

1. Federal Funds. How much has been given to DECD? How much has been used and how much is remaining (as of July 17<sup>th</sup>)?
  - Total received - \$250,665.55
  - Total expended - \$217,339.16 (includes \$22,607.96 in purchase orders encumbered, pending invoice payment)
  - Balance - \$33,326.39
2. Minority & Women Business (MWB). Provide a breakout of business assistance awarded to MWB relative to all businesses. How does this compare to the general population of business owners? Provide the latest SBA/Census data available that will provide insight on the business ownership.

Ownership	CT Small Business Ownership		CT Recovery Bridge Loan Program		COVID-19 Business Response Program (HEDCO)		Financial Assistance Programs	
	Total	% of Total	Total Funded	% of Funded	Total Funded	% of Funded	Total Funded	% of Funded
Minority Owned	8,224	12.80%	288	15.20%	306	63.00%	594	25.00%
Woman Owned	11,829	18.50%	528	27.90%	326	67.10%	854	35.90%
<b>Total CT Businesses</b>	64,082		1,893		486		2,379	

**Notes:**

- (1) **Source:** data.census.gov, Annual Economic Surveys, 2017.
- (2) Small business per DECD program eligibility of <100 employees.
- (3) Please note that Total Small CT businesses (All firms with <100 employment represents total population of businesses.

3. Statewide Marketing. Provide a breakout of how DECD is spending the final \$1.2 million allotment for FY 20. Provide details on how DECD would spend \$5 million and \$10 million in Statewide Marketing (e.g. more advertising space in the NYC/Boston areas).
  - See attached Tourism Marketing Incremental Spend & Reopen CT Tourism Campaign Overview
4. Hotels. Provide a copy of reopening guidance provided by the state to hotels
  - [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DECD/Covid\\_Business\\_Recovery-Phase-2/Hotels\\_Lodging\\_jul2.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DECD/Covid_Business_Recovery-Phase-2/Hotels_Lodging_jul2.pdf)
5. Minority Businesses. Provide ideas on how to expand the minority business community

Pre-COVID we were in the process of developing a Comprehensive Economic Action Plan with an intentional focus on inclusion and investments in our Urban Centers. However, due to the pandemic our priorities shifted to crisis mode and immediate response to assist businesses sustain their operations with a keen focus on supporting minority and woman-owned businesses through these very challenging times.

That being said, we now find ourselves in a new economic reality and uncertain times. As we now are reopening and hopefully on the road to recovery, we have begun to pick back up key components of the plan and are further refining and formulating new ideas to strengthen our support for minority and woman-owned businesses.

Here are highlights of our ideas and priorities under consideration in this area. They are as follows:

1. Strengthening existing community benefit agreements and establishing new structures when state funds are involved
2. Better leverage existing tools and create new tools to promote equity and business growth in communities by breaking down barriers to entry in state contracting
3. Invest in a robust and coordinated network of technical assistance for minority and woman-owned businesses
4. Increase access to capital by working alongside banks via a loan guarantee program that incentives increased lending in underserved communities and to minority and woman-owned businesses
5. Provide capital and leverage existing CDFI's/non-bank lenders in order for them to provide technical assistance, financial services, and opportunities to build credit for entrepreneurs in underserved communities
6. Prioritize data collection on minority and woman-owned firms to better assess gaps that can inform policy

We welcome the opportunity to have further discussion on this topic. Your partnership is critical to ensuring we have an economy that is working for everyone especially our most underserved communities and minority and woman-owned businesses who continue to be disproportionately affected on every measure in our economy.

6. Public Health Compliance. Provide data on compliance complaints (# of 211 calls)
  - See Attached: Complaint Form Data
  - To date (7/14), 211 has handled 2,073 business complaint calls. Of the 2,073, contact specialists assisted 338 callers by completing and submitting the form.
7. Electric Boat. Update on employment projects with the influx of defense spending
  - Electric Boat just on boarded 59 new employees last week; this represented accumulated needs over the past few months as they had put a hold on hiring during the crisis. They will likely only have attrition hires in CT for the next year plus. At the end of this year, they will start adding headcount in Quonset RI, which builds modules for Virginia and Columbia class subs. While they will have continual attrition hiring, larger hiring in CT is out in 2023/2024 when they start

to add 3k+ trades people (net increase) for assembly work on the Columbia class subs (as of June 22<sup>nd</sup>)

8. Mall/retail space redevelopment. What are DECD's plans to support the redevelopment of vacant mall and retail space? Provide data available in this area.

- DECD does not have the resources/ability to perform the study that would be required in order to come up with a strategy to address this issue.

9. Business reopen certification. Provide data on the # of businesses that self-certified.

- See Attached: Copy of Self-Certified Business Report.
- For real time data on the number of businesses who are self-certified you can access it via our website [https://service.ct.gov/covidreport/s/?language=en\\_US](https://service.ct.gov/covidreport/s/?language=en_US)