

Board of Alders Citywide Agenda 2014-2015

We must pursue a citywide agenda to address the issues we face. The undersigned members of the New Haven Board of Alders will strive to enact and support local policies that make New Haven a vibrant, safe, and affordable place to live for all of the city's residents. New development and economic growth are important to everyone who lives and works in New Haven. For the whole city to succeed and thrive, we must address the needs of everyone in the city – from those who struggle to make ends meet, to those who drive economic growth, and everyone in between.

As we make progress on these items we will develop additional proposals based on ongoing conversations with our constituents and on feedback from community meetings

- **JOB**S: Expand access to good jobs in the public and private sector to all New Haven residents, with specific focus on under-resourced neighborhoods. Next steps:
 - * Insure commitments to increase New Haven hiring are included in all development related legislation
 - * Commit to inform all constituents about New Haven Works, the Construction Workforce Initiative, and other job-related resources
 - * Make New Haven a choice location for small businesses to start-up and thrive

- **YOUTH**: Improve and increase the entire spectrum and quality of services and opportunities by working together with the Mayor's office and state delegation. Next steps:
 - * Launch new online Youth Map
 - * Continue Youth Violence Prevention Grant Initiative
 - * Take next steps based on Youth Facilities Study Working Group
 - * Move forward to reopen the Q House and develop a sustainable plan for Goffe Street Armory

- **PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIME & VIOLENCE**: Address crime and violence through strict mechanisms of accountability, expand effective community policing strategies, and promote complete streets initiatives. Next steps:
 - * Develop measurements to evaluate success in lowering both violent and quality of life crimes
 - * Coordinate efforts with other city departments to address quality of life issues ("broken window effect")
 - * Expand walking beats to all city neighborhoods
 - * Re-establish strong block watch network
 - * Prioritize support for complete streets initiatives

- **CONSTITUENT SERVICES/QUALITY OF LIFE**: As Alders, we strive to improve quality of life in all New Haven neighborhoods in a proactive and timely fashion, enhancing and strengthening day-to-day constituent services in our wards, while seeking to involve more residents in the process of improving the livability of our communities. In addition, we shall advocate that the city adopt best practices in terms of in-person and web-based customer services so that all city services and programming are easily accessed and user friendly.

- **COMMITMENT TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**: Before looking to taxpayers and city employees to solve budget crises, we will examine any proposed budget for every opportunity to save taxpayer dollars, find additional revenue, and develop strategies for smart spending and responsible contracting. Next steps:
 - * Explore initiatives to improve efficiencies (like Healthcare Benefits Review Task Force)
 - * Advocate for full funding of state PILOT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes)
 - * Re-establish the New Haven Revenue Commission to explore all possible options to increase revenue to the City.