For Immediate Release

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Press Release

Wilton Receives State Grant for Police Department Garage and Carport

The Town of Wilton was recently awarded a \$500,000 state grant for the construction of the Wilton Police Emergency Response Garage and Carport. The grant is being provided through the <u>Small Town Economic Assistance program</u> (STEAP), which funds economic development, community conservation, and quality-of-life capital projects for small towns.

Wilton applied for the STEAP grant to fund the construction of the garage and carport which will provide secure, sheltered storage of the Emergency Response Team vehicle and patrol cruisers as well as provide infrastructure for electric charging and roof top solar panels. The structure would be constructed adjacent to and in conjunction with the new Police Department Headquarters.

The garage and carport project was originally a component of the bonding referendum for the new police headquarters approved at the 2022 Annual Town Meeting. Due to concerns about cost escalation, the contract for the headquarters construction went out to bid in a manner to allow the town to remove the vehicle storage facility from any final headquarters contract.

The award reflects the Town's continued efforts to maximize grants as a means of reducing the property tax burden for infrastructure needs and improvements. The Town has applied for and has been awarded more than \$30 million in grants over the last four years, exclusive of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies.

Following a thorough vetting of the contractor, the Board of Selectmen recently awarded the Police Department Headquarters construction contract to A. Secondino & Son, Inc. of Branford, CT. For more information, please visit the <u>Town of Wilton website</u>.

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