

The Context of Hartford 2010

Since the **City of Hartford** and the **MetroHartford Alliance** launched the Hartford 2010 project in May 2006, we have been asked in several forums how this project relates to other planning and development initiatives in the City.

The City of Hartford Department of Development Services was created by **Mayor Eddie A. Perez** in 2003 to coordinate many planning and development functions previously existing as separate City departments.

The Department under the direction of John F. Palmieri encompasses City Planning, Housing, Economic Development, Redevelopment, Community Development, and Licenses and Inspections.

The Department of Development Services coordinates these functions with other City, State and community based efforts that seek to improve the City.

There are many and varied initiatives both completed and ongoing that relate to **Hartford 2010**.

- First, neighborhood planning efforts by community based organizations, business associations, neighborhood revitalization zone committees and others are ongoing.
- Mayor's Target Area planning efforts are ongoing by the Planning Division in North Frog Hollow, Upper Albany , the Northeast. and Clay Arsenal.
- **The Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission** and the Planning Division are working on an update to the **City of Hartford Plan of Conservation and Development**.
- The Planning Division is completing an update of the land use base map of the City.
- The Planning Division and the Geographic Information System (GIS) Users Committee have launched a GIS intranet site for the City and soon will launch an internet GIS site for the City.
- The City Housing Division is continuing to support home ownership in City neighborhoods. Over the last 7 years almost 400 units of housing have been provided through the rehabilitation and new construction of one, two and three family structures.
- The City Housing Division has provided Financing for 1000 families to enable them to purchase their first home and in conjunction with other Development Services efforts has rehabilitated 1400 units of affordable rental units.

- The City Housing Division has foreclosed and sold over 400 properties resulting in new development.
- A Quality of Life Task Force of the **City of Hartford Court of Common Council** has made recommendation regarding code enforcement, litter and clean streets and noise.
- The Division of Licenses and Inspections is working on implementing the recommendations of the Quality of Life Task Force related to Housing Code Enforcement
- The City Planning Division completed an Opportunities Plan for Downtown West.
- **The Mayor's Office** and the Planning Division have completed a review of public school capital facilities needs
- The Mayor's Office and the Planning Division are completing a review of City facilities needs.
- An updated Housing Needs Assessment has been completed as part of the Community Development Block Grant Program by the Grants Division.
- The Mayor's Housing Task Force and the Housing Division have completed a Home Ownership Strategy Plan.
- The Mayor's Taskforce on Homelessness has completed a plan to combat Homelessness.
- The City Economic Development Division continues to work with major city employers on their expansion needs.
- **The Redevelopment Agency** is moving forward on redevelopment projects in Downtown West, Homestead and Sigourney, Albany and Woodland and in the North Meadows.
- **The City of Hartford Historic Properties Commission** and the City Planning Division have developed Design Guidelines to use to implement the City Historic Preservation ordinance.
- The Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission in December 2005 adopted the first major revision to the City Zoning Code since 1968.
- **The Capital City Economic Development Authority** is working to complete the Front St phase of the Adriaen's Landing project.

- **The MetroHartford Alliance** has completed a regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies report.
- **The Trust for Public Lands** is working with the City to review and make recommendations on City Parks.
- **Riverfront Recapture** is working on expanding access to, and use of, the Connecticut River.
- **The Hartford Image Project** is promoting the Hartford region far and wide.
- **The Metropolitan District** is moving forward on a major sanitary sewer and storm water separation project.
- **The City of Hartford Parking Authority** has completed a study of downtown parking needs.
- **The City of Hartford Housing Authority** is engaged in planning for replacement housing for Nelton Court in the Northeast, and Westbrook Village and Bowles Park in the and Blue Hills neighborhoods.
- **The Spanish American Merchants Association** and the **City of Hartford** are completing a streetscape project on Park St.
- **The City of Hartford Department of Public Works** and the Department of Development Services are working on streetscapes for Park St in Parkville, Maple Ave, Trumbull St., Farmington Avenue, Bluehills Avenue., Albany Avenue, Main St in the Northeast and a section of Asylum Avenue.
- The Parkville NRZ and the Parkville Business Association are working with the City on a municipal development plan for the Bartholomew Ave section of Parkville.
- The City of Hartford, **the Capital Region Council of Governments** and the Eastern **Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development District** are working on the Park River Trail in the Behind the Rocks neighborhood.
- The Capital Region Council of Governments, **the Greater Hartford Transit District** and the City Planning Division are conducting a study of Union Station and downtown bus transit needs.
- **The Connecticut Department of Transportation** is moving forward on plans for the New Britain to Hartford Busway with eleven planned stops.

- The City of Hartford Department of Public Works is working on an improvement plan for the City flood control facilities.
- **The Greater Hartford Arts Council** continues its vital role of strengthening and promoting the Arts.

All of these initiatives are related to **Hartford 2010**. There are other important initiatives as well that are critical to the success of the **Hartford 2010** initiative.

These include community policing, operation clean streets, job training, youth after school programs and the substantial efforts to upgrade city schools.

Hartford 2010 while focusing on targeted physical improvements to the cityscape that relate the region, the neighborhoods and the downtown recognizes that all of these efforts are collectively important if we are to succeed.

Sincerely,

The Hartford 2010 Team