



For immediate release:
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Waterbury and Winsted Named 2006 National Main Street Communities

(Hartford, CT) – Connecticut Main Street Center (CMSC) announced today that two local commercial districts have been named *2006 National Main Street Communities* by the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s National Main Street Center. *Main Street Waterbury and Friends of Main Street (Winsted)*, both non-profit corporations, have been recognized for outstanding accomplishments toward their goal of the revitalization of their respective historic commercial districts. 2006 National Main Street Communities will be recognized at the National Main Streets Conference in New Orleans from June 4th – 7th and the Connecticut Main Street Center Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation on June 19th in downtown New London.

National Main Street Program Accreditation is a partnership between Connecticut Main Street Center and the National Trust Main Street Center to establish standards of performance for local Main Street programs and provide accreditation to those that meet our standards. The National Accreditation designation process evaluates established commercial district revitalization programs according to 10 basic performance standards. These standards provide benchmarks and guidelines on the way an organization should be functioning and serve as incentives for improvement.

Connecticut Main Street Center is the state’s leading resource for cities and towns seeking to comprehensively revitalize their “main street” districts. CMSC, a non-profit organization whose major sponsors are the Connecticut Light & Power Company / Yankee Gas and the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, is a member of the respected National Main Street network and is committed to bringing Connecticut’s commercial districts back to life socially and economically. Current Designated Connecticut Main Street

Celebrating 10 Years!
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Communities include Darien, New London, Niantic, Norwich, Rockville, Simsbury, the Upper Albany neighborhood of Hartford, Waterbury, and Winsted.

Since the Connecticut Main Street program began in 1995, participating communities have generated over \$452 million in public and private reinvestment in their downtowns. Over the same time, 324 net new businesses have opened and 1,921 net new jobs have been created. This represents \$70.70 of reinvestment for every \$1 spent on a local Main Street program, making the Main Street initiative one of the most successful economic development programs in the country.

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May is Preservation Month

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