



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
GOVERNOR DANIEL P. MALLOY

GOV. MALLOY: SMART CHOICES TODAY BUILD A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

FY 2016/2017 Budget Proposal is Balanced, Provides Tax Relief, and Remains under the Spending Cap

(HARTFORD, CT) – Governor Daniel P. Malloy today announced an ambitious agenda to transform Connecticut’s infrastructure, overhaul the sales tax to bring it to the lowest level since 1971, support our municipalities and classrooms, and further a Second Chance Society that would help those who have erred be productive members of the economy.

HIGHLIGHTS OF GOVERNOR MALLOY’S [FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017 BIENNIAL BUDGET PROPOSAL](#):

- **SMART SPENDING:** Spending remains under the spending cap, with a total increase of just 3.1 percent from the prior fiscal year – far below the previous administration, when spending grew an average of 4.2 percent.
- **SUPPORT FOR CLASSROOMS:** Our public schools are protected in this budget
- **PROTECTING MUNICIPAL AID:** Preventing local property taxes from increasing, the budget protects municipal aid, ensuring that no local teacher, police officer, or firefighter loses their jobs because of the state
- **RELIEF FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS:** The budget overhauls Connecticut’s sales tax with reforms that move the rate to under 6 percent for the first time since 1971 and making it the lowest of any neighboring state
- **ELIMINATING TAXES ON BUSINESSES:** The budget eliminates the \$250 biannual business entity tax for all corporations

TRANSFORMING TRANSPORTATION – LET’S GO CT

Governor Malloy’s capital budget proposes a historic, bold transformational plan for our state’s transportation system that would make it best-in-class, attract businesses, and grow jobs. Currently, every resident spends approximately 42 hours per year – or one full work week – in traffic, costing residents more than \$4 billion in wasted time and resources annually. The Governor’s budget supports a plan with a [30 year vision](#), and an immediate [five-year ramp up plan](#). Some highlights of Let’s Go CT are:

Highways, Bridges, and Roads

- Replacing the I-84 Viaduct in Hartford, which costs millions of dollars annually just for maintenance
- Building new ramps to the Charter Oak Bridge in Hartford to eliminate accidents and traffic delays
- Upgrading Route 9 in Middletown to eliminate accidents and reduce unnecessary congestion
- Replacing the aging interchange of Route 8 and I-84 in Waterbury, known as the “Mixmaster”
- Widening the five-mile, two-lane stretch of I-84 in Danbury between Exits 3 and 8 to alleviate congestion
- Widening I-95 between Bridgeport and Greenwich
- Completing the Merritt Parkway interchange on Route 7 in Norwalk
- Widening I-95 from Old Saybrook to New London, including the interchange with I-395, to mitigate congestion and improve safety
- Completing Route 11
- Upgrading the Gold Star Bridge on I-95 between Groton and New London
- Boosting funding to cities and towns by doubling the Local Transportation Improvement Program, increasing local bridge funding, and creating a new state-funded traffic signalization program.

Rail and Buses

- Significantly expanding the capacity and improving the infrastructure of the New Haven Line to allow for subway-life frequency as well as fast and reliable intercity service
- Building train stations up and down the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield Line (the “Hartford Line”), bringing commuter rail service to Enfield, West Hartford, Newington, North Haven and Hamden
- Double-tracking the entire Hartford Line from New Haven to Springfield, allowing for more efficient and increased service
- Constructing new stations along the New Haven Line, including the new Barnum Station in Bridgeport, reconstruction of the Merritt 7 station in Norwalk on the Danbury Branch, and a new station in Orange
- Completing a new parking garage at Union station in New Haven to expand ridership and further encourage transit-oriented development in the area
- Replacing the Walk Bridge in Norwalk, as well as rehabilitating or replacing the Devon, SAGA and Cos Cob moveable bridges on the New Haven Line

- Making improvements to the Waterbury Branch, including a new signal system, sidings and equipment to allow for increased capacity and more frequent service
- Expanding local and express bus service as well as paratransit across the state to reach unserved urban areas and markets

Walkways and Bikeways

- Creating a new program to help cities and towns install bike and pedestrian safety improvements in urban areas and town centers
- Repairing existing trails that have fallen into disrepair
- Completing new bike and pedestrian trails across the state

****On the Web:** [Governor Malloy's FY 2016/2017 biennial budget proposal](#)

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Contact: David Bednarz

Office of Governor Dannel P. Malloy

David.Bednarz@ct.gov

860-524-7315 (office)

860-770-9792 (cell)

Contact: Devon Puglia

Office of Governor Dannel P. Malloy

Devon.Puglia@ct.gov

860-770-8298 (cell)

www.ct.gov/governor

