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VERNON RECEIVES \$200,000 TO REVITALIZE BLIGHTED LAND AND SPUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(VERNON) Mayor Daniel A. Champagne today announced that the Town of Vernon has been awarded \$200,000 in Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) funding as part of Governor Malloy's \$3.8 million dollar campaign to revitalize abandoned and blighted brownfield sites throughout the state.

In a press conference yesterday, Governor Malloy announced that the grants will help communities "prepare key sites" and "create a pipeline of larger remediation and redevelopment projects in the near future." Vernon's application was one of only twenty-one (21) approved by the Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development, and was awarded for the assessment of 15.2 acres among five former mill sites in Rockville for multiple potential redevelopments.

"The presence of brownfields is significant deterrent to strategic economic development in any community" said Mayor Champagne. "These funds will enable us to remedy blight and will supplement activities already underway on former mill sites" he added. "We are most appreciative of Governor Malloy's commitment to improving the economic and environmental health of Vernon and his assistance in returning Vernon's priority brownfield properties to a productive use."

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