

**City of Hartford  
Capital Improvement Plan  
2009/2010 – 2018/2019**

**Part II: Project Descriptions**

**Eddie A. Perez, Mayor**



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## **RECOMMENDED PROJECTS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2009/2010 – 2018/2019**

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is designed to meet the 10-year capital needs of the City in the areas of Public Facilities, Parks and Recreational Facilities, Schools, and Infrastructure. The City's investment in these facilities will aid educational programs, strengthen neighborhoods, enhance public safety, and foster economic development.

The following are summaries of Capital Improvement Program projects. Detailed information can be obtained by the individual departments.

### **Public Facilities**

#### Public Safety Complex

A new Public Safety Complex will be constructed at the intersection of High and Ann Streets. Plans have been approved by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

#### Public Safety Complex

This line item represents grant funds received for this project.

#### 50 Jennings Road Interior Mechanical Renovations

Interior mechanical renovations at 50 Jennings Road are to be upgraded to meet code regulations.

#### City Hall Restoration (Windows and Doors)

This project will restore the windows and exterior doors of City Hall, including the 4 sets of revolving doors, over 200 wood windows, and 58 large arched windows.

#### City Buildings ADA Modifications

This long-term project will bring city buildings into compliance with ADA requirements, in response to the Department of Justice's recent report which revealed that City buildings need to be addressed.

#### City Buildings Environmental Compliance

This project will complete environmental surveys for all existing city buildings, making them safe for City employees and the public, and preserving the city's infrastructure.

The project will:

- Inventory all asbestos containing materials, lead paint, and suspected mold conditions
- Prepare a management and abatement plan and
- Abate hazardous materials.

#### Renovate Bathrooms at Various City Buildings

The City currently has many buildings with inadequate bathroom facilities. This project will bring those facilities up to modern standards.

#### 525 Main Street Building Renovations

These funds will allow the first phase of necessary health and safety code updates at the City Hall Annex to commence.

#### City Hall Entrance Plaza Improvements

This project aims to replace the stone pavers on City Hall's Main Street Plaza, remove and reset the existing stone steps and landings, and reset and restore existing fountains.

#### City Building Energy Conservation, Security, Technology and Communication

This project involves the expansion and improvement of the citywide network, and includes the implementation of citywide security and energy management protocols. This project interfaces with all City facilities and programs, ultimately allowing for the completion of the City Consolidated Communications Plan. It will improve security and temperature controls in City buildings, and help implement the 311 call center. This project will allow for the more efficient and effective management of facilities and programs.

#### Elevator Replacements at 525 Main Street

This project will replace an old elevator that frequently needs repair.

#### Long Term Document Archive and Storage

The City needs to create a long-term, low cost document storage facility to consolidate and manage required documents. The City now uses over 55,000 square feet of habitable space for document storage. This project calls for the creation of a manageable, efficient space for document storage in the City Hall basement.

#### Municipal Facility Renovations

This project involves carrying out necessary renovations in a number of City facilities. It will reduce the city's operating and maintenance costs, and provide for the more efficient delivery of services.

#### Salt Shed and Truck Wash at 40 Jennings Road

Additional funds are needed to construct a Salt/Sand storage facility and a truck/equipment washing facility at the DPW yard. This shed is needed to comply with environmental laws.

### Burgdorf Environmental Clean-up & Campus Planning

This project aims to perform the necessary removal of asbestos and lead paint from the Burgdorf Building at 80 Coventry Street. The project will also develop a plan for the campus of buildings at this site.

### Energy Projects

This project would install full capacity generators at 525 Main Street (the Municipal Annex), 550 Main Street (the Municipal Building) and Pope Park Recreation Center, and upgrade 500 Main Street (the Main Branch of the Library), 40 Jennings Road (the DPW Yard Building) and 50 Jennings Road (HPD Headquarters) to full capacity generators, allow electricity in these buildings to continue running in case of emergency, or problems with the CL&P grid.

### City Yard Facilities Upgrade

This project aims to replace existing and missing garage doors and upgrade the heating in the City Yard's vehicle storage building. It also proposes replacing the exterior doors at the Public Works Administrative Building and all exterior doors at the Light Equipment Building.

### North End Senior Center Renovation and Addition

This project is a renovation and expansion of an existing building. Interior areas include the kitchen, multi-purpose room, arts and crafts room and HVAC improvements. A 1500 square foot addition provides for a new community room, additional storage and an expansion to the existing exercise area. The project also includes some parking lot and courtyard site improvements.

### Parker Memorial Center/Kelvin D. Anderson Gymnasium

This is a project to build a new 36,338 square foot recreation building in two phases, consisting of basketball courts, a pool, locker rooms, game room, classrooms, weight room and community room. Phase 1 consists of adding a gymnasium, weight room, locker rooms, and pool on the west half of the building. Phase 2 involves demolishing and removing the existing east half of the building and adding a community room, arts and craft rooms, classrooms, a game room, computer lab, kitchen for the community room, and bathrooms.

### New Blue Hills Recreation Center

This is a project to provide an approximately 10,000 square foot Recreation Center to serve recreation programs and community needs.

### Roof Replacement at Various City Buildings

This project will replace roofs at the ADRC Building, the Infant Day Care Building, the McCook Maintenance Building, Parker Memorial/Kelvin D. Anderson Gymnasium, Willie Ware Recreation Center, Dillon Stadium Field House, and the Zion Hill Cemetery Building. These roofs all are in poor condition. Some of the roofs leak, and are expensive to maintain. This project will preserve the infrastructure, and be cost effective.

#### Boiler Replacement at Various City Buildings

This project will replace the heating systems at 525 Main Street, and the Pump Stations at Keeney Lane, the South Meadows, and the North Meadows. These heating plants are old, deteriorated, inefficient, and often need repair. This project will help to preserve the city's infrastructure, and be cost effective.

#### Albany Ave Library

This project involves the replacement of the present Albany Avenue Library.

#### Parkville Community Library

Improvements to the Parkville Community Library are under construction.

#### Upper Albany – John. E Rogers Cultural Center

This project is a renovation of the former Northwest Jones School into the John Rogers Community and Cultural Center.

#### Lyric Theater

Former theater. The goal is to stabilize the building.

#### Pope Park Improvements

This project involves the implementation of the improvements called for in the Pope Park Master Plan.

### **Parks and Recreation**

#### Batterson Park Infrastructure Improvements

This is a proposed project to renovate the existing buildings and construct new buildings at Batterson Park. The deteriorated bathroom building, office, and garage buildings are to be renovated, while the existing Bath House will be demolished and a multi purpose building will be constructed in its place. The Department of Health and Human Services is currently updating the plan.

#### Elizabeth Park Improvements to meet Zoning Approval

A new parking area and access improvements were required in the area around Elizabeth Park's Pond House to meet the zoning approvals stipulated by the town of West Hartford.

#### Outdoor Pool Component Replacement

The project will address the need to replace components of the City's outdoor pools.

#### Park Ponds Restoration – Phase II

This project would renovate an existing building to address existing flooring, waterproofing, roof, wall, and duct issues. The project would also automate building control and communications systems that have had frequent operations problems.

#### City-Wide Playground Enhancements

This project will allow for ongoing upgrades at City playgrounds.

#### Park Monuments and Spray Pools - Restoration and Improvements

This project will restore park monuments throughout the City, and in addition address water and operational feature problems at the Corning Fountain.

#### Old South, Zion Hill and North Cemeteries

This plan proposes to restore the historic monuments, markers, memorials, vaults and buildings in the Old South, Zion Hill, and Old North Cemeteries.

#### Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Arch

This project aims to restore the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Arch spanning Trinity Street in Bushnell Park.

#### Keney Clock Tower Renovation

This project aims to restore the Keney Clock Tower.

#### The Old Barbour Street Circus Grounds Improvement Program

This proposal aims to construct a Hartford Circus Fire Visitors Center/Museum, which would front on Barbour Street. It would construct a separate entrance drive and parking area for visitor parking (12 spaces), grade and landscape an open space, install a simple drainage system, and clear and grub the perimeter of the property

#### Completion of Pulaski Pedestrian Mall

This project will complete the Pulaski Pedestrian Mall.

#### South Green Ornamental Fence Replacement

This project will replace deteriorated historic fences in the Old South Cemetery and South Green. These replacements will enhance the appearance and security at these historically significant sites.

#### Goodwin/Keney Pond House Improvements

This project calls for the renovation and repair of the Keney Park Pond House and the renovation, repair, and expansion of the Goodwin Park Pond House. Both of these facilities are used by different Park groups. This project would relate to other park pond and pool improvements that have recently been completed.

#### Keney Park Guide Rails

This project calls for the installation of guide rails along park roadways to direct and curb traffic, prevent illegal dumping, and beautify the road.

#### Keney/Waverly Expansion of Athletic Fields Along Tower Avenue

This project would expand the existing athletic facility at Waverly Field by adding additional soccer/football fields. There is a heavy demand for additional playing fields, and combination fields provide flexibility in use. This project is an expansion of an existing facility and improves the city's infrastructure.

#### Reforestation of City Parks

This project continues the reforestation (replanting) of woodland areas with suitable tree species to protect the City's green spaces. The project also calls for the development of at least one tree nursery in the City of Hartford. Due to a loss of native forest species attributable to age, insects, disease, and natural catastrophes, the health of Hartford's woodlands is at risk. A planting program will preserve our green spaces well into the twenty-first century.

#### Pope Park Improvements Phase III & IV

This is a continuation of the implementation of the improvements called for in the Pope Park Master Plan. Specifically it addresses the Hollow Mead section along Park Terrace and links the Phase I Park Entrance and Phase II Courtyard, Parking and Pedestrian Pathways Projects. Proposed improvements for this area are enhanced walkways and amenities, renovation and expansion of an existing playground, and improved surface and below ground drainage. Additionally, this project addresses the Bankside Grove section along Park Terrace across from Burns School. Proposed improvements for this area are enhanced walkways and amenities, improved security, and visibility, and enhanced maintainability.

#### Pope Park West Improvements

This project would reclaim a slice of Pope Park cut off by I-84. The Parkville Industrial Area surrounding the Park is being reborn with new uses, including housing. The City has established an IROD for housing conversion across from the park; however this part of the park is currently

unsightly and discourages visitors and investors. A Concept Plan for this project was developed by a neighborhood group as part of a “Picture It Better Together Grant.” This project will improve the city infrastructure and economic base.

#### Park River / Park River North Greenway

In response to the Plan of Development’s call for the development of greenway trails within the city, this proposal aims to construct two greenways in Hartford.

The Park River Greenway will run along the south branch of the Park River from Newfield Avenue to Hamilton Street. This multi-use trail will be 1.8 miles long, and used by cyclists, rollerbladers, joggers and walkers. The first phase of the Park River Greenway will be funded by a grant of \$500,000 from DEP.

The Park River North Greenway project will create an additional greenway along the north branch of the Park River. This trail would run from the University of Hartford to Farmington Avenue.

#### Bushnell Park Vehicle Access Control and Erosion Control Measures

This project would put controls in place to limit vehicle access, widen internal walkways to accommodate limited vehicular traffic, and permanently repair eroded areas in Bushnell Park.

#### Urban Forestry, Recreation and Park Improvements

The City of Hartford has a rich tradition of parks. The Hartford parks system serves the greater metropolitan area. It’s a vital recreation link for our urban youth. A recent study by the Trust for Public Lands, documented what has been well known. Our parks desperately need an infusion of parking maintenance and upgrade. Economic stimulus funds would be used for urban forestry and park improvement such as road and trail maintenance, educational programs. City parks targeted are Colt Park, adjacent to the Colt National Landmark, and Keney Park in north Hartford. Keney Park could benefit from thinning out the brush and by raising the canopy along the frontage of the neighborhoods. This would give the park back to its neighbors.

## **Infrastructure**

#### Street Rehabilitation & Road Improvement

This proposal continues the City’s program to repave and reconstruct existing city streets. This program constitutes a large portion of the City’s planned street infrastructure upgrades and compliments other grant-funded



reconstruction/realignment projects. This project preserves the City's existing infrastructure.

#### Streetscapes

This project is the ongoing streetscape improvement program planned for major arteries of the City.

#### Flood Control Infrastructure Improvements - Local

This project continues the City's long-range flood control improvements. Renovations of various components of the flood control system are needed due to age and deterioration. Currently, the City is upgrading its flood control system with funds approved by voters in a year 2000 referendum.

#### Flood Control Infrastructure Improvements - State

This represents a request for State of Connecticut assistance.

#### Central Business District Street Light Replacement

This project replaces old street light poles with new foundations, poles, and luminaries in the central business district and surrounding areas. Existing poles have been structurally weakened by rusted transformer bases. This is a continuation of a project begun last year.

#### Matching Funds for State/Federal Infrastructure Grants

This proposal is to assure that funding will be available for the City's match of State Federal Grants received. Most State Federal Grants programs require a 10-20 percent match in order to leverage State Federal Funds. These projects are used to maintain and enhance the City's infrastructure. This proposal calls for \$500,000 in each of the first 5 years of bond sales to provide the appropriate match.

#### City Bridge Rehabilitation Program

The City owns approximately 12 local bridges, which need periodic repairs.

#### Citywide Sidewalk Replacement

This project will replace existing sidewalks in the city that have deteriorated due to age, damage and other factors. This project preserves the City's infrastructure and reduces the City's liability.

#### Streets/Drainage/Streetscapes/Flood Control

This proposal is for four (4) key infrastructure improvements that will take place citywide.

#### Economic Development Site Acquisition & Development

This fund provides for an Economic Development Site Acquisition Revolving Fund to meet emerging needs in a timely fashion.

#### Albany Avenue Streetscape

This joint project of the State, City, and MDC will address roadways, sidewalks, and sanitary sewer problems on Albany Avenue.

#### Housing Development Fund

This multi-year fund has been created to spur the rehabilitation of blighted buildings in six Housing Investment Areas that contain the heaviest concentration of boarded buildings. Portions of these Housing Investment Areas are located in the Northeast, Upper Albany, Clay Arsenal, South Green, Barry Square, Parkville, Frog Hollow, and Behind the Rocks neighborhoods.

#### Clean Water Related Infrastructure Supplemental Funding

This project will fund the repair and upgrade of City-owned infrastructure such as sidewalks, roadway structures, curbing and lighting that are not covered by the MDC budget but are impacted by the MDC Clean Water Project.

#### Brookfield Street Reconstruction/Bike Facilities

This project is to reconstruct Brookfield Street from Flatbush Avenue to Hamilton Street to complete a portion of the bikeway project. Items to be reconstructed in this project include guiderail replacement, intersection reconfiguration at Flatbush Avenue and the installation of bike lanes on Brookfield Street.

#### Downtown North/West Redevelopment Plans Site Acquisition

This project supports the three redevelopment plans adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Hartford Redevelopment Authority and the Court of Common Council for Downtown North, Union Station/Walnut Street and Constitution Plaza East redevelopment areas.

#### Sewer Replacement at #2 Holcomb

The City owned sanitary sewer connection from the #2 Holcomb complex to the MDC system is deteriorated and in need of urgent repair. This project calls for replacement of a 300 feet long section of the pipe that also crosses underneath Gully Brook.

#### Completion of Citywide Handicapped-Accessible Curb Ramps (DOJ/UFAS Compliance)

Install handicapped accessible curb ramps for sidewalks and street intersections for approximately 108 intersections throughout the city.

#### Street Resurfacing and Repairs

This is an ongoing project for the City to keep local streets in good condition.

#### Citywide Neighborhood Traffic Calming

This project will continue the implementation of the Citywide Neighborhood Traffic Calming Master Plan. Various traffic calming devices will be installed throughout the City to reduce excessive speed and cut through traffic on residential streets.

#### Plan of Conservation and Development /Neighborhood Planning

This project funds the update to the City's Plan of Conservation and Development. The present Plan of Conservation and Development was adopted in 1996 and amended in 1998. These funds will also be used for the specialized studies that serve as components of the Plan.

#### Citywide Decorative Light Replacement

These funds will be used to replace elements of the decorative lights that beautify and celebrate the City of Hartford.

#### Burgdorf Complex Plan

This project is to prepare a consolidation plan for this complex. The goal will be to take McCook offline and reuse the Burgdorf complex. This project is the first of a multi-year program to consolidate for efficiency improvements.

#### 2010 Citywide Traffic Signalization

In order for older American cities to compete, it is critical to invest in technology infrastructure. Hartford has a unique opportunity to integrate a number of downtown shelf ready initiatives into an overall plan that could be a model for the nation.

Wireless Communication Access: The city has recently built a wireless network in two demonstration areas. This network supports business as well as community residents that allow access from a wireless device anywhere within the demonstration areas bridging the digital divide. The goal is to bring wireless communications to the entire city.

Upgrade to traffic signalization system: A recent study by an outside consultant identified this as a critical issue in several areas of the downtown, as well as connections from the adjacent neighborhoods to the downtown.

Downtown Circulation: A current study will be reporting on turning one-way streets to two-way streets to better serve the changing nature of the downtown as well as connecting Downtown North

with the central business district. In addition, in the last six years the number of residential units in the downtown has tripled. The State of Connecticut has instituted a free shuttle bus to transport residents, shoppers, conventioners in the downtown.

The State of Connecticut has invested in a modern convention center, which opened in 2005.

All of the above point to a great opportunity to integrate multi-modal transportation and technology system. This includes pedestrian walk lights, fiber optic traffic signalization connections, traffic cameras, bus shelters, sidewalk construction, and way finding kiosks, Wi-Fi expansion and signage.

#### 2010 Farmington Avenue/Asylum Avenue/Broad Street Realignment

This project will address safety issues along these corridors that were identified in the Hartford 2010 process, and enhance pedestrian connections between Asylum Hill and Downtown.

#### 2010 South Green Traffic Improvement

This project addresses the recommendations of the 2010 committee regarding the beautification of Barnard Park, the improvement of traffic circulation signage and issues regarding the shelter.

#### 2010 Albany Avenue and Main Street Improvements

This project will realign Albany Avenue and Main Street to improve traffic safety, circulation, and pedestrian access.

#### 2010 Terry Square – Economic Development

Remove blight and improve streetscape and landscaping. Provide enhanced facades.

2010 Homestead Avenue Brownfield Redevelopment There are serious environmental concerns related to several sites along Homestead Avenue because of the nature of the former businesses. The City has control of the sites. This project is to remediate and redevelop the properties.

#### 2010 Main Street Streetscape Project

This project would provide a facelift to Main Street from South Green to I-84.

#### Parkville MDP

This project begin improvements that were identified in the Parkville Municipal Development Plan.

#### Neighborhood Preservation Grants

This program will be a residential façade program mainly in the Neighborhood Development Fund program area.

#### Wethersfield Avenue Streetscape

This project would expand the streetscape network already started on many of Hartford's arterial streets. Limits are proposed to be from Airport Road to the Wethersfield Town line. Project would include typical streetscape elements including brick pavers, traffic calming, pedestrian enhancements, decorative lighting, etc.

#### Pope Commons Streetscape Improvement

This project expands on the streetscape work already started on Park Street and extends to Capitol Avenue.

#### City Wide Sidewalk Replacement

This project will replace existing sidewalks in the city that have deteriorated due to age, damage and other factors. This project preserves the City's infrastructure and reduces the City's liability.

### **Education Facilities**

This section represents the capital plan that was adopted by the Board of Education.