's collaboration with Southwestern Connecticut's employers, who are committed to help prepare them for today's technologically-demanding jobs. The new J.M. Wright Tech will prepare students for the high-level problem-solving required by today's employees in careers such as facilities management, health technology, travel and tourism, e-electrical, e-carpentry, automotive engineering and culinary science, among others. Applications for student admission as well as employment opportunities for adults are available at www.cttech.org.

TRIMMING UTILITIES' TREE TRIMMING PRACTICES

More care will be taken in deciding how much, and where, tree cutting needs to be done. Utilities will need to work more closely with town residents and tree wardens to make these decisions together, similar to the solution reached saving some trees in the Glenbrook neighborhood. Utilities will now be required to obtain written consent from property owners for the removal or cutting of trees on private property, and provide notice to property owners abutting public rights of way. **(HB 5408)**

