

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



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STATE REP. BOBBY SANCHEZ APPLAUDS BORINQUENEERS MONUMENT

State Representative Bobby Sanchez (D-New Britain) is pleased that a Borinqueneers monument is finally becoming a reality in New Britain.

Rep. Sanchez, community activists, local and state leaders have been working for several years to secure funding for the monument, which was recently awarded a \$300,000 state bond grant to move it forward.

New Britain Aldermen Emmanuel Sanchez, Willie Pabon and Kristian Rosado will be introducing a resolution to formally accept the bond funding at a council meeting Wednesday.

“I am beyond grateful with this state investment in honoring the 65th Infantry Puerto Rican regiment of the United States Army that served in combat roles including World War I, World War II, and the Korean War, and has distinguished itself many times over the years,” **Rep. Sanchez** said. “This monument’s scope cannot measure up against the sacrifices, challenges, commitment and courage demonstrated by this group of brave men who encompass our Puerto Rican pride. Their invaluable service was invisible and unrecognized for many years until enormous efforts across the nation brought attention to their merits.”

Before the state grant was awarded, many fundraisers, rallies and meetings were held in New Britain advocating for the 65th Infantry Regiment Memorial Park.

“I’d like to thank the Borinqueneers to whom this monument is dedicated to,” said **Alderman Emmanuel Sanchez**. “Many of these brave men made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and for our freedom. They will live forever in the memory of our nation and through this memorial.”

Alderman **Willie Pabon** said, “We would like to thank Governor Malloy and the state for granting this funding to help us build this long awaited Borinqueneers monument.”

Rep. Sanchez said, “This is a small tribute to the families of these selfless men that gave it all for the freedoms of our country and I am delighted that New Britain will be home to such a significant memorial. I want to thank every person that contributed their time, energy and support to this project,

my colleagues in the legislature, the governor, our local aldermen and **Carmelo Rodriguez** of the New Britain Latino Coalition, who never stopped until we saw this dream come true.”

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