

Court of Common Council



CITY OF HARTFORD
550 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06103

Calixto Torres, Council President
rJo Winch, Majority Leader
James M. Boucher, Assistant Majority Leader
Larry Deutsch, Minority Leader

Veronica Airey-Wilson, Councilwoman
Luis E. Cotto, Councilperson
Kenneth H. Kennedy, Jr., Councilman
Matthew D. Ritter, Councilman
Pedro E. Segarra, Councilman

Daniel M. Carey, Town and City Clerk

May 13, 2009

Hartford Public Services Coalition
Hartford, CT

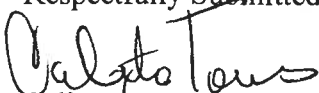
Dear Members of the Hartford Public Services Coalition:

The undersigned members of the Hartford Court of Common Council understand that we need your support in tackling the challenges of this 2009 -2010 budget. As we have deliberated during our budget hearings, we have reached unanimous consensus that the solution to our budgetary crisis is for all stake holders do their share of sacrificing. Central to this idea is that the administration and union work together.

As we struggle to minimize tax increases, reduce and eliminate unnecessary expenses and avoid potential layoffs to assure the continued delivery of critical City services, we respectfully ask you to consider agreeing to 2 mills (\$6.4 million) worth of concessions in salary and benefits to help offset the Mayor's proposed tax increase of 8.89 mills. These concessions in salary freezes, furlough days and employee benefits (primarily healthcare) are necessary to help close the \$27 million budget gap.

We can assure you that we are fully committed to cutting city spending and are not considering balancing this budget on the backs of our municipal employees, who are the backbone of our great city. We look forward to working with you and your members to achieve the best result possible for the City we all love.

Respectfully Submitted,


Calixto Torres


rJo Winch


James Boucher

Veronica Airey-Wilson


Kenneth Kennedy


Matthew Ritter


Pedro Segarra