



## THE FIVE YEAR PLAN: January 2009 – December 2013

*Adopted 1/15/09*

**Definition:** To Hartford 2000 is the coalition of all Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRZs) and the City of Hartford.

**Mission:** To strengthen the individual and collective capabilities of the NRZs and to advocate for neighborhood issues.

**Guiding Principle:** The Neighborhood Revitalization Zones are the foundation of Hartford 2000.

### **Purposes of Hartford 2000**

1. To address community issues throughout the city and across neighborhood boundaries
2. To support the work of the NRZs, especially in the implementation of their strategic plans
3. To advocate on issues that affect NRZs and other residential neighborhoods
4. To build support for the NRZ program and process
5. To educate ourselves and others about the NRZs' work and capabilities
6. To foster communication among the NRZs and with outside entities
7. To maintain the momentum of revitalization in Hartford's NRZs
8. To facilitate cooperation and collaboration in whatever Hartford 2000 undertakes

### **Vision for NRZs**

In the year 2014, NRZs are seen and respected as the voice of their neighborhoods. They are well-informed about all issues relating to their neighborhood and take action where appropriate. They understand and represent the interests of all segments of the neighborhood population. They work to secure the resources needed by the neighborhood for revitalization.

In the year 2014, NRZs understand the issues and concerns of other areas of the city and are committed to working together, through Hartford 2000, to solve problems and create positive change in the entire community. NRZs support each other and collaborate often.

In the year 2014, the work of the NRZs is carried out by large numbers of active volunteers and adequate paid staff support. Many are 501(c)(3) nonprofits. City government is an active member of each NRZ.

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### **Vision for Hartford 2000**

In the year 2014, Hartford 2000 is seen as a powerful voice for the NRZs and other residential neighborhoods in all areas of the city. It serves as a forum and action center for individuals and groups who are committed to revitalizing the entire city. H2K is informed about and understands the issues affecting all segments of the population and works with and connects groups and organizations that are addressing those issues.

In the year 2014, Hartford 2000 is a catalyst to make the NRZs strong. H2K provides information, support, and resources to the NRZs to enable them to revitalize their neighborhoods and to work together on citywide issues.

In the year 2014, Hartford 2000 has full-time staff and a pool of active volunteers. H2K provides the NRZs with staff support. H2K's system of governance reflects the range and diversity of individuals and groups who are working to make Hartford a better place.

### **Five Year Goals**

#### **Goal A. Assist the NRZs to secure resources to implement their Strategic Plans and other initiatives.**

##### ***Objectives and Actions***

1. Complete updates to all NRZ strategic plans by assisting the NRZs, at their request, e.g. facilitating community meetings, collecting information, writing sections of the plan
2. Secure funding to implement improvements contained in NRZ strategic plans by:
  - a. Having input to the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process
  - b. Having input to the City's CDBG planning and allocation process
  - c. Working with Hartford's State delegation to secure State monies
  - d. Monitoring and having input into other sources of funding, e.g. HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program, DECD
3. Strengthen communication between the City and each NRZ by evaluating current communication methods and negotiating with City for a process that works for all

**Goal B. Actively educate the community about, participate in, and influence policy development and issues that affect Hartford.**

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***Objectives and Actions***

1. Inform the community about government actions by
  - a. Preparing and distributing Council Preview/Review and Citizens Agenda for each Council Meeting
  - b. Sending out Alerts concerning community issues, meetings, policies, and civic engagement activities
  - c. Monitoring and publicizing the work of Hartford Commissions and Council Committees
2. Educate the community by
  - a. Hosting Neighborhood Training Institute workshops in partnership with the Hartford Public Library and others
  - b. Hosting forums on elections
  - c. Participating in voter registration and voter turn-out activities
3. Take action to address issues that affect the Hartford community by advocating for or against policies and actions
4. Enhance H2K communication methods to reach out to additional groups.
5. Maintain and enhance the relationship between Hartford 2000 and the Hartford Public Library

**Goal C. Market Hartford's NRZs, neighborhoods, and Hartford 2000 as assets.**

***Objectives***

1. Complete brochures for all NRZs
2. Create and air regularly a neighborhood show on Hartford Public Access TV
3. Serve on citywide task forces that advance the mission of Hartford 2000 and the interests of the NRZs
4. Make presentations to elected and appointed officials to orient and inform them about the work and needs of H2K and NRZs

**Goal D. Support individual NRZ efforts to increase participation and effectiveness.**

***Objectives and Actions***

1. Provide staff support for the NRZs by
  - a. Securing funding

- b. Hiring and supervising staff
2. Assure that each NRZ has a representative of the City sitting on its board by bringing the NRZ and City staff together
3. Assist NRZs at their request

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**Goal E. Enhance the diversity of Hartford 2000**

***Objectives***

1. Revise H2K's governance model to bring a variety of groups to the table
2. Recruit and manage a pool of volunteers for H2K committees and other purposes

**Goal F. Improve the financial status and sustainability of Hartford 2000**

***Objectives***

1. Raise money to support the work of H2K
2. Gain commitment and loyalty of NRZs to the role and operations of H2K
3. Focus on citywide role of H2K
4. Clarify role of NRZ/City reps as board members and assure understanding of role
5. Create a business plan
6. Hire full-time staff
7. Develop Centers of Excellence in NRZs