

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING
AND PUBLIC LOTTERY
WATERBURY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

The City of Waterbury is pleased to announce the availability of \$300,000 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds for a new program, the Waterbury HOME Investment Program (WHIP). Program funds will be used to help eligible homeowners, who are selected for a grant, carry out affordable and essential housing rehabilitation. The initiative will be administered by the Office of Community Development.

The WHIP initiative is intended to assist in preserving the City's housing stock and contributing to the overall revitalization of Waterbury neighborhoods. The program will provide deferred, forgivable loans for rehabilitation costs up to \$30,000 per unit for homeowners who wish to make essential improvements to their property that may otherwise be cost prohibitive, thereby increasing the supply of safe, decent, desirable, and affordable housing.

In order to be eligible for the program, residents must meet certain eligibility requirements, including:

- The applicant must own the home, and it must be their principal residence;
- The applicant's total household income must not exceed 80% area median income;
- After rehabilitation value must not exceed 95% area median purchase price;
- The property must meet all applicable state and local codes, ordinances, and standards;
- The property type must be eligible under the program guidelines, single-family, single-unit; and
- The applicant must be current on taxes and other obligations to the City.

The application period will open on Friday, January 26, 2024. Applications will be available online at www.waterburyct.org/whip, and at the Office of Community Development, 188 Bank Street, Waterbury, CT 06702. **Pre-applications must be completed and submitted to the Office of Community Development no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024.** Upon submission of a pre-application, Community Development staff will review the application for eligibility. Applicants will be notified of their eligibility for the program.

Notice of Public Lottery: On Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will hold a public lottery at their regular public meeting at 188 Bank Street, Room 118, Waterbury, CT 06702. Persons with a disability or non-English speaking who wish to participate should contact Ivelise Ortiz at 203-346-3810 ext. 7282, or by email at iortiz@waterburyct.org no later than April 8, 2024, to discuss how the City can accommodate their needs.

The Office of Community Development Housing Assistance Programs Division will offer in-person technical assistance and informational workshops to individuals wishing to apply for WHIP funding on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, from 10:00 -11:00 a.m.; and Wednesday, February 28, 2024 from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. The sessions will be held at the Office of Community Development, Room 118, 188 Bank Street, Waterbury, CT 06702. To participate, you must register in advance

online at www.waterburyct.org/whip; or by contacting Ivelise Ortiz, Community Development Program Specialist, at (203) 346-3810 ext. 7282. Attendance is not mandatory.

Additional program information and technical assistance can be obtained by contacting the Office of Community Development at (203) 346-3810.

R-A January 26, 2024