

CT INSIDER

HARTFORD

Historic home owners in 10 CT communities can seek grants for renovations

Emily DiSalvo

June 29, 2022



Edward Gerber stands with Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin and Carissa Demore of Historic New England to announce that historic homes in 10 urban centers could be eligible to receive \$10,000 in funding for renovation.

Emily DiSalvo / Hearst Connecticut Media

HARTFORD — Owners of historic homes in 10 Connecticut urban centers are now eligible to apply for funds to enhance, restore and preserve their homes.

The Edward F. Gerber Urban Preservation Fund will select one recipient of a \$10,000 grant each year. The property must have no more than four units and be located in Bridgeport, Hartford, Manchester, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Stamford, Waterbury or West Haven.

Edward Gerber joined Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin outside the historic Amos Bull House Wednesday to announce that applications have opened and must be submitted by July 8.

“We are blessed in this state and particularly in this city to have extraordinary architecture,” Bronin said. “So many times, the owners of those buildings who love their homes, love their buildings, love their history — don’t necessarily have the funds to preserve it.”

Eligible properties must be owner-occupied. Projects may include removal of non-historic features such as vinyl siding. A full list of eligible and non-eligible projects can be found [here](#).

The fund is a part of the work of Historic New England, a regional non-profit organization that supports preservation projects in New England.

Gerber lived in downtown Washington D.C. for most of his life before moving to Westport. In D.C., Gerber said he met many people who wanted to preserve their historic homes but lacked the money.

“They couldn’t get the money so they didn’t do the project,” Gerber said.

He launched the fund alongside Historic New England, where he serves as a board member, with support from Carissa Demore, team leader for preservation services.

“It supports really thoughtful maintenance and restoration work by property owners and that kind of highly visible preservation work and investment goes a long way beyond individual property owners toward building a sense of place and sense of community our neighborhoods,” Demore said.

emily.disalvo@hearstmediact.com