

Listening Session Themes and Major Concerns, New London (CT) Senior Center

Based on notes from a Listening Session on May 1, 2025 compiled by
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THEMES

Weather-related concerns

- Hurricanes, destructive trees, housing, and roofs
- Power outages (for those on oxygen, especially); most people no generator
- Flooding, risk of health concerns, basement flooding
- Extreme heat, cooling centers
- Ice and uncleared sidewalks (many are pedestrians), snow accumulation
- Wildfires
- Snowstorms, accumulation

Preparations

- Very few participants have taken any steps towards preparedness - "Thought about it, didn't do it"
- Realize that they should have supplies on hand, but very few do

Information needed

- Evacuation routes from residence to shelters
- Emergency phone numbers and persons to contact directly; when to call 911 vs 211
- Information on the Bridge Alert systems
- Registration process to receive citywide alerts?
- Multilingual emergency information sources in Spanish, English, and Kreyol
- Who to call in an emergency? How to reach city officials?
- Who are the Emergency Medical Departments, agency MMDs and Officials? * Participants would like to hear from them directly*
- Interested in participating in in-person events *
- Want to know what to do in different situations/events

Shelters

- Where are the shelters located? When should residents use them?
- Nuclear Power Plant sends information
- Are there different shelters for distinct types of events?
- What do they provide (food, medical assistance, etc.)?
- Shelter safety (i.e., recent gun violence)
- How to register for shelters
- Clarify misconceptions of going to a nearby town

Trusted information sources

- Cell phone alerts
- Power company
- TV News channels 3, 8, 12, 61, and NBC
- Friends and family (not neighbors)
- A resource booklet would be beneficial *

Note: After the meeting, a resident pointed out that New London might have different needs than Stamford and West Haven, and that communities of color have different needs.

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