

News Release
For Immediate Release
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East Haddam's Middle School Conversion Committee Receives \$720,168 Grant

The Town of East Haddam has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$720,168 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security as part of its Emergency Operations Center Grant Program. Of the total amount, the town will contribute \$180,042.

According to Craig Mansfield, East Haddam's Emergency Management Director and member of the Middle School Conversion Committee, the grant will allow for the construction of an up-to-date Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which will improve the Town's ability to function during an emergency situation. The current EOC is located inside the firehouse on Town Street and is completely inadequate for today's standards. The new EOC will be built as part of the proposed conversion project for the old Middle School on Plains Road.

This grant was a nationally competitive grant, and the Town is fortunate to have been one of just a few recipients. Approximately \$490,000 will offset direct construction costs already part of the Middle School renovation project. It includes demolition and construction costs associated with areas related to Emergency Management, as well as site work, a generator, and kitchen repairs.

Another \$160,000 will be used to purchase EOC equipment, radios, a radio tower, security card access, closed circuit television, network equipment, a projector, televisions and other items directly related to a functional EOC. The balance of the grant is for unforeseen contingencies during the construction project.

"We are seeking grant funds wherever we can," stated Sharon Wheeler, Grants Subcommittee Chairperson for the Middle School Conversion Committee. "This grant will go far in helping keep down the overall cost of the project."

Visit www.ehmscc.com for more information regarding the Middle School Conversion Committee.

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