



Edition 7: February 21, 2024

Commissioner's Corner



As the 2024 legislative session gets underway in earnest, we are proud to provide you with this update on DAS initiatives and work to support state agency, municipal, and community partners. In recent weeks, our team has been busy kicking off this year's Aspiring Leaders Development Program, participating in the GreenerGovCT steering committee, and working with

partner agencies on the state's recently released equity study.

Bullard-Havens Beam Signing



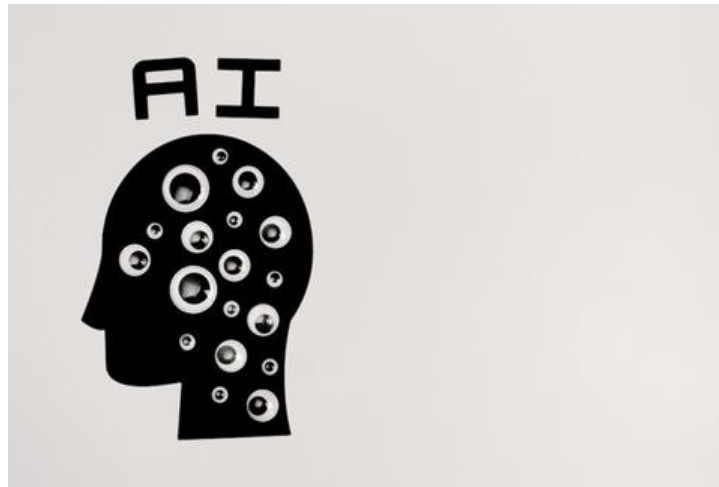
On February 20, Governor Lamont and DAS Commissioner Gilman participated in a beam signing ceremony at the new Bullard-Havens Technical High School in Bridgeport. The new, state of the art, 215,000 square foot school is expected to open to students in the fall of 2025, with construction completed by the spring of 2027.

Energy efficient features include a highly insulated building envelope, a geothermal well field with groundwater source heat pumps, energy recovery ventilation, and solar installation completed through the Connecticut Green Bank.

The DAS team is proud to support this initiative with our CTECS partners.

[Learn more: Construction of Bridgeport's new green school hits major milestone \(wshu.org\)](https://www.wshu.org)

State's Artificial Intelligence Policy Framework



As required by PA 23-16, OPM and DAS jointly released the state's artificial intelligence policy framework this month. The framework outlines guidelines for state agencies to follow when deploying potential AI solutions. It seeks to ensure accuracy, privacy, equity and fairness, transparency, understandability, accountability, and adaptability as agencies seek to enhance and enrich the skills of employees.

We thank our partners at OPM for their cross-agency collaboration on this important and purposeful policy.

[Read Policy AI-01 AI Responsible Use Framework \(PDF\)](#)

CT Council of Small Towns Annual Town Hall Meeting





The DAS team was well-represented at the [Connecticut Council of Small Towns \(COST\)](#) Annual Town Hall Meeting on February 8.

Commissioner Gilman gave a presentation on the myriad of services that DAS provides to communities, including:

- 👛 Procurement services
- 🏗️ School construction grants
- 👉 HVAC grants for public schools
- 💻 Internet connectivity through the [Connecticut Education Network](#)
- ✚ Much, much more

Aspiring Leaders Development Program



On February 5, the DAS Learning and Development team was thrilled to welcome the 2024 cohort of the Aspiring Leaders Development Program, part of the

state's commitment to workforce development and empowerment. Since 2007, the program has provided leadership development training to more than 200 managers from across state agencies.

Over the next 10 weeks, the 25 members of this year's cohort will work on essential management skillsets to help them develop as leaders.

We can't wait to see what the future holds for the Aspiring Leaders class of 2024.

DAS Celebrates Black History Month 2024



DAS employees had the opportunity to participate in an event to kick off Black History Month with an incredible presentation from Kevin Johnson, an employee at the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit.

Mr. Johnson gave a stirring presentation about the life of Jordan Freeman, a Connecticut native born into enslavement who served as body servant of Col. William Ledyard during the Revolutionary War and died in pursuit of freedom at the Battle of Fort Griswold.



A big thank you to our DAS EEO team (seen above) for organizing this annual event in partnership with the Connecticut State Library to celebrate Black History Month.

CBIA Webinar: How to Successfully Do Business with the State



[How to Successfully Do Business with the State \(cbia.com\)](https://www.cbiamn.com)

On January 31, the DAS team hosted a webinar with CBIA to share practices and resources on how to successfully do business with the state.

We want to be the business community's customer of choice. Please feel free to share this video with anyone who might be interested in doing business with the state.

GreenerGovCT Steering Committee



DAS leadership participated in the GreenerGovCT Steering Committee meeting. Established as part of Governor Lamont's Executive Order 1 in 2019, GreenerGov is a collaborative effort for state agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, curb wasteful water use and reduce the amount of waste disposed of at state facilities.

Cementing Equity in State Government



DAS was proud to participate in Cementing Equity in State Government symposium, sponsored by Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) and the Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health.

Members of our EEO team, Katya Hunt and Shaun Simoneau were on hand, as well as DAS Commissioner Michelle Gilman.

Go Behind the Scenes with DAS

For the latest updates get social with us!

Follow the DAS Blog!

DAS Press Releases



[Share](#) [Tweet](#) [Share](#) [Forward](#)

Connecticut Department of Administrative Services
450 Columbus Blvd
Hartford, CT 06103

You are receiving the DAS Newsletter because you are or work for an elected official in the State of Connecticut.

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)