

**Tyler Fairbairn**  
**Director**  
**Town of Greenwich, Community Development Office**

Tyler Fairbairn is the Director of Community Development for the Town of Greenwich, having previously served in the same position with the City of Meriden, as well as serving as the Deputy Director of Housing and Community Development for the City of Bridgeport. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Drew University, and a Master of Science in Urban Planning from Columbia University. Mr. Fairbairn serves on the board of the Affordable Housing Alliance and Region 1 of the National Community Development Association. He is also a member of the Naramake Elementary School Governance Council in Norwalk where he resides with his family.

**Rebecca French**  
**Director of Resilience**  
**Connecticut Department of Housing**

Dr. Rebecca French is the Director of Resilience for the Connecticut Department of Housing where she manages the \$64 million Resilient Bridgeport and Resilient Connecticut grants for the state of Connecticut. She represents the Department on the State Agencies Fostering Resilience (SAFR) Council and the Long Term Recovery Committee. Prior to coming to Housing she was the Director of Community Engagement for the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) at UConn where she connected municipalities with the best available and local climate information for adaptation decision-making, including green infrastructure and living shorelines adaptation solutions. Prior to CIRCA, she was a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow in Washington D.C. for the US EPA Innovation Team focusing on climate change, citizen science and crowdsourcing and a Congressional Science Fellow in the US Senate developing energy, climate and agriculture policy. She holds a doctorate in geosciences from Virginia Tech, a masters in soil science from Cornell University and a bachelors in chemistry and environmental studies from Oberlin College. She has published numerous reports and papers and has been an invited speaker at state, regional and national conferences on climate adaptation and resilience.

**Shanté Hanks**  
**Deputy Commissioner**  
**Connecticut Department of Housing**

Shanté Hanks joined the Department of Housing as Deputy Commissioner in January of 2019. She is responsible for National Disaster Resiliency and the communities affected by Hurricanes Sandy and Irene, as well as continuing to make certain Connecticut is a national leader in eradicating homelessness. Deputy Commissioner Hanks returns to State service after most recently working as Deputy Director in Congressman Jim Himes' district office and was responsible for his constituent services operation, Housing and Disaster Relief Services. During her 8-year tenure at the congressional office, she worked closely with the municipal leadership of the 17 cities and towns in Connecticut's 4th Congressional District, representing over 600,000 constituents. Also during her tenure at the congressional office, Ms. Hanks served as the American Recovery Reinvestment Act Recovery Director. Prior to working for Congressman Himes, Ms. Hanks worked for the State of Connecticut in Higher Education at Southern Connecticut State University in the Department of Housing and as Director of Student Life & Activities in Student Affairs at Housatonic Community College where she served as a member of the campus expansion steering committee. Deputy Commissioner Hanks is well versed in issues relating to Housing

due to her experience as a licensed Realtor for over 14 years, previous service on the Bridgeport Public Housing Authority Board Commission for 7 years, including time served as the Chair and her work experience in Residence Life at Southern Connecticut State University. Ms. Hanks has a Bachelor of Science in History and Secondary Education, Master of Science in Elementary Education, Sixth-Year Degree in Educational Foundations with a focus in Urban Studies & Curriculum, and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree.

**John Truscinski**

**Director of Resilience Planning**

**UConn Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation**

John Truscinski is the Director of Resilience Planning for the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) at the University of Connecticut. John recently worked with The Nature Conservancy as their Coastal Resilience Manager in New Jersey, leading TNC's state-wide efforts to incorporate ecosystem based climate adaptation strategies into coastal community planning efforts. In this role he worked directly with state agency staff and municipal leaders along the Jersey Shore. At CIRCA, he manages activities associated with development of the Connecticut Coastal Resilience Plan as part of Resilient Connecticut, funded by a grant from the Connecticut Department of Housing National Disaster Resilience program. John holds a Master's degree in Sustainability Management from Columbia University's Earth Institute where he focused on methods of urban coastal adaptation to the impacts of climate change.