

From the House

Investing in Equity for Our Community

By Rep. Matt Ritter

During the 2021 legislative session, I was proud to work with the General Assembly's Black & Puerto Rican Caucus to help create the Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF2030). This fund is a 10-year, \$2 billion-plus investment in communities such as Hartford to fund much needed improvements.

The vibrancy of our cities is critical to the success of our state, and CIF2030 will target areas of need such as better housing, brownfield remediation, broadband expansion, renovated town facilities and infrastructure, clean energy, and small business support for women and minorities, among many other capital projects in historically underserved and marginalized communities.

These dollars will directly advance equity in communities across our state. Allocation of the Fund will be overseen by the CIF2030 Board, co-chaired by myself and Senate President Martin Looney of New Haven. Moreover, legislators from the Black & Puerto Rican Caucus will have a direct say on items considered by the Board to ensure all voices and perspectives are considered.

Equity is at the heart of the equation, with an eye toward projects that further a more consistent and systematic fair, just and impartial treatment of residents who belong to communities that have historically been denied such treatment.

This is a massive investment opportunity for underserved communities across Connecticut. When you combine CIF2030 with a bipartisan state budget that increases Hartford's education and overall state funding, invests in healthcare and nursing homes and cuts taxes to working families by increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit – Hartford has a lot to celebrate.

Investments like this, which were long overdue, are vital to improving the quality of life in our state. I was proud to help advance such historic legislation and I look forward to playing a role for years to come in a more equitable Connecticut.

As always, please contact me if I can ever be of any assistance. I can be reached at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, on Facebook [@RepresentativeMattRitter](https://www.facebook.com/RepresentativeMattRitter) or by phone at (860) 240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.