



## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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### **Tree Planting to Honor City of Bristol's Sustainable CT Certification**

BRISTOL, CONN., April 26, 2019 – The City of Bristol's significant achievements to earn Sustainable CT Bronze certification were recently recognized with a tree planting at Veterans Memorial Boulevard Park.

Bristol has earned a Bronze certification and was one of the first towns certified in Connecticut, as announced in late 2018.

Launched in 2018, Sustainable CT has seen strong momentum and growth as a valuable program for towns. To date, 83 towns have registered for the program, approaching participation by 50% of all towns in the state. Certified towns have demonstrated significant achievements in actions such as supporting opportunities within the community for renewable energy sources; having accessible municipal buildings with efficient operations, maintenance, and energy systems; as well as enhanced health, safety and access for all roadway users—including motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, to name a few.

“We have had several great activities celebrating Earth Day within the community and the schools, stated Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu. “The Sustainable CT initiative also allows our Energy Manager, Dave Oakes, to work across department lines identify savings and opportunities to work more efficiently.”

“The Connecticut Tree Protective Association donated a silver maple tree, in partnership with Sustainable CT, to celebrate the City's sustainability leadership,” stated Park Superintendent Josh Medeiros.

“Veterans Memorial Boulevard Park is a gorgeous gateway to Bristol's City Center and the perfect location for this tree to be enjoyed for generations to come.”

*“We are thrilled to continue to honor and recognize Sustainable CT's certified towns by planting trees that symbolize the growth of sustainability in each of these communities,”* said Lynn Stoddard, Executive Director of the program.

The program is spearheaded and administered by the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University and is independently funded, with support from the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, the Hampshire Foundation, the Common Sense Fund, and the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

For more information, visit [www.sustainablect.org](http://www.sustainablect.org).



**Caption for attached group photo:**

In attendance at the tree planting ceremony was (from left to right): From the City of Bristol Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu; Todd Anderson, Landscape Gardner, Parks & Recreation Department; Joshua Medeiros, Superintendent of Parks; Robert Lincoln, Parks, Grounds, and Facility Supervisor; Lynn Stoddard, Executive Director, from the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern CT State University; and David Oakes, Facilities Manager, Department of Public Works, Bristol.

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