

# Congressman Tierney Fighting For Newburyport

Congressman John Tierney believes that investing in our communities is critical to our economic growth. Throughout his time in office, John has worked diligently to support funding for programs that strengthen our transportation infrastructure and expand services for our local schools and hospitals.

When accounting for yearly spending bills (often known as appropriations) as well as the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, John has helped bring more than **\$37 million** to Newburyport.

## **Appropriations:**

John has helped secure **\$7,237,000** for the city of Newburyport through the appropriations process. Projects that have been funded through appropriations include:

- **\$3.36 million** between Fiscal Year 2001 and Fiscal Year 2002 for construction of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge headquarters and visitors services building;
- **\$1.75 million** between Fiscal Year 2008 and Fiscal Year 2010 for the dredging of the Newburyport Harbor Entrance Channel;
- **\$1.67 million** in federal funding, awarded through the Surface Transportation bill (SAFETEA-LU), for the design and construction of a garage;
- **\$250,000** for the Common Pasture land conservation efforts; and
- **\$200,000** in federal funding, awarded through the Surface Transportation bill (SAFETEA-LU), for the rehabilitation & paving of Parker River Road.

## **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:**

Whenever opportunities occur for Members of Congress to bring federal dollars to their communities, John fights to ensure that Newburyport receives appropriate funding. In fact, Newburyport received **\$30,267,098** as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

John led the effort to make sure ARRA included assistance to local school districts to prevent staff and program cuts and to maintain the resources our children need to obtain a quality education. John believes that putting people to work to renovate, repair, and modernize our schools and colleges will not only boost our local economy, but will also provide students with state-of-the art classrooms in which they can learn the skills necessary to succeed. Here is a partial list of key projects in Newburyport that have been funded through ARRA:

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- **\$24.37 million** for a wastewater treatment facility upgrade;
- **\$7.7 million** to maintain, repair, and upgrade affordable housing throughout the city;
- **\$3.95 million** for the Newburyport Park and Ride and Route 113 for additional parking;
- **\$1 million** for Newburyport Harbor dredging; and
- **\$752,203** for Title I and IDEA funding for the Newburyport Public Schools (Title I is the main source of federal funding for education and IDEA is funding that provides early intervention and special education services to children with disabilities).

### **Grant Funding:**

John strongly believes cities and towns should have the resources necessary to serve local residents. In certain cases, such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, Title I grants to local education agencies, highway and transit programs, public safety and urban area homeland security programs, among others, federal assistance is distributed by formula. John has worked to make sure the programs that are distributed to states and localities by formula receive the necessary funding.

He is also committed to working with local lawmakers and organizations in the Sixth District to help support applications for competitive federal grants. Some of the grants that have recently been awarded in Newburyport include:

- **\$3.5 million** in federal funds to make emergency repairs to the south jetty along Plum Island;
- **\$250,000** in federal funding for the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center, to support transitional housing for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking;
- **\$86,545** in federal funding for the Newburyport Fire Department to purchase new thermal imaging cameras, flashlights, and PASS Devices; and
- **\$50,000** for the Newburyport Clean Tech Center, to help support clean tech sustainable startups in every stage of their development.

### **What others are saying about John:**

"We view the USDA RBEG grant as an example of an existing governmental funding source that can be used to promote and help build the 21st Century cleantech economy. It was identified through Congressman Tierney's leadership in support the Center and the greater Newburyport region. It better positions us to, in turn, help accelerate the growth and development of new cleantech companies and initiatives," said Bob O'Brien, President of the Newburyport CleanTech Center.

"This grant will help enhance our operation and the safety of our firefighters though gas detectors, PASS alarms, thermal imaging cameras and portable flash lights," Newburyport Fire Chief Stephen J. Cutter said. "We appreciate Congressman Tierney's support for this program, which is vital to the safety of our firefighters and our community."

"On behalf of the residents of Newburyport, I express my gratitude to Congressman Tierney for his continuing support and advocacy to assist us in addressing the serious erosion issues on Plum Island and the critical need to repair the jetties. This \$3.5 million in funding to the Army Corps of Engineers is great news for Newburyport, Salisbury and Newbury who have developed a strong alliance to work collaboratively on issues that affect the Merrimac River communities," Mayor Holaday said.

"Repairs to the Plum Island jetty are a critical measure to help alleviate erosion problems on the beach and protect homeowners in the area. I want to thank Congressman Tierney and our entire federal delegation for helping to secure funding for this project. I look forward to when the Army Corps begins its work," State Representative Michael A. Costello said.

Currently serving in his eighth term representing Massachusetts's Sixth District, U.S. Representative John F. Tierney has developed a national reputation as an effective legislator fighting for families, seniors, and small businesses. The Congressman continues to be the only member from Massachusetts to serve on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and is a senior member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.