

# Planning Assistance

Hazard Mitigation Plans

Shoreline Master Programs

Sea Level Rise Planning

More!



## Washington State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan

2023

Approved by FEMA Region 10: October 1, 2023





# Co-Creation of Projects



# Grant Support

- *Serve as grant “matchmakers”*
  - *Track desired community projects and try and match with appropriate funding sources*
- *Track grants between agencies*
  - *When a project arrives at a participating agency for a grant they administer, if not selected, the project can be re-tracked to a more appropriate grant cycle at a different agency*
  - *E.g. Ecology’s Floodplains by Design and Coastal Zone Management Grants can be re-tracked to Emergency Management Grants*
- *Provide Support for developing grants*
  - *Writing assistance*
  - *Resource connection*
  - *Reviewers*



# Capacity Building

2-yr Resilience Fellowship  
Small Grant Program

Training

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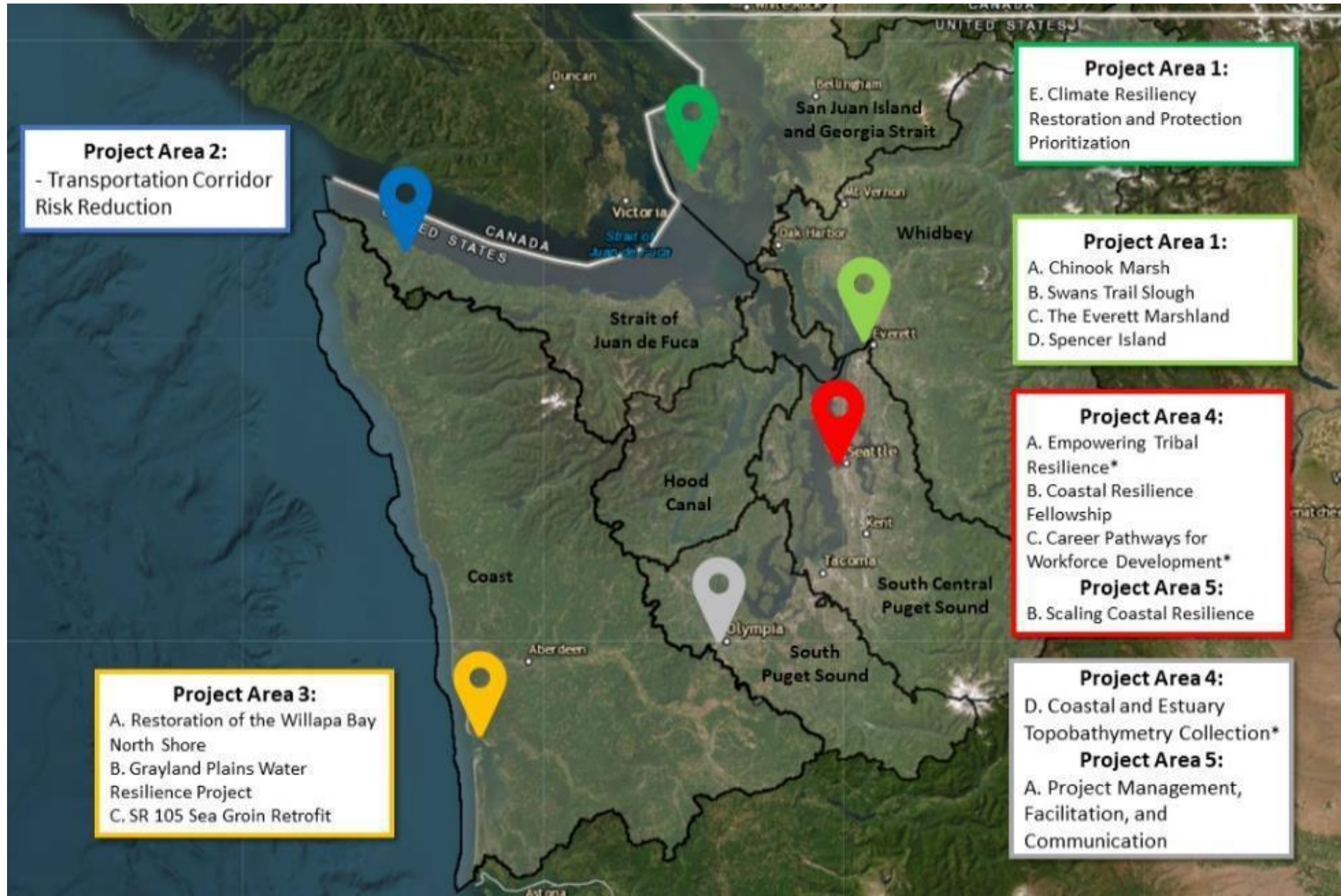
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# Enhance Regional Partnerships

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# The Washington State Coastal Climate Resilience Initiative





# NOAA CRRC Project Team & Partnership

## **Collaborators and Funding Recipients:**

- Washington State Department of Transportation
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington State Employment Security Department
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Samish Indian Nation
- Tulalip Tribes
- Makah Tribe
- Snohomish County
- Snohomish Conservation District
- Pacific Conservation District
- Washington Sea Grant
- University of Washington Climate Impacts Group
- Friends of the San Juans
- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

## **Additional Partners:**

- Puget Sound Partnership
- Recreation and Conservation Office
- Washington Department of Commerce
- Washington Emergency Management Division
- Washington State University
- Washington Department of Health
- The Nature Conservancy
- Willapa Erosion Control Action Now (WECAN)
- South Whidbey Basin Partnership
- Grays Harbor Conservation District
- City of Westport
- Ducks Unlimited
- Laidlaw Hunting Club
- American Rivers
- Bonneville Environmental Foundation



Reach out with requests!



Contact COHORT  
to discuss your  
projects – no  
matter what stage  
they're in!





Collaborate with  
us!



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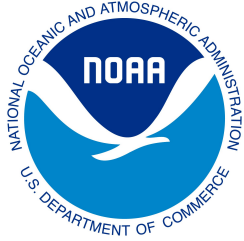


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# Bridging Communities: Evaluating Engagement Strategies in the Connecticut Community Participation and Risk Communication Pilot

*November 13, 2024*

**Sarah Schechter (Eastern CT) with,  
Deb Visco Abibou, (Western CT)**





# Project Overview

## Purpose:

- Address gaps in risk perception and barriers to information access in vulnerable communities
- Support NOAA's development of products and services
- Increase local community resilience

## Objectives:

- Support relationship-building with bridge organizations
- Test alternative strategies for implementing stakeholder engagement incentives
- Discuss topics related to climate resilience and equity
- Identify priority information and training needs

# Need

- Disproportionate vulnerability of historically underserved and overburdened communities to climate change impacts
- Exclusion of groups from important planning conversations
- Gaps in risk perception
- Barriers to information





# Program Details

- Connect with local bridge organizations that work with underserved community members
- Co-develop or support existing climate and sustainability-related events
- Provide incentives to encourage participation





# Event Locations

## Western CT

### Bridgeport:

- Let's Go Fishing!
- Green Village Initiative Harvest Fest
- Community Conversation
- Sliver by the River Block Party
- CIRCA EJ Forum

### Greater New Haven:

- CT Folk Fest & Green Expo 2022, 2023
- Gather New Haven Festival
- New Haven Climathon
- Hamden Six Lakes Park Visioning Sessions
- CIRCA EJ Forum

## Eastern CT

### Clinton:

- Chautauqua Series

### Groton:

- Tree Inventory Town Meeting
- Tree Inventory
- Community Walk
- CIRCA EJ Forum

### Ledyard:

- Waterfest

### New London:

- FRESH New London Garlic Planting Party 2023, 2024
- FRESH New London Garden Showcase
- Juneteenth Festival

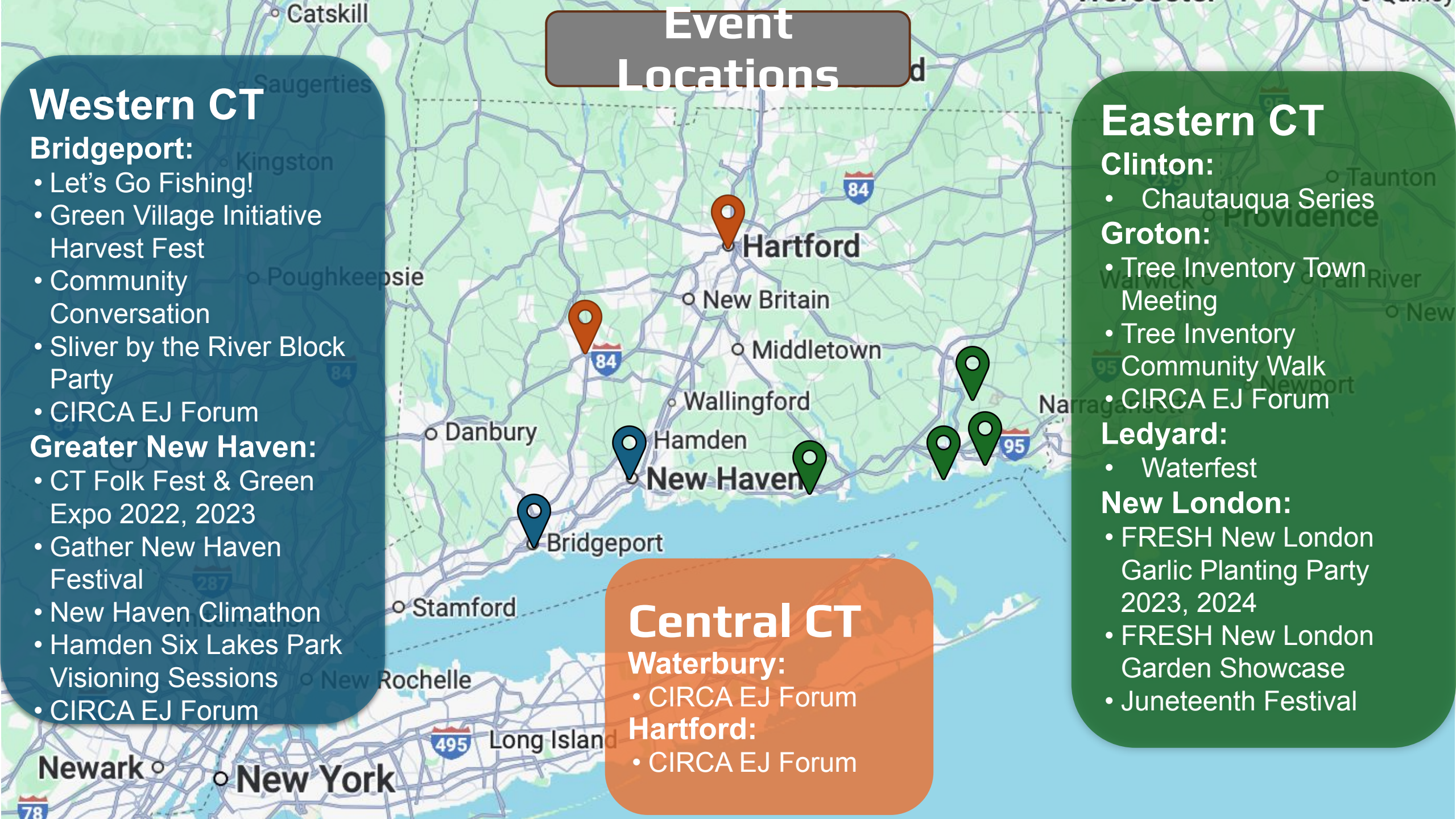
## Central CT

### Waterbury:

- CIRCA EJ Forum

### Hartford:

- CIRCA EJ Forum





# Incentives



## Transportation

Shuttles

Shuttles + coordinators

Mileage reimbursement



## Giveaways

Storm prep kits

Fishing gear

Gift cards

Native plants

Outdoor Gear



## Food

Local catering

Food trucks

Snacks



## Event Activities

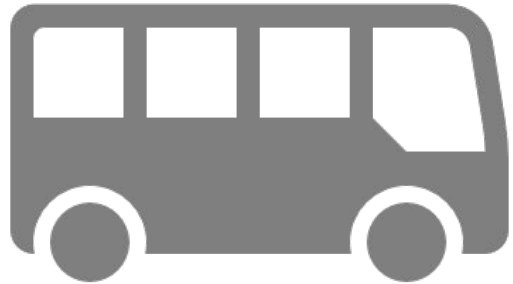
Fishing lessons

Gardening

Relationship Mapping

Kayaking

Art and Performances



## SHUTTLE BUS LOCATIONS & SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 9th to CT Folk Fest & Green Expo

### Dixwell Community House (Q House)

197 Dixwell Ave, New Haven, 06511

DEPARTING TIMES: 11:00AM, 1:00PM

### Newhallville Learning Corridor

Across from 209 Shelton Ave, New Haven, 06511

DEPARTING TIMES: 11:15AM, 1:15PM

### Keefe Community Center

11 Pine Street, Hamden, 06514

DEPARTING TIMES: 11:30AM, 1:30PM

### Fair Haven Library

182 Grand Ave, New Haven, CT 06513

DEPARTING TIMES: 11:00AM, 1:00PM

# Assessment: Transportation

- 113 used the incentive
- Variations offered
  - Shuttles
  - Shuttles + coordinators
  - Mileage reimbursement
- Advertising needs to be very clear
- Bridge organization coordination essential
- More locations ≠ increased participation
- Transportation does not eliminate other barriers (interest, comfort, etc.)





## Assessment: Giveaways

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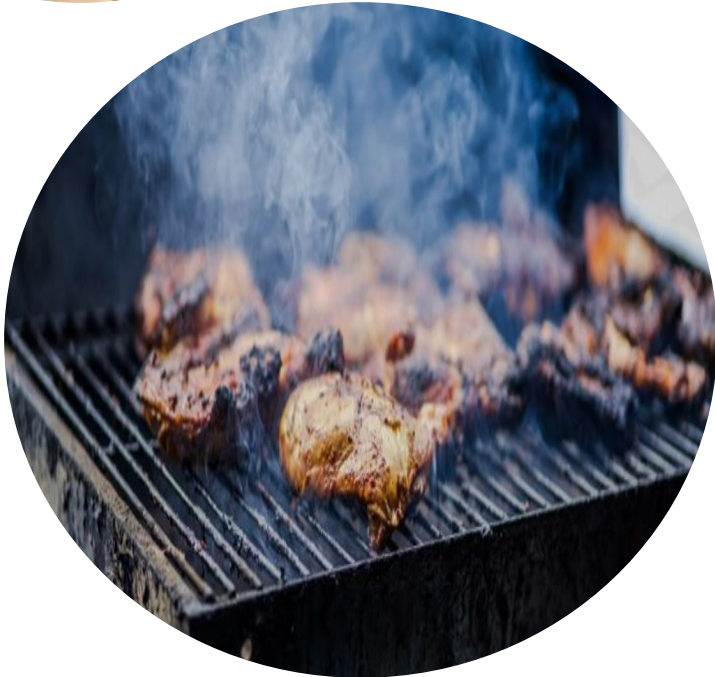


- 576 used the incentive
- Variations offered
  - Storm prep kits
  - Fishing gear
  - Gift cards
  - Native plants
- High interest and engagement
- Engagement quality varied depending on other event elements



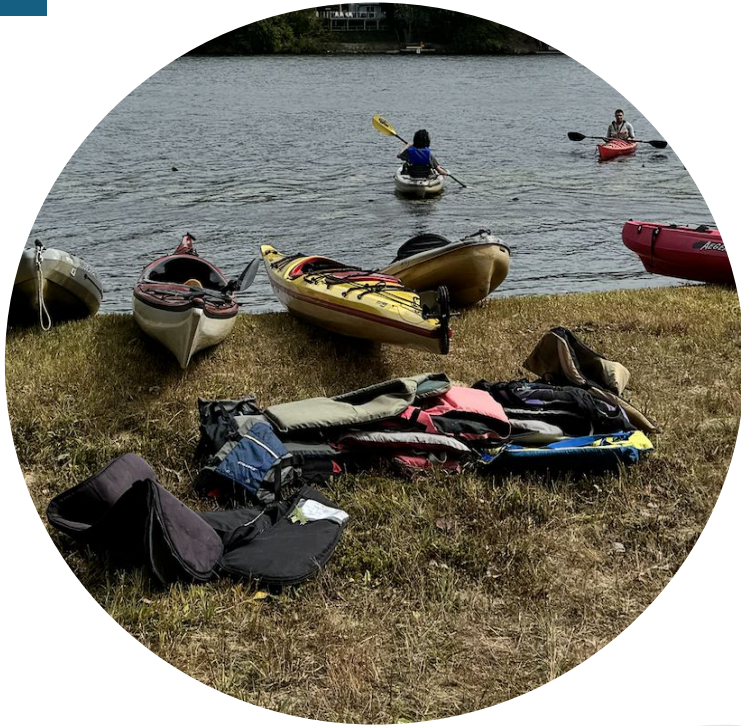
# Assessment: Food

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- 733 used the incentive
- Variations offered
  - Local catering
  - Food truck
  - Snacks
- Reliably well-received
- Advertising should be accurate
- Consider timing





# Assessment: Event Activities

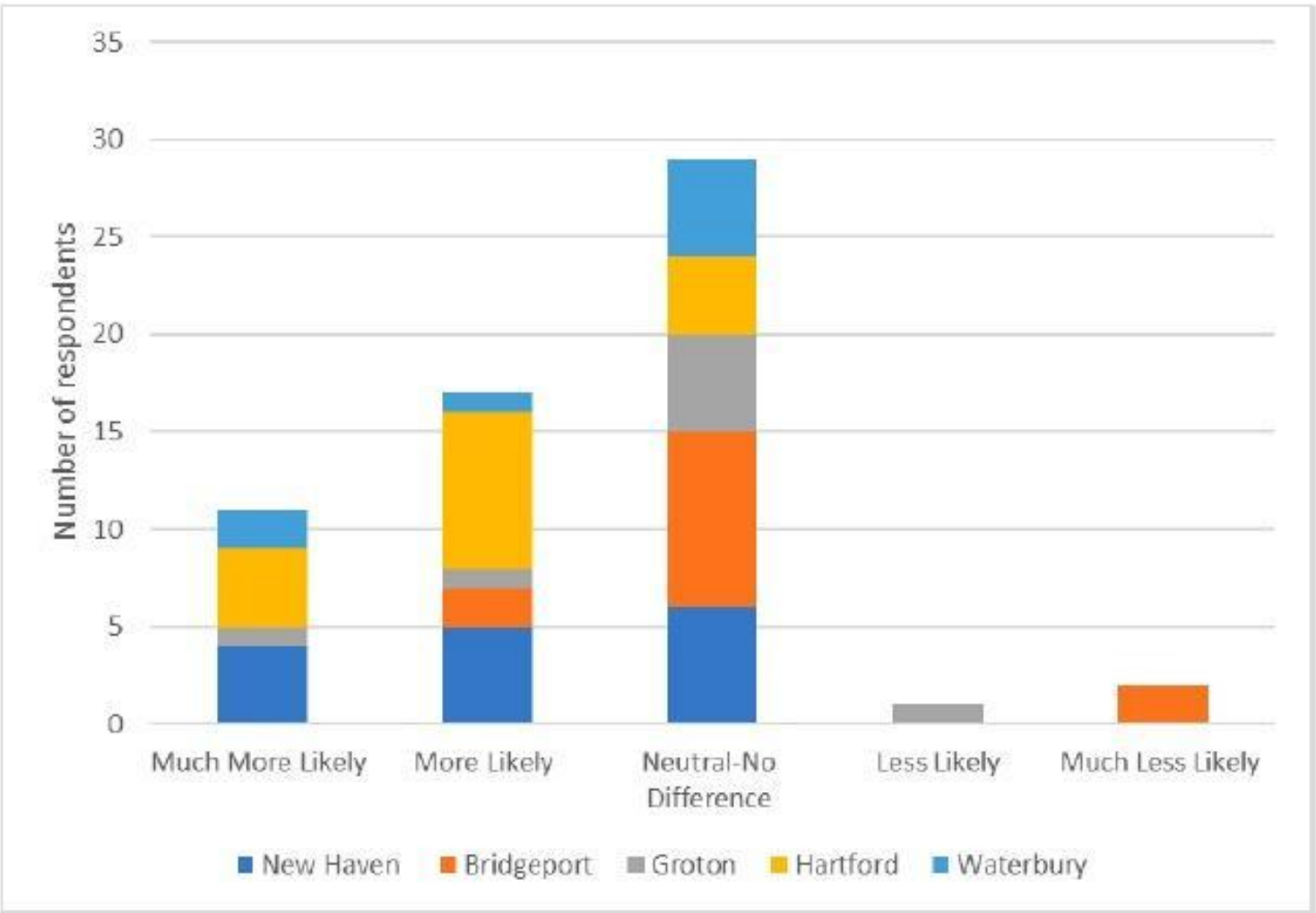
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- 133 used the incentive
- Variations offered
  - Fishing lessons
  - Kayaking
  - Gardening
- High interest
- Higher quality engagement due to aligned interests
- Promoted authentic interactions



# CIRCA EJ Screening Tool Community Meetings

Does receiving a gift card make you more or less likely to attend the forum?





# Lessons Learned

- Capacity limits can influence participation
- Time is the most important factor in relationship-building
  - Western transactional frameworks can be unsuccessful
  - Incentives need thoughtful promotion
- Childcare incentive requires further assessment



# Lessons Learned

- Best to come to where communities already gather to reach target groups
- Gift cards can get people through the door, but don't guarantee quality engagement
- Relevant giveaways can enhance conversations





# Next Steps

- Reflect on outcomes of this pilot
- Consult with NOAA
  - Identify strategies to improve tools and their usage





# Thank you!

Questions?

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