
Courtney Applauds \$5.7 Million Water Infrastructure Investment for Groton

From Rep. Joe Courtney's Press Office <RepCourtneyPress@Mail.House.Gov>

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PRESS RELEASE

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NORWICH, CT – Today, Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02), Ranking Member of the House Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, issued the follow statement after the Department of Defense awarded the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECOG) a \$5,784,330 grant through the Defense Community Infrastructure Program. SECOG will use the funding to replace over 2.2 miles of a water main pipes in the Town of Groton, an infrastructure upgrade that will boost Submarine Base New London’s readiness capacity and benefit the Groton community as a whole. Funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program is authorized annually by Congress through the National Defense Authorization Act.

“This is great news for Submarine Base New London and the entire Groton community. Upgrading water infrastructure is the cornerstone of economic development in our towns and is critical to Sub Base New London’s ability to carry out its mission for the U.S. Navy,” **Courtney said**. “This award, alongside more recent investments for pier improvements and other infrastructure upgrades at Sub Base New London, reinforces Groton’s role as the long-term home of the U.S. Navy submarine fleet.”

“Quite honestly, we are thrilled about this project and our partnership with the Navy and SECOG. This grant makes it possible for us to begin what we see as a critical effort to strengthen the water supply—not only for the Subbase but for the entire Groton community. The whole region will benefit for years to come, and that’s truly something to celebrate,” **said Ron Gaudet, Director of Utilities for the Town of Groton**.

"This is another project in a long list of projects that the State, local governments, and other stakeholders have taken over the years to enhance military value of the Subbase and improve its operational capability and resiliency. Our partnership with the Navy reflects eastern Connecticut's enduring commitment to supporting the SUBASE and those who serve there," **said Bob Ross, Executive Director for the Connecticut Office of Military Affairs**.

MORE INVESTMENTS FOR THE NAVY’S FIRST AND FINEST SUBMARINE BASE

This new \$5.7 million infrastructure grant award follows more recent investments into Submarine Base New London. Earlier this month, the U.S. Navy awarded a construction contract for extension of Pier 31, a project

authorized through the FY2024 National Defense Authorization Act. Congressman Courtney's [provision](#) in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 will also enable extension of Pier 8 at the Submarine Base.

In August, the state of Connecticut [invested](#) \$7.7 million into infrastructure improvements at the base to replace floating piers for small craft and an aging boat ramp. Last year, after a decade of work on the local, state, and federal levels, Sub Base New London [launched](#) its new micro-grid, which ensures energy resiliency at the base.

As Ranking Member of the House Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, Congressman Courtney works in a bipartisan fashion to support continued modernization and facility upgrades for Submarine Base New London.

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Congressman Joe Courtney was elected in 2006 to represent the Second Congressional District of Connecticut in the U.S. House of Representatives. He serves as the Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces and is a senior member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee. Congressman Courtney is as an Honorary Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AO).

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