



SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Planning for Our Region's Future

Bethany Branford East Haven Guilford Hamden Madison Meriden Milford
New Haven North Branford North Haven Orange Wallingford West Haven Woodbridge

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 25, 2014

Contact: Carl Amento
(203) 466-8625

SCRCOG to Receive \$700,000 Coastal Resilience Grant to Help Protect Coastal Communities from Large-Scale Storm Events

(NORTH HAVEN) The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) has been selected by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a recipient of a \$700,000 Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant. The funding will allow SCRCOG in partnership with the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council (GBRC) and The Nature Conservancy to create a Regional Framework for Coastal Resilience in Southern Connecticut. Through this collaboration, there will be an assessment and advancement of opportunities to reduce risk from large-scale storm events, and increase the viability and resiliency of natural ecosystems along approximately thirty percent of Connecticut's coastline.

"SCRCOG is proud to join with The Nature Conservancy and the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council in this unprecedented collaboration to help protect our coastal communities from the damage and destruction of future major storms," said SCRCOG Executive Director Amento.

On June 16th, the Secretary of the Interior announced the recipients of the more than \$100 million in competitive matching grants for coastal restoration in communities damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The grant program administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation [will fund 54 projects along the Atlantic Coast](#), including four in Connecticut. The Nature Conservancy will be involved in 9 out of the 54 projects selected from the total of 375 grant applications submitted.

"Being resilient in the face of a changing climate requires a regional approach, and the partnerships supported by this grant funding will serve to advance the first regional framework for resilience in Connecticut, encompassing Greater New Haven and Greater Bridgeport," said Adam Whelchel, Director of Science for The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut. "The framework will focus on improving the resilience of natural infrastructure such as salt marshes and floodplains that have kept and will continue to keep people and property safe from hazards like Storm Sandy."

127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West, North Haven, CT 06473

www.scrcog.org T (203) 234-7555 F (203) 234-9850 camento@scrcog.org

The Regional Framework for Coastal Resilience in Southern Connecticut will identify, assess and advance opportunities to stabilize beaches, restore dunes and wetlands, improve the hydrology of coastal areas, improve infrastructure and assist local planning for major storms. The focus area will be ten coastal communities in South Central Connecticut. Seven of the communities, Milford, West Haven, New Haven, East Haven, Branford, Guilford, and Madison, are members of SCRCOG. Three coastal communities, Fairfield, Bridgeport, and Stamford, are members of GBRC.

SCRCOG is the Regional Planning Organization for the fifteen municipalities in the Greater New Haven area bounded by Milford to the west, Madison to the east and Meriden to the North. Further information about SCRCOG and its projects, including the Regional Framework for Coastal Resilience in Southern Connecticut, can be found at www.scrcog.org.