



A long-term recovery organization comprised of non-profit and governmental partners

65 DeForest Rd.
Wilton, CT 06897

I am pleased to send you a copy of *CT Rises: Planning for Long-Term Disaster Recovery*, a guidebook and toolkit to assist your town, city, or COG, in preparing for the future. This includes reducing risks—during and after—natural and man-made disasters. We hope you'll find it useful and easy to read.

The guide was developed by CT Rises in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Housing, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), and the State Insurance Department. As such it is a reflection of the collaborative nature inherent in the disaster recovery process and in reducing future risks to your community.

We hope you will check out some of the best practices that we've outlined. Many of them ask you to take stock of what your city, town, or COG has and needs *now*, before there is any kind of disaster. (We call this "blue skies" time.) It's a good time for meeting and planning without the stress and pressures that disasters bring.

This guidebook suggests many ways to address both the problems that arise, and the ways to be prepared for them. Such organizations as Sustainable CT, the American Red Cross, CT Rises, and the CT Volunteers Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), fill important roles in our State. They, among many others, are listed here for your use, to keep Connecticut safe, resilient, and financially sound.

If you have further questions about preparing for Long-Term Recovery, please call your local COG, or:

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Thank you all for being leaders.

Fletcher Watton
Chairman and President, CT Rises

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