

Hartford 2000s Plan for the Future

Adopted September 20, 2001

DEFINITION

Hartford 2000 is the coalition of all Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRZ's) and the City of Hartford.

MISSION:

The mission of Hartford 2000 is to strengthen the individual and collective capability of the NRZ's.

PURPOSES OF HARTFORD 2000

1. To support the work of the NRZ's
2. To build support for the NRZ program and process
3. To educate ourselves and others about the NRZ's work and capabilities
4. To advocate on issues that affect NRZ's
5. To foster communication among the NRZ's and with outside entities
6. To maintain the momentum of revitalization in Hartford's NRZ's
7. To promote and model respect and trust in all of Hartford 2000's work
8. To facilitate cooperation and collaboration in whatever Hartford 2000 undertakes

GOALS

External Goals

- A. Develop effective working relationships with local, state, and regional entities that can or do affect Hartford's neighborhoods.
- B. Convince the Hartford community, through education, that NRZ's are engines that drive revitalization in Hartford.
- C. Promote inter-neighborhood collaboration and cooperation.
- D. Support efforts of the NRZ's to include all neighborhood stakeholders.

Internal Goals

- E. Build an effective and inclusive structure for Hartford 2000.
- F. Establish an effective, efficient, and inclusive internal communication structure.
- G. Promote and model respect and trust among individuals and NRZ's at all times.

STRUCTURE

1. Membership

a. Voting Members: The voting members of Hartford 2000 shall be:

- ◆ The chair or a co-chair of each NRZ or a representative officially designated by the NRZ, and
- ◆ The City's official representative to Hartford 2000.

b. General Members

Any individual and/or representative of an organization that supports the mission of Hartford 2000 may be a member of H2K. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any meeting of Hartford 2000 and its committees and to participate fully in all discussions. Membership on committees is open to all.

2. Standing Committees

There will be four (4) standing committees.

- ◆ Community Economic Development

Charge: To educate the NRZ stakeholders about community economic development, defined as the fiscal, social, human, and physical capital of the community, and to develop positions on substantive issues that affect community economic development.

- ◆ Public Relations/Communications

Charge: To promote and manage Hartford 2000's image in the community.

- ◆ Government Relations

Charge: To understand and educate the community about the mission and operations of governmental entities and how these relate to NRZ concerns and, with this knowledge, to promote and enable ongoing community involvement in the process of government to achieve NRZ goals and objectives.

- ◆ Personnel and Finance

Charge: To administer and manage the human, fiscal, and physical resources of Hartford 2000.

Note: H2K does **not** have an Executive Committee.

3. Liaison Positions

Permanent liaisons are appointed by H2K to the following groups/agencies and others as they become relevant:

- ◆ Hartford Economic Development Commission
- ◆ MetroHartford Alliance
- ◆ State NRZ Advisory Board
- ◆ Greater Hartford Tourism District
- ◆ Picture it Better Together
- ◆ ICIC Advisory Council
- ◆ Redevelopment Commission

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

External Goals

Goal A. Develop effective working relationships with local, state, and regional entities that can or do affect Hartford's neighborhoods.

Strategies

- 1) Establish a Government Relations Committee.
- 2) Strengthen the relationship with the Comprehensive Communities Partnership (CCP) by assisting NRZ's to establish working relationships with their problem-solving committees and meeting with CCP staff to discuss collaboration.

Goal B. Convince the Hartford community, through education, that NRZ's are engines that drive revitalization in Hartford.

Strategies

- 1) Educate the leadership of NRZ's about the NRZ program and its purposes by providing training programs and written materials.
- 2) Establish linkages with State agencies and individuals involved in the NRZ program (e.g. Office of Policy & Management, NRZ Advisory Committee).
- 3) Establish a Hartford 2000 newsletter.
- 4) Sponsor events.
- 5) Utilize cable access TV.
- 6) Get information on H2000 and NRZ's in all media (TV, radio, print, electronic).

Goal C. Promote inter-neighborhood collaboration and cooperation.

Strategies

- 1) Identify issues for collaborative action and bring parties together to address the issues.
- 2) Share information about how NRZ's handle issues, e.g. gaining nonprofit status.
- 3) Provide a mechanism to alert NRZ's to issues and happenings early on.
- 4) Promote the positive aspects of NRZ's and the city.
- 5) Sponsor NRZ tours and visits.
- 6) Look at the "big picture", i.e. analyze the effect of issues and projects on the entire city and identify common areas of interest.
- 7) Bring adjacent NRZ's together to discuss how their strategic plans might be structured to complement each other.

Goal D. Support efforts of the NRZ's to include all neighborhood stakeholders.

Strategies

- 1) Convene a meeting with HEDC, the presidents of the merchant associations, the merchant coordinators, and NRZ's to increase participation by merchants on NRZ's.

- 2) Create a map of NRZ's with contacts and phone numbers and publish it in newspapers.
- 3) Help secure resources so that NRZ's can improve communication with stakeholders via newsletters, letters, etc.
- 4) In cooperation with ICIC, implement a corporate partners program to team at least one corporation with each NRZ.

Internal Goals

Goal E. Build an effective and inclusive structure for Hartford 2000.

Strategies

- 1) Create an administrative structure.
- 2) Create a consensus decision-making process.
- 3) Agree upon a name for the long-term.
- 4) Secure funding for the administrative structure.
- 5) Establish and maintain an effective committee structure.
- 6) Establish a clear point of contact for H2000.
- 7) Encourage and support wide participation in H2000.
- 8) Document all agreements in writing.

Goal F. Establish an effective, efficient, and inclusive internal communication structure.

Strategies

- 1) Establish a phone and email tree for NRZ representatives to H2000.
- 2) Establish and maintain a membership mailing list.
- 3) Do monthly mailings to all members.
- 4) Develop a common understanding of the communication role of the NRZ reps to and from their NRZ's and H2000.
- 5) Create an orientation program for new members and offer it several times a year.

Goal G. Promote and model respect and trust among individuals and NRZ's at all times.

Strategies

- 1) Develop ground rules for H2000 meetings, review them at each meeting, and keep them posted in the H2K meeting room.
- 2) Develop a conflict of interest/disclosure policy.
- 3) Provide opportunities for NRZ's to share information with each other.
- 4) Explore resources for outside assistance in mediating issues within Hartford 2000 and within NRZ's at their request.