



**Eddie A. Perez**  
Mayor

## **BUDGET WORKSHOP FOCUSES ON REVENUE**

### **---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---**

(January 28, 2010)--- The spotlight is on revenue sources as the Committee of the Whole meeting focused on incoming monies to help build a framework for the upcoming budget. In recent years, revenues have lagged compared to expenditures and the challenge for the FY 2010-2011 budget is an approximate \$40 million gap. This cooperative effort--- facilitated by Leadership Greater Hartford--- is a continuation of a 90-day process to build a consensus budget to be presented at public hearings.

Property tax is Hartford's main revenue source. Last fiscal year, that revenue stream was \$263 million. However, one challenge facing the City is that there are 800 fewer motor vehicles eligible to be taxed. Other revenue sources include service fees like licenses and permits (\$11 million), property use including leasing and rentals (\$4 million), and state funding and grants (\$247 million).

Many ideas were discussed for closing the gap including reviewing assets for possible sale; refurbishing housing to put back onto the tax rolls; sell services, such as IT, to other towns and cities; generating wind power or other alternative energy for sale; and renting ad space at bus stops.

Mayor Perez says, "I'm working closely with cities like New Haven and Bridgeport to find ways to help support urban areas that bear regional burdens, especially in these challenging economic times. The bottom line is all ideas need to be explored so that we can maintain our momentum in areas like education, meet the needs of our taxpayers, and position ourselves for future growth."

The budget workshops are aired on Government Cable Access TV Channel 96 (streaming live on [www.hartford.gov](http://www.hartford.gov)) and are an extension of the city's outreach to community groups and residents during the One City, One Plan (POCD 2020) future development meetings that will continue this month with neighborhood listening sessions.

The end-goal is to present one clear message from the city. Here's the COW meeting schedule:

Expenditures:	Thursday, February 4 <sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM
Hartford Public Schools:	Thursday, February 18 <sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM

By charter, the Mayor must present his budget to Council by Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.