



EDDIE A. PEREZ
MAYOR

April 30, 2009

Mr. Richard Rodriguez
President
Hartford Police Union
20-28 Sergeant Street
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:


I was encouraged to hear from you at last night's budget hearing that you are committed to assisting the City in tackling the difficult budget situation that faces us over the next two years. Your joint statement Tuesday night made it appear that you were both opposed to an increase in the local property tax and against municipal employee layoffs. As you know, to maintain the present employee base and avoid a property tax increase the City would have to find an additional \$30,800,100 in cuts or revenue. This is a difficult task even in better economic times.

As you know, the city budget process is rapidly proceeding and I would like to take you up on your offer to provide viable suggestions to resolve our City's budget challenges. In order to insure your suggestions are implementable, and timely, I would like you to provide your suggestions in writing by 12:00pm on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 to Santiago Malave, Director of Human Resources. In order to make this a productive exercise the suggestions should adhere to the following parameters:

- Each suggestion should have an estimated dollar amount of net savings attached to it.
- The savings should be attainable in the coming fiscal year.
- 62% percent of the value of the savings should come from personnel and benefits costs, understanding that is the proportion of these costs in the municipal budget.
- The savings should be attainable under present law.

I look forward to reviewing these suggestions and engaging in further dialogue on any viable ideas that will help the City reduce its budget and increase its revenue. Further, I whole-heartedly accept your offer to lobby for more state aid to help the City. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss how we can coordinate our lobbying efforts.

Sincerely,



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

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