



CITY OF HARTFORD

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
250 Constitution Plaza
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

EDDIE A. PEREZ
Mayor

Telephone: (860) 757-9028
Fax: (860) 722-6074
www.hartford.gov

DAVID B. PANAGORE
Director

HARTFORD.GOV/RECOVERY UPDATE

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(May 8, 2009)--- Mayor Eddie A. Perez is proud to announce that since the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act on February 17th, an estimated \$80 million worth of Stimulus funds have been committed to the City of Hartford. Working with many community and quasi-government organizations, our stimulus team, chaired by Director of Development Services David Panagore, has identified 10 grants and is tracking approximately 30 more. Right now, every federal agency is engaged in a process of issuing regulations releasing funds and establishing timelines for receiving and reviewing grant applications.

Mayor Perez says, "Our staff is working on grants that focus on Hartford's priorities: public safety, flood control, streetscape improvements, acquiring vacant and foreclosed properties, assisting individuals hardest hit by the recession and creating jobs in the arts."

In conjunction with the Hartford Housing Authority, the City is scheduled to receive more than \$5,000,000 to improve conditions at its smaller housing site locations across the City. Working with the MDC, the City is scheduled to receive approximately \$38,000,000 for the North End sewer and storm water separation project.

Our efforts in each of these areas is primarily focused on job creation, whether its working with the Capital Workforce Partners to support the \$3,000,00 in stimulus dollars they are receiving to create 1,100 summer jobs or CRT to weatherize and reduce the energy costs at more than 650 homes.

David Panagore says, "No matter how you slice it, these programs are benefiting individuals, our neighborhoods and the community. The Mayor says that job creation is job one and we are supporting that mission."

In the area of public safety, Hartford is filing three grant applications totaling \$9,781,374 that combined will bring 40 new police officers through the academy, conduct investigations, provide new equipment and add more officers to the streets. Under one of these grants in particular, the Byrne JAG formula grant, the City will receive \$1,529,576 and these funds will directly reduce the impact on the general fund in the upcoming FY '09-'10 budget to offset and supplement the allocation of overtime for the police department.

While we continue our efforts to secure federal funds to support our most important "shovel ready" project, the new Public Safety complex, the federal guidelines for the program under which we expect to apply will not be out till later this summer.

Under the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant program, the City is expected to receive \$1,372,700 and we are working to direct those funds towards projects that will reduce our long term energy costs by stepping up our recycling program and greening our public buildings. While these dollars are limited and will not fix every building, they are helping us reduce our dependency on older energy sources and rely more on newer, more effective ones.

Through the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), we are working to dedicate \$600,000 of Stimulus funds to create and retain more than 200 jobs in the arts, which has been identified as “one of the biggest bangs for the buck” ways to add jobs in our City.

Working with CCROG, we have been able to secure \$3.6M to move along a streetscape improvement project adjacent to a retail project that connects Pope Park to Parkville. This is good news for construction jobs and good news for business and retail jobs. This will also improve the traffic flow and “energy” of the Parkville area.

Partnerships do not end there. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving recently held a very well attended session for area non-profits to learn how they could directly access Stimulus dollars. Mayor Perez believes that by working with all of our strategic partners, Hartford can access as many stimulus dollars as possible. Log on to www.hartford.gov to see how Hartford’s economy is being stimulated and positioning itself for future growth once our economy recovers.