

One City, One Plan Newsletter

City of Hartford

National design firm to lead Greening of America's Capitals Charrette

Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBW), a nationally recognized 30-person landscape architecture firm with offices in Charlottesville, Virginia and New York City has been selected by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to lead Hartford's "Greening America's Capitals" charrette.

The focal point of the study is a section of the city that includes the Connecticut State Capitol and Legislative Building, the State Library, the Supreme Court, and the State Armory, as well as residential and retail areas.

The Greening America's Capitals workshop will help Hartford staff and stakeholders create a green plan for the Capitol Avenue corridor and connections to nearby locations, such as the Frog Hollow neighborhood and a proposed Sigourney Street bus rapid transit station. Designs will focus on public open spaces, such as parks and state building grounds, as well as green street improvements that better manage

storm water, improve the pedestrian environment and aesthetic character of Capitol Avenue, and encourage future revitalization.

EPA's Greening America's Capitals work will complement the National Endowment for the Arts' iQuilt project to link cultural assets and integrate new public spaces along the Capitol Avenue corridor.

Through this award, we will be showcasing the best and the brightest assets in the Capitol Area that help make Hartford so special.

This project comes out of recommendations of "One City, One Plan."

The charrette is scheduled to take place February 15, 16 and 17. A public session entitled "Livable Sustainable Neighborhoods and the Residential Scale" is scheduled to be held in the evening on February 16th from 6:30 to 8:30. Details to follow.



Volume 1, Issue 2
January 2011

One City,
One Plan
POCD 2020

"Through this award, we will be conducting the "Capitol Avenue Visioning" project, which will allow us to connect and showcase the best and the brightest assets in the Capitol Area that help make Hartford so special. "

Pedro E. Segarra, Mayor,
City of Hartford

Inside this issue:

National design firm to lead Greening of America's Capitals Charrette	1
Green Ribbon Task Force to Provide Recommendations	2
City Partners with iQuilt	2
Planning and Zoning Commission Adopts New Regulations	3
Neighborhood Liaisons Announced	4

Green Ribbon Task Force to Provide Recommendations to Mayor



The Mayor's Green Ribbon Taskforce (GRTF) has been busy working on recommendations to help improve the City's parks. The Taskforce chaired by Tyler Smith and Bernadine Silvers formed three subcommittees to review the governance, maintenance and finances of the parks.

Taskforce meetings were held throughout the fall, and a public outreach session was held at the Parker Memorial Center. The central purpose of the public meeting was to provide the taskforce members the opportunity to meet with members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (P&RAC) and represen-

tatives of the various Friends' groups, along with other Hartford citizens who care deeply about Hartford's parks, to share and discuss the ongoing work of the GRTF.

The Taskforce is planning on providing recommendations to the Mayor in January

and plans to hold a public meeting to share its recommendations in February. The Task Force has been ably assisted by Kim Holden, Chief Staff Planner, Glendowlyn Hall, Director of Constituent Services, and Jonas Maciunas, Assistant to the Director of Development Services.



Concept drawing— Greening of America's Capital's

City Partners with iQuilt

The City of Hartford is partnering with the Bushnell Center of Performing Arts to further the momentum of iQuilt. A Discovery and Programming phase will form the foundation for the planning and design work for Phase 2 of the iQuilt project.

The primary objective is to demonstrate the role of arts and culture as economic and social generators for Downtown Hartford, the City of Hartford, and the region, and to develop preliminary concepts for how this vision can be achieved. David Panagore, Chief Operating Officer noted, "This connection between economic development and the arts is coming to fruition through iQuilt."

A design team led by Suisman Urban Design and consultants Michael Vergason Landscape Architects, Domingo Gonzalez Lighting Design, and Smith Edwards Architects. Special consultants will include

Cundari, Dan Biederman, Nelson Byrd Woltz, and Richter & Cegan in coordination with City Planners.

A reception was held on January 18th, to outline the specific activities and timetable for the next 12 months. This will include master planning for the GreenWalk from the capitol to the riverfront; for Bushnell Park; for the proposed Connecticut Square; and for culture-based walks and wayfinding throughout the iQuilt downtown. The work also includes the launching of a new website which will allow anyone who is interested to keep up with as well as participate in the project.



"This connection between economic development and the arts is coming to fruition through iQuilt."

David B. Panagore, Chief Operating Officer

Planning and Zoning Commission Adopts New Regulations

The Planning and Zoning Commission recently adopted several changes to the City's Zoning Regulations. The Commission will continue to amend the regulations to address the issues identified during the One City, One Plan process.

Changes to the regulations include special permits for residential structures contain-

ing three or more units, incorporation of fence regulations, the allowance of marquee signs, and restrictions on rehabilitation homes, and rooming houses.

Revised regulations can be found at <http://planning.hartford.gov/webfiles/pln-zoning-admin.htm>

"We are moving forward with changes recommended by our neighborhood plans"

Sandra Bobowski,
Chariman, Planning and
Zoning Commission

Hartford is the recipient of a Sustainability Grant

The Capitol Regional Council of Governments has been awarded a \$4,200,000 Regional Sustainable Communities Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The award was announced by retiring U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department Assistant Secretary Peter Kovar at a press conference in October.

A portion of the grant is for the development of guidelines for North Park. North Park is a 123-acre section of Hartford that lies directly to the north of I-84 adjacent to but separated from the Downtown Business District. including the site of the former H B Davis Building.

A redevelopment plan was prepared for this area pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Its primary goal was to create a mechanism to remove obsolete and blighted buildings from a critical perimeter area of the Downtown, conduct site assemblage, and create a development opportunity for mixed use development, rehabilitation of historic structures, and educational and commercial development that will strengthen the development patterns of the Project Area. As this plan is being implemented, the time has come to take

the next step and create the detailed vision and accompanying regulatory instruments to ensure realization of that vision. The creation of this design district is an implementation item of One City, One Plan.

The Sustainable Communities Grant will be used to create a master planned Design District with land use regulations and building design guidelines to ensure that new development promotes equitable, affordable housing; helps improve access to employment centers and educational opportunities; contributes to a vibrant mixed use, mixed income community; encourages smart energy choices; utilizes

new connections to transportation choices; and constitutes an investment in a healthy, safe and walkable urban neighborhood. Such regulations and guidelines will allow the city to employ a streamlined permitting process that would encourage responses to a planned development Request For Proposals.



HB Davis building now gone... Public Safety Complex rises in the background. Planning for North Downtown is underway



City of Hartford

One City, One Plan
Planning Division
City of Hartford Development Services Department
250 Constitution Plaza, 4th Fl
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

Phone: 860-757-9025
Fax: 860-722-6402
E-mail: oneplan@hartford.gov



Phone: 860-757-9025
Fax: 860-722-6402
E-mail: oneplan@hartford.gov
Pedro E. Segarra, Mayor
David B. Panagore, Chief Operating Officer
Roger J. O'Brien, Director of Planning

"Seeing the City of Hartford for what it is, visualizing what it can become."

Neighborhood Liaisons Announced

One City, One Plan was built from the neighborhoods up. In order to ensure the continuation of a robust exchange of ideas, and address the distinct needs of each neighborhood, Mayor Segarra announces the following neighborhood planning liaisons.

NEIGHBORHOOD LIASON	NEIGHBORHOOD	CONTACT INFO
DON CHAPMAN	CLAY ARSENAL, FROG HOLLOW, NORTHEAST, UPPER ALBANY	757-9048 CHAP001@HARTFORD.GOV
JEFF CORMIER	PARKVILLE, SHELDON-CHARTER OAK, SOUTH MEADOWS, WEST END	757-9043 CORMJ001@HARTFORD.GOV
JILLIAN HOCKENBERRY	BEHIND THE ROCKS, BLUE HILLS, SOUTH END, SOUTH GREEN	757-9046 HOCKJ001@HARTFORD.GOV
KIM HOLDEN	ASYLUM HILL, DOWNTOWN	757-9045 HOLDK001@HARTFORD.GOV
JONATHAN MULLEN	BARRY SQUARE, NORTH MEADOWS, SOUTHWEST, MARG	757-9050 MULLJ002@HARTFORD.GOV

"Neighborhood Planning is the building block of City Planning"

Roger J. O'Brien, Director of Planning

