

Innovate Stamford

Vision: An intensely collaborative, walkable, digitally enabled city, strongly connected to NYC and to other Connecticut cities by the Stamford Transportation Center, which attracts young talent and entrepreneurs by continuously exploiting emerging opportunities.

Team/Partners: Entrepreneurs, real estate developers and anchor organizations, including the Stamford Partnership, City of Stamford, Business Council of Fairfield County, and Ferguson Library.

Major Catalytic Projects:

- **Capacity Building and Marketing.** Continue planning, team development and marketing.
- **Wayfinding.** Create a wayfinding system branded by Innovate Stamford to make a stronger physical connection between the Stamford Transportation Center and the areas north and south of it.
- **GIG Public Wi-Fi:** Install six POP locations to selectively broadcast high-speed Wi-Fi to a limited area.
- **Retail Incubator:** Pilot a program to enable local entrepreneurs with consumer-facing products to experience a retail setting with high foot traffic at the Stamford Town Center mall.
- **Co-Learning Space.** Serve as a co-working space and as an assessment, advisement and intake mechanism for adult, employed learners from which they can access the academic offerings of all of Fairfield County's colleges, as well as Charter Oak, the state's online learning platform.
- **NatWest Markets Incubator.** Provide young companies access to mentoring by NatWest Markets employees and technical assistance by Innovate Stamford at office space within a two-minute walk to the Stamford Transportation Center.
- **FInsureXL:** Act as a FinTech accelerator serving both the investment banking and insurance/reinsurance sectors.

Impact Areas: The area immediately around the Stamford Transportation Center, including downtown Stamford and Harbor Point, expanding over time to include the entire Southend neighborhood, parts of the Westside and Eastside neighborhoods, and the Bedford/Summer corridor north to Bull's Head.