

EDITOR'S NOTE

About Our Plan

The Parkville Strategic Plan is being completed in part to fulfill the requirements for the neighborhood revitalization zone (NRZ) process. The Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Strategic Plan Guidelines states,

Under the legislation, the strategic plan developed by the NRZ Planning Committee and approved by the municipality is the primary vehicle for benefits. Through the planning process, the neighborhood works together to determine its priorities and to develop plans of action for revitalization.

The main benefits of this program are related to bringing all stakeholders together to plan a neighborhood that works for all of them, by-passing "red tape" that might impede attempts to revitalize the neighborhood, and establishing a more flexible and creative government response to the needs of communities. It is important to note that the legislation does not provide for any additional money for cities that have NRZs.

The strategic plan serves as a vision and action plan for improving the quality of life in our neighborhood and city. We understand that for meaningful development to occur in our neighborhood, we need to have a comprehensive plan. We also know that the plan cannot be created in isolation. Therefore, the strategic plan has been carefully designed to align with other initiatives on the local and state levels. These initiatives include the City Plan, Hartford at Work and Hartford 2000. Within the areas of economic development, housing, public safety, recreation, education, and beautification, priorities have been identified and an action plan has been developed. In addition, priority projects have been identified where those topics overlap.

We also acknowledge that for the plan to be valid it must include input from many facets of our community. Many members of the community contributed to the creation of this document. The extensive involvement of the community will be an attribute to the validity of this neighborhood strategic plan. Input was solicited at various community meetings. Drafts were disseminated for more community input. Next, a public forum was held on Wednesday, September 24 to discuss the plan. Comments were considered at the next Parkville Revitalization Association meeting held on Wednesday, October 8. A copy was sent to the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for review and finally it was submitted to the City Council for approval by city ordinance. Once approved, the Parkville Revitalization Association is charged with monitoring the plan's progress.

Parkville Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

We feel that the collaborative efforts used to develop the plan will also help the neighborhood achieve an equally important component--its implementation. We believe the many individuals and organizations involved in our neighborhood will ensure the plan's implementation. It is envisioned that the Parkville Revitalization Association, with representation from the many neighborhood groups, will continue to facilitate Parkville's revitalization efforts.

We would like to especially thank the following people and organizations for their contributions to date:

City of Hartford; Linda Bayer and Gerry Maine
McCabe Enterprises, Kathy McCabe
Department of Economic and Community Development, Debbie Russo
Parkville Community Association
Parkville Comprehensive Community Partnership
Parkville Revitalization Association
Parkville Seniors
RAW, Will K. Wilkins

Carl Guerriere
Secretary
Parkville Revitalization Association
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