

2024 Bond Request Form

1. Name of project: Lower Wharf Reconstruction ( Improvements) project.
2. Address of project: 1085 Harbor Road, Fairfield CT ( Southport 06890)
3. Legislators supporting: State Senator Tony Hwang, 28<sup>th</sup> Senate District
4. Date submitted: 5/17/2024
5. Amount of state bond request: \$ 1,235,900.00 ( See attached Engineer's opinion of probable cost)
6. Total cost of project: \$ 1,235,900.00 (See attached Engineer's opinion of probable cost).
7. Sources of other funding for this project and amounts: (i.e. federal, local, private) Local funds have been expended for surveying, engineering design and permitting costs in amount of \$ 12,432.50, as of 5/30/2023. Additionally, the Town boards have approved potential preliminary expenditures of up to \$ 162,122 for any project construction costs, pending the Town securing other grant or bond funding.

8. Description of project:

The proposed project located on Town property (used as a Public Green) includes repair and replacement of stone retaining walls and replacement of a public fishing pier destroyed by a coastal storm in December 2022. Located within a national register historic district, this property provides public access in the form of recreational, wildlife viewing, fishing and general public access to the Southport Harbor and Long Island Sound. Project specifics include reconstruction of damage seawalls, concrete cap and retaining walls that supports the property and replacement of an L shaped ( smaller pier) or T shaped (original) public fishing pier (see attached photos to clarify structures and site. The property also hosts community special events such as the annual Southport Harbor " Blessing of the Fleet" and several forms of passive recreation. While the most beneficial outcome is to complete the entire project, it is possible to complete the L shaped portion pending the securing of additional funding.

9. Status of project: (i.e. current phase, permits received, designed, federal or local approval, ready for construction): The project has been designed and has received all state (CT DEEP-COP) and Federal ( USACE) permits. Upon notice of award, the Town will authorize its Engineering Consultant to provide contract bid documents and plans/specifications in its competitive contract bid package. So essentially the project will be shovel ready within a few months of award notice, with construction to be completed approximately 6 months after contract bid award.

10. Contact person and contact information (Name, phone number, email address, etc.):  
William Hurley, Engineering Manager, 203-256-3015, whurley@fairfieldct.org

11. Project is anticipated to begin upon receiving state funding (check one):

Immediately \_\_\_\_\_

Within 6 months X \_\_\_\_\_

Within 12 months \_\_\_\_\_

Comments Upon award, Town Engineering Consultant will finalize contract bid documents and Town Purchasing Dept will follow all competitive contract bid requirements ( CHRO, Prevailing Wage and additional requirements, where applicable.

12. Anticipated length of project (months/years): 4 to 6 months

13. Temporary jobs created or retained: 6-10 14. Permanent jobs created or retained: 0

15. Who will benefit from this project and how: This project will benefit the community by restoring a historic waterfront property providing general public access ( visual and fishing access to southport Harbor for persons of all ages and abilities.

16. Additional details (if applicable): See attachments ( opinion of probable cost, site/design plans, permit approvals, photos/pictures and supplemental information ( brochures, documents). The Lower Wharf property at the entrance to Southport Harbor in the Southport Historic District, is a landmark passed by sailors leaving the harbor for ports near and far for more than 250 years. Acquired by the town in 1999, the property is managed by the Fairfield Harbor Management Commission for public use and enjoyment, including enjoyment of scenic views, shore-based fishing, and special community events such as the annual Blessing of the Fleet and Southport Street Parade.

On December 22 and 23, 2022, a powerful storm with wind gusts greater than 50 mph and destructive storm surge affected communities throughout Connecticut and caused significant damage to the Lower Wharf's piers, including the access walkway. Following an assessment by the Town's engineering and risk management officials, the pier was formally closed for public access. The Harbor Management Commission proceeded with applications to the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for, respectively, the state and federal approvals needed to rebuild the structures and repair the stone retaining walls. The state approval was obtained in May 2023; the federal approval in March 2024.

As a public safety precaution, the decking on the piers was removed by the Town's Department of Public Works in July 2023. The pilings, not considered a hazard to navigation, remain in place in May 2024 as the Town seeks to assemble the funds needed to accomplish the necessary reconstruction and repairs.

Please attach a detailed budget that accounts for how the funds will be spent.  
Please attach site plans, quotes, pictures and any additional support information.