Hartford continues to invest in public safety by committing to neighborhood policing. Overall, serious crime is down because of more officers on the street, stronger relationships between officers and residents, and stimulus money for a recruit class of 23.

However, the job is not done. The economy poses challenges and we must meet them head-on by addressing serious issues like homicide, domestic violence and the perception of crime.

The downward trend in the numbers tells a good story about Hartford’s efforts, but with your help, the next chapter in 2010 can be even better.

Hartford Cares About Haiti!

The Connecticut Haitian-American Organization has set up an account through Webster Bank. You can make a tax-deductible donation to the CT Haitian Earthquake Relief Fund at any Webster

Mayor Eddie Perez and City Council members held a rare Saturday session of a Committee of the Whole in order to find new ways to address Hartford’s fiscal challenges. A series of workshops will be facilitated by Leadership Greater Hartford.

Mayor Perez says, “Cities like Hartford are facing extraordinary times. Bold ideas are needed to help cut costs, maintain momentum, create jobs, and better position the City for when we emerge from the biggest financial crisis since the Great Depression.”

The goal is to present one clear voice from the City to the State Delegation and Congressional Leaders. The workshop schedule is as follows in City Council Chambers:

**Expenditures:** Thurs. 2/4 @ 5:30pm

**HPS:** Thurs. 2/18 @ 5:30pm

**Budget Scenarios:** Thurs. 3/4 @ 5:30pm

**Follow Up:** Thurs. 3/18 @ 5:30pm

All of the workshops can be seen on Government Cable Access Television Channel 96--- your front row seat to city government!

According to the City Charter, the Mayor’s budget is due to Council by April 19th. Final adoption is May 31st.

Share your bold new idea! Call 3-1-1 or Email 311@hartford.gov
February is Black History Month

**6th Annual "Honoring Our Own"**

Friday, February 5, 2010
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
City Hall Atrium
550 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

Refreshments will be served by T & J Catering
Music Provided by DJ Mark Williams
RSVP: Petrei Maylor (860) 757-9570

*All month--- enjoy reading biographical information of dozens of Hartford’s Black leaders who have made their mark on history! *History comes alive in the Atrium!*

City’s Arts and Heritage Job Grant is Putting Hartford Residents to Work:
HartBeat Ensemble used its grant money to invest in a “Buy Hartford First” policy. As a result, they created one full-time position, 22 temporary jobs, and preserved four from furloughs--- all for Hartford residents!

More community listening sessions as Hartford plans for 2020!

**Thurs., Feb. 4th** at 6:30 pm: Metzner Recreation Center, 680 Franklin Ave South End
**Tues., Feb. 9th** at 7:00 pm: United Methodist Church of Greater Hartford, 571 Farmington Ave West End
**Thurs., Feb. 11th** at 6:30 pm: Pope Park Recreation Center, 30 Pope Park Dr Frog Hollow
**Tues., Feb. 16th** at 6:30 pm: Rawson School, 260 Holcomb St Blue Hills

Strong City= Strong Region= Strong State

Mayor Perez talked jobs at the Rising Star Breakfast (slides on [www.hartford.gov](http://www.hartford.gov)). He says we must prepare today for tomorrow’s jobs. According to economists, urban communities like Hartford will supply 30-percent of the state’s future workforce. Job growth will be in the areas of health services, green technology and construction, and computer and scientific industries.

The current economy poses a great challenge. Here is Hartford, 14.1% are unemployed--- 26% including the discouraged and underemployed.

Government can’t overcome this obstacle alone and neither can business. But together, we can create hope and opportunity by creating jobs, making sure our central city and region are competitive, and protecting the quality of life we all enjoy.

Community Threads:
Hartford City Hall is proud to be one of 23 great locations where more than 100 quilts are on display. This is to showcase the story of the women of Gee’s Bend, who quilted their way to economic freedom.

U.S. Census 2010 Hartford Bus Tour will be at the University of Hartford on February 2nd! Stand Up & Be Counted!

To apply for a Census 2010 job, call 1-866-861-2010 or go to
Did you see which Hartford Public Schools received the Sir Isaac Newton Award for Achievement in Science? Log on to www.hartford.gov!

www.2010censusjobs.gov. Hundreds of jobs are available in Hartford alone!

Reminder: Follow Hartford on Twitter & Facebook!