The Essex Foundation News

Released November 2026

Essex Foundation Awards Board of Trade $5,000 for New Holiday Garlands

Grant will fund purchase of commercial-grade replacements for Essex Village's Main Street

Main Street in Essex Village will shine a bit brighter this holiday season thanks to a $5000 grant from The Essex Foundation (TEF) to the Essex Board of Trade (EBOT) for the replacement of holiday garlands used to decorate lampposts on Main Street in Essex Village. The garlands help make downtown feel festive and welcoming during the holiday season while also supporting local shops, restaurants, and community events. Due to weather exposure, installation, removal, and storage each year, the Board of Trade needs to replace them every five years to keep Main Street looking attractive and safe. The Foundation's grant fully funded the purchase of new commercial-grade lighted garlands which were recently installed by EBOT directors and volunteers at no cost.



"The Essex Board of Trade revenue primarily comes from annual membership dues and donations from residents but this is a large expense we are not able to fund through our regular revenue stream," commented EBOT President Cheryl Harger, "We are extremely grateful for The Essex Foundation's support in keeping the downtown area festive and bright."

"Essex has an extra special charm during the holiday season thanks to the Essex Board of Trade and the volunteer work of its members," added TEF President Strickland Hyde III, "We are delighted to help keep Main Street a welcoming destination for residents and visitors alike."

The Essex Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1970. It relies on bequests and donations from the community to provide funding support for a broad range of needs not met by other organizations or sources. More information can be found online at www.theessexfoundation.org or by emailing: contact@theessexfoundation.org.

# # #

Pictured Above(from l-r): *Essex Board of Trade (EBOT) members Peter Amos, Brian Zupan, Zach Cohen, Kate Savage, Sarah Grote, Henry Lahm, and Cherly Harger accept a $5000 grant award from The Essex Foundation board members Marla Bogaert, Bruce Glowac, and Judy Bombaci for the purchase of holiday garlands installed by EBOT on Main Street lamp posts.*