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For immediate release

MAYOR CASSETTI ANNOUNCES NEW GRANT FOR DOWNTOWN ANSONIA

(ANSONIA AWARDED \$200,000 STATE BAR GRANT)

On Friday Mayor Cassetti received word from the Commissioner of CT Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) that Ansonia would be one of only 6 communities to receive a Brownfields Area-wide Revitalization grant (BAR).

The non-matching grant funds will help Ansonia plan for large areas, in particular, downtown parcels with multiple brownfields.

"We want to develop strategies to assess, clean up, and reuse the parcels for business, generating jobs and revenues and eventually revitalizing the entire area. I want to thank Commissioner David Kooris of the CT Department of Economic and Community Development and Binu Chandy in the state Office of Brownfield Redevelopment for their assistance." Said Mayor Cassetti.

Mayor Cassetti said he is proud of his team's achievements in the grants and economic development area. "John Marini, Sheila O'Malley and my team have been instrumental in helping develop strategies and create opportunities and incentives where there hasn't been any for years. Together along with the Board of Aldermen, we have brought in more than \$30 million in grant funds to spur our revitalization efforts."

Mayor Cassetti and his administration have focused their efforts on the downtown area, creating an open door policy for businesses, restaurants and manufacturers and also helping to analyze and create solutions for one of the largest parcels of adjacent property in the lower Naugatuck Valley, Ansonia Copper and Brass (ACB).

"The grant will help us plan for site improvements. The goal is to return this property back to the tax roles. ACB represents a real opportunity for the taxpayers of Ansonia. The more money we can secure to help define this property the easier the path to redevelopment." Said John Marini.

Currently City, state and federal officials have been devoting their attention to ACB to ensure contaminants remain on site or are removed. On Friday officials were briefed by EPA and the CT DEEP regarding what they removed, what they are continuing to work on and what will be left to address in terms of brownfields' remediation.

Ansonia was also successful in receiving two state brownfields grants to assess ACB and determine the cost of remediation and demolition in the amount of \$400,000.

"Obviously we have our work cut out for us with this 50 +/- acre site, but the more money we bring in to the site, the more we will be able to fine tune the redevelopment of ACB. Every dollar counts when the taxpayer's future rests on bringing these properties back to life." Said Sheila O'Malley.

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DECD BAR Grant

FORMER ANSONIA COPPER AND BRASS

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