



## ***Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee - Board of Representatives***

Mavina Moore, Co-Chair

Rob Roqueta, Co-Chair

# **Committee Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday, May 24, 2022  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** *This Meeting was held remotely*

The Housing/Community Development/Social Service Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Moore and Roqueta; and Committee Member Reps. Baxter, Campbell, Ley and Pollack. Excused was rep. Goldberg. Also present Emily Gordon, and Community Development; Janeene Freeman, Mayor's Office; Ralph Blessings, Land Use Bureau Chief; and members of the public.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">HCD31.017</a>	RESOLUTION <u>and Public Hearing</u> ; Approving a List of Programs to the State Department of Revenue Services in Accordance with the Provisions of the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act. 3/17/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons	Committee Approved 6-0-0

The following programs made presentations for consideration in the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act:

Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County, Inc. \$65,000.00  
Mutual Housing Association of Southwestern Connecticut Inc. \$48,500.00  
Stamford Center for the Arts \$100,000.00  
Soundwaters, Inc. \$100,000.00  
Wheel It Forward \$100,000.00  
Stamford Museum & Nature Center (3 Programs) totaling \$160,000.00  
Inspirica, Inc. \$121,000.00  
Domestic Violence Crisis Center \$20,000.00  
Fraternal Order of the Umbrella, Inc. \$150,000.00  
Family Centers, Inc. (6 Programs) totaling \$475,000  
New Neighborhoods, Inc. \$150,000.00  
Mill River Park Collaborative \$150,000.00

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0. (Moore, Roqueta, Baxter, Campbell, Ley and Pollack in favor)

2. [HCD31.012](#) ORDINANCE for publication; Amendment to Code of Ordinances § 146-67 Creation of A Commercial Linkage Affordable Housing Program to Increase the Linkage Share Percentage. R. Blessing  
Mayor  
Simmons  
03/08/22 – Submitted by Reps. Moore and Roqueta  
03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0  
04/26/22 – Failed in Committee 3-3-0  
05/02/22 – Recommitted to Committee

Director Blessings reiterated the importance of funds availability for affordable housing and referred to the Mayor's office for this increase.

Ms. Freeman spoke to the Mayor and she is in support of this increase to the Linkage share percentage.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0. (Moore, Roqueta, Baxter, Campbell, Ley and Pollack in favor)

3. HCD31.018 REVIEW; BMR Program. R. Blessing  
Mayor  
Simmons  
04/06/22 – Submitted by Rep. Roqueta  
04/26/22 – Held by Committee 2-1-1

Emily Gordon discussed the attached [power point presentation](#) on Below Market Rate Housing Program.

The Committee discussed with Directors Blessing and Gordon the following:

- Possible increasing BMR units in complexes
- The change of the formula for fee in lieu and was able to increase the payment by 20 to 25 percent
- Zoning and Planning boards have been making it difficult for builders to buy out of the BMR programs
- Buyouts have to be approved by the zoning boards
- Fee in Lieu payments are higher in certain parts of town
- With the growth of this program resources are needed to maintain and comply by it
- Consolidation of application process study

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Submitted by

Robert Roqueta, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [Video](#)