

## **NEWS RELEASE**



**Contact:**  
Gene Sheehan  
(work) 860-560-0001  
(cell) 860-214-9222

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# **HartfordInfo.org Now Seeking Input For Hartford 2010: A Framework For City's Future**

*New site will be rich in information and a resource for community input*

**HARTFORD, CONN** – The city of Hartford, in partnership with The MetroHartford Alliance, today launched an interactive Web portal to support the development of Hartford 2010: *A Vision and Action Strategy* (the “*Framework*”). The Framework will build on the considerable investments in the city over the past five years and be designed specifically to attract additional private funding through a series of targeted capital investments. The public can access the Web portal by going to HartfordInfo.org and clicking on the ‘Hartford 2010’ box.

“The Web element is critical to the success of Hartford 2010,” said Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez. “The city of Hartford is putting significant resources into this effort, and it is important to include the input from neighborhood residents, businesses and community leaders to assure that the recommendations are based on the best, most inclusive and most complete information.” In addition to the Web portal a series of informational public meetings are being planned for July 11 and 12.

“With downtown in the midst of a major economic renaissance, it is important to have a framework that leverages the great work of John Palmieri and the rest of the city’s Development Services team and that link those accomplishments and plans more visibly with all of the city’s neighborhoods and beyond its borders to the adjoining suburbs,” said Oz Griebel, CEO, MetroHartford Alliance.

**(More)**

“The Framework will reflect the community’s vision for a dynamic, livable, healthy, and economically vibrant city,” said Ken Greenberg who is leading a team of urban designers and other professionals. It will build on Hartford’s natural, economic, cultural, social and physical assets.”

The initiative has been broken into three phases: Phase One will identify and review the broad range of the city’s issues, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses; Phase Two will layout the strategic framework; and Phase Three will identify specific implementation tools and actions.

The resulting Framework will incorporate key elements, including understanding the interconnectedness of assets and identifying specific actions to shape the city’s future development, enhancing the connections between Downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods and suburbs, and strengthening the city’s role as the heart of the Region. The Framework will serve as a benchmark for decisions that affect the city’s future as well as a marketing tool to promote development and investment.

The new *Hartford 2010* section of HartfordInfo.org will be maintained by Richard Frieder, Associate Librarian for Community Development and Civic Services with the Hartford Public Library, and Roger O’Brien of the city’s Development Services Department and will keep all stakeholders informed of the work of the team and provide an efficient means of receiving their suggestions and feedback. HartfordInfo.org is a program of the Hartford Public Library.

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***Hartford 2010: A Vision and Strategic Framework*** is a blueprint for enhancing and strengthening Hartford’s major arterials as commercial, entertainment, and residential linkages to the city’s neighborhoods and the surrounding suburbs. *Hartford 2010* will focus on taking the city’s renaissance to another level, by aligning investments in public space with natural, economic, social, cultural, and physical assets so as to enhance a dynamic, livable, healthy, and economically vibrant city.

***The MetroHartford Alliance*** is Hartford's Chamber of Commerce and the Region's economic development leader focused on job growth, capital formation, and talent retention and recruitment. The Alliance works with businesses, civic, governmental, and institutional leaders to ensure that the Hartford Region competes as one of the country's premier places for all people to live, work, play, and raise a family