

WASHINGTON, DC— Congressman Joe Courtney and Senators Joseph Lieberman and Richard Blumenthal announced the awarding of two USDA Rural Development grants to the town of Sprague.

Sprague will receive a grant of \$28,700 from the Community Facilities Program to update and repair critical facilities at the Town Hall. These essential repairs will aid in meeting full ADA accessibility requirements.

The Water Supply Plan will also receive a grant of \$25,000 from the Water and Environmental Pre-development Planning Program. This grant will be used to assess and increase current system efficiencies as mandated by the Connecticut Department of Health regulations.

The Community Facility Program was established to provide grants for vital community facilities in rural areas, while the Water and Environmental Pre-development Planning Program seeks to offer assistance for drinking water and sewage systems in areas with a population of 10,000 or less.

"This funding will help the Town of Sprague ensure the safety of its water supply and make overdue updates at Town Hall," **said Congressman Courtney**. "ADA compliance at Town Hall and other public spaces is beneficial and safer for everyone. First Selectman Cathy Osten and the Town of Sprague did a tremendous job in a tough funding environment demonstrating need for this competitive funding."

"It is important that the needs of our rural population are not overlooked in these hard economic times," **Lieberman said**. "The Rural Development Fund ensures that these critical systems and facilities do not go overlooked. These grants are investments in the future of Sprague."

"Enhancing safe water supply and increasing public access to town facilities is a positive step

forward toward fulfilling our commitment to Connecticut's small towns. I congratulate First Selectman Catherine Osten for demonstrating the need for these funds and working diligently to secure them," **said Senator Blumenthal.**

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