

by up to 5,000 students over the next 10 years. An ambitious faculty hiring program is also underway. In 2012, UConn announced plans to add 290 faculty system-wide; the NextGenCT initiative will add another 259 faculty system-wide. Up to 260 new faculty from these two programs are expected to be located at the Storrs Campus. The NextGenCT initiative is also expected to include infrastructure upgrades, building renovations, new laboratory/research space and two new dormitories. UConn officials have indicated that, while NextGenCT currently provides funding for 800 beds, the University fully expects to bond for construction of additional beds with the goal of housing at least 70% of undergraduates on campus. As part of the NextGenCT initiative, UConn is developing a 20-year master plan for the Storrs campus to guide future growth.

In addition to UConn, Mansfield enjoys close proximity to Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU) in Willimantic. ECSU's athletic fields are located in Mansfield north of Route 6 and west of Mansfield City Road. Minor improvements to the athletic facilities are proposed over the next several years as part of ECSU's overall campus master plan, which was developed in 2008. No additional plans have been announced for the remainder of the undeveloped acreage. Update of the 2008 master plan is anticipated within the next several years.

2. Public Safety

A) POLICE SERVICES

Since 1955, police services in Mansfield have been provided through the State's Resident Trooper program. The State shares 30% of the cost of the trooper program, while the Town pays for the remaining 70%, including 100% of any overtime costs requested by the Town. The number of troopers assigned to Mansfield grew in 1998-2013 from 5 to 10, including a full-time Resident Trooper Sergeant who manages the department. In 2013 only one part-time sworn officer was employed by the Town. State Police Troop C provides service when the Resident Trooper's office is closed or when additional support is needed. Resident Troopers work closely with the UConn Police Department to address off-campus issues.

FACILITIES. *The Resident Trooper program operates out of Town Hall. Addition of four troopers as recommended in the 2012 police services study, will require more office space—either an expansion of current space or relocation of the Resident Troopers to another municipal space.*

UConn Police Department. The University's police department has the same authority as any municipal police department and has responsibility for the protection of lives and property on University property. The Department includes a Community Police Unit that provides crime prevention educational programs to University students, faculty and staff. In addition, it sponsors a Citizens Police Academy held annually for ten weeks in the fall that is open to Mansfield residents as well as University affiliates. The UConn

Police Department works closely with the Town to address public safety concerns in and around the campus, including

VISION FOR POLICE SERVICES

In 2010 the Town initiated a study to evaluate options for police services. A primary component of the study involved community input on policing needs and priorities; this input was provided through a series of stakeholder interviews, focus groups and an on-line survey. The vision identified by the community included:

- Coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year
- Officers sensitive to the town's unique needs
- A community policing strategy that allocates officer time based on Town priorities
- Timely response to emergencies and an eventual response to non-emergencies

B) FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Since 2005, fire and emergency medical services have been provided by a combined department consisting of both career and volunteer firefighters. The Fire and Emergency Services Department is led by a career fire chief and staffed by 13 full-time firefighters and 11 part-time firefighters. Additional support is provided by the Mansfield Firefighters Association, which had 40 volunteers in 2013. The department also provides fire prevention and emergency management services.

Consistent with national trends, the vast majority of calls for service are for emergency medical services as compared to fire incidents. In FY2013, the Department deployed personnel and equipment in response to 1,809 calls, of which 70% were for EMS services. Many of those calls serve seniors and college students, and are for injuries such as falls and alcohol-related illness/injuries. One of the current challenges for the Fire Department is a declining volunteer base.

Mansfield is one of 14 towns that participate in the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service. Mutual aid for non-Tolland County towns is provided on an informal basis.