



**Pedro E. Segarra**  
Mayor

## **INVESTING IN HARTFORD'S FUTURE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PART OF LONG-TERM VISION FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

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

(March 24, 2011) --- Hartford Mayor Pedro E. Segarra today applauded the Hartford Public School's Board of Education for unanimously approving plans to renovate West Middle Elementary School.

“This is a long overdue effort for this historic building complex that is almost 120 years old. Making it more spacious and more energy efficient is important to our students’ learning environment and creating as many as 150 employment opportunities – with about one-third for Hartford residents – is crucial in these economic times,” said Mayor Segarra.

Mayor Segarra emphasized his commitment to lead the effort at the State Capitol to continue the state grant/reimbursement equation of 80% for school construction. That would mean the City would bond \$10,920,000 and the state would pick up the remaining \$43,680,000; the expected total project cost is \$54.6 million.

West Middle School, located on Asylum Avenue in the City’s Asylum Hill neighborhood, serves students grades PreK-8. Enrollment is 689 students, but that is expected to increase to 750 once the renovations are complete. The renovations would increase the size of the school while maintaining its historic character.

The Mayor’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is designed to meet the 5-year capital needs of the City in the areas of Public Facilities, Parks, Development and Recreational Facilities, Schools, and Infrastructure. The City’s investment will aid educational programs, strengthen neighborhoods, enhance public safety, and foster economic development.

Earlier this month, Mayor Segarra announced a major investment in the City’s historic park system, calling for a \$5 million investment for parks throughout the city that would enhance playgrounds; ensure ADA compliance; manage, plan and update the forestry plan; update the Parks Master Plan; and provide improvements for cemeteries and ancient burial grounds.