



City of Meriden, Connecticut

Kevin M. Scarpati, Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Welcomes Governor Malloy, and Lt. Governor Wyman to Celebrate Opening of the Meriden Green

Meriden, CT, September 9, 2016 — On Friday, September 9, 2016, the City of Meriden will hold a public event to celebrate the opening of the Meriden Green, a key milestone in Meriden's city center transformation.

Mayor Kevin M. Scarpati will be joined by Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, and other State, federal and local officials and city residents to celebrate the opening of the Meriden Green. The event will begin at 5:00 PM with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Pratt Street side of the Silver City Bridge (located across from 61 Pratt Street, Meriden CT). The ribbon cutting will be followed by food and entertainment at the Amphitheater from 5:30 to 8:30 PM and the event will conclude with the illumination of the Silver City Bridge at 8:30 PM.

Mayor Scarpati said, "This project has been a true partnership between all levels of government. We are grateful to the State, under the leadership of Governor Malloy, for helping us to achieve this key milestone. We could not have completed the project without the assistance of numerous state agencies including the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Connecticut Department of Transportation DOT and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) that providing planning, permitting and financial assistance. I also want to thank US Senator Blumenthal, US Senator Murphy and Congresswoman Esty for their support and thank those from all of the federal agencies, including the USEPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA and HUD, that played a key role in this project. Lastly, this project would not have been possible without the hard work and perseverance of our local State delegation and City leaders. Today, years of hard work and planning have come to fruition. This is truly the first step in the transformation of the entire downtown."

Mayor Scarpati, Governor Malloy, and Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman will be joined in the ceremony by US Congresswoman Elizabeth Esty; Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator USEPA Region 1; Robert Klee, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection; Bart Kollen, Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; State Senator Danté Bartolomeo; and Mark Arigoni, project engineer, Milone & MacBroom. State Representative Catherine Abercrombie, State Representative Emil

Altobello, State Representative Hilda Santiago, the Meriden City Council, the Meriden Flood Control Implementation Agency, the winning participants in the “name the park” contest, and other local leaders will also be recognized.

The Meriden Green was designed by engineering firm Milone and MacBroom as part of a comprehensive flood control plan to reduce flooding along Harbor Brook, create an open space green corridor while providing opportunities for economic development that lie outside of the 100-year floodplain. The result has been the creation of a new, 14-acre town green in the heart of downtown Meriden. The Meriden Green project is part of comprehensive development plan that leverages more than \$250 million private, State, federal and local investment in transportation, housing, flood control and private development. The overall development plan includes more than 600 new residential units and over 60,000 square feet of ground floor commercial space, including a 170-unit mixed use development proposed by Pennrose Properties at the Meriden Green site.

The final cost of the Meriden Green project is \$14 million. The City of Meriden received \$615,000 in US Environmental Protection Agency funds, \$4 million in Urban Act, Brownfields Pilot and other funds administered by the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), and \$8.8 million in funds provided through the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). The City of Meriden provided local funds for construction administration and flood control engineering services.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, there will be a reception at the Meriden Green Amphitheater, followed by an outdoor concert by the band “Shaded Soul”, with the evening completed by the lighting of the Silver City Bridge.

On Saturday, September 10th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the celebration will continue with “Community Day”, featuring demonstrations, exhibits and activities by local organizations, the Meriden Farmers Market, food provided by local businesses, music, magicians and other opportunities for fun. All Meriden residents and the public in general are invited to all the planned events on both days.

The City of Meriden provides its residents with a livable, affordable and diverse community, while delivering a wide variety of services to its residents. For more information, contact: Juliet Burdelski, Director of Economic Development, at jburdelski@meridenct.gov or at (203) 630-4151, or visit www.meridenct.gov or www.meriden2020.com

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