REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

FOR THE

CONSTITUTION PLAZA EAST PROJECT

CITY OF HARTFORD EDDIE A. PEREZ, MAYOR

HARTFORD REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY EDWARD CASARES, JR., CHAIR

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PREFACE

This Redevelopment Plan has been prepared pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes. This Redevelopment Plan meets the identified public need to revitalize a section of the City of Hartford's Downtown through a series of proposed public and private investments. The Redevelopment Plan is based on Smart Growth principles with a focus on Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Downtown Hartford will soon have enhanced commuter capability as the New Haven–Springfield commuter rail initiative and the New Britain-Hartford Busway become operational. These transportation initiatives will support investment in the Downtown as a mixed-use urban environment.

This Redevelopment Plan provides an implementation vehicle to achieve the planning concepts advanced by the Hartford 2010 and Urban Land Institute planning processes.

I. Introduction

The Constitution Plaza East Project (hereinafter called the "Project") is located at the front door of the City's Downtown near the Connecticut River and several approach ramps from Interstate 91 within a long targeted Downtown revitalization district (see Map #1 <u>Aerial Photograph and Map #2 Property Map</u> for a detailed boundary and overview of the Project Area). The Project contains approximately 2.18 acres of land upon which are sited two buildings that are vacant.

Constitution Plaza was developed in the early 1960s as a redevelopment initiative. It consists of several office buildings, underground parking, restaurants and a raised outdoor plaza with courtyards and fountains. The Plaza hosts many of Hartford's special events and festivals and it connects the City to the Connecticut River via Riverfront Plaza. It has long been a focal point of outdoor civic activities and an employment cluster.

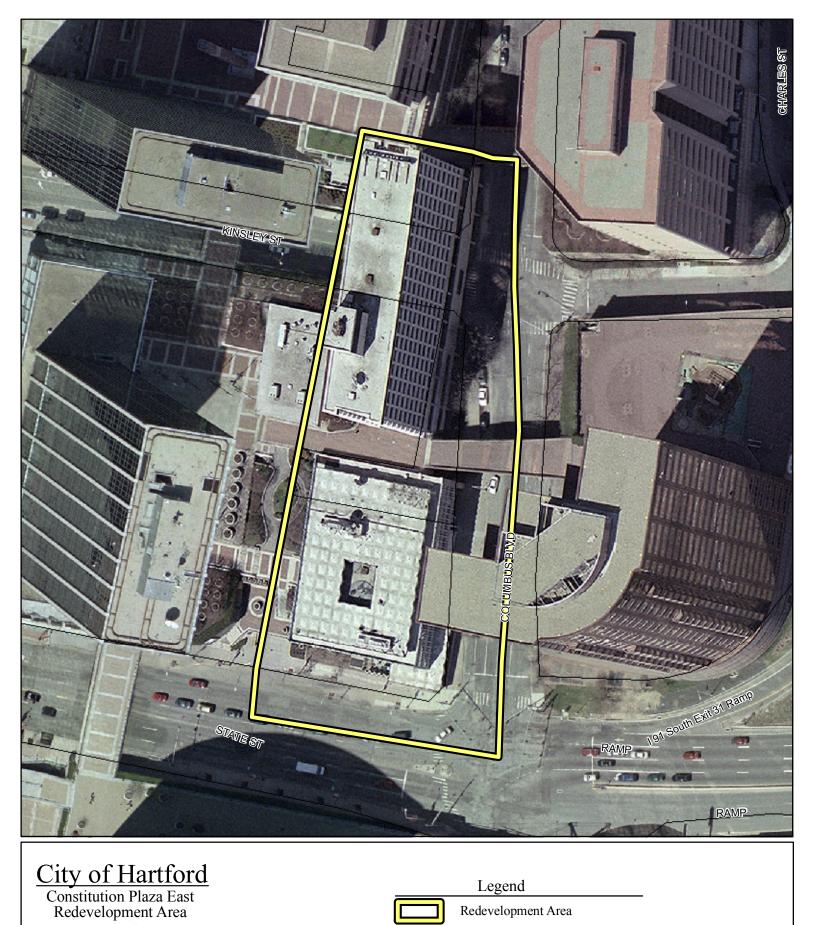
This Redevelopment Plan (hereinafter called the "Plan") provides for the creation of a signature building or buildings containing a unified, mixed use development with office space, residential units and ground floor retail, all located within high-rise buildings.

The Plan proposes to maintain the existing B-1 Downtown Development District that applies to the remainder of the Downtown area. The proposed land uses within the Project Area are in conformity with the City of Hartford's Plan of Development, adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission on June 4, 1996.

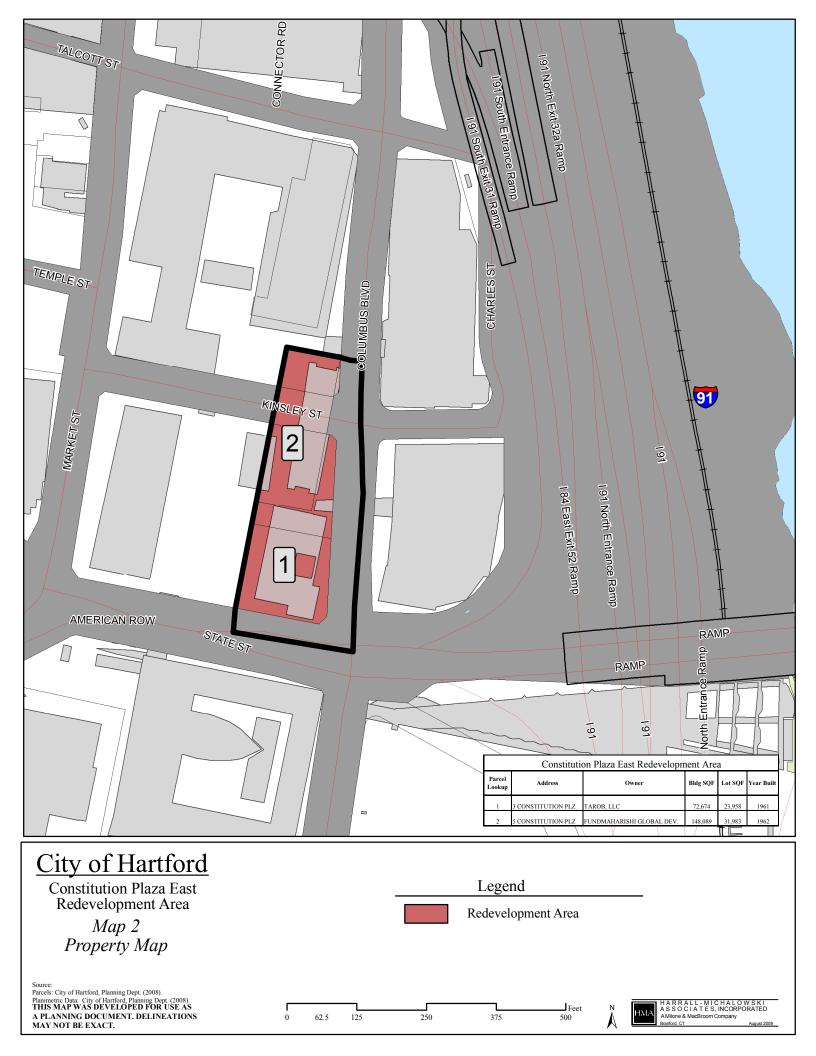
The Plan, which has been prepared by the Hartford Redevelopment Agency (hereinafter called "Agency"), is in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Due to the premiere location and small area of the Project, it has the potential to achieve visible results in a relatively short period of time as well as to make a substantial impact on the area as a whole by stabilizing and reinforcing public and private investments made in adjoining areas.

II. Description of the Project Area

A. General Boundary Description



City of Hartford Constitution Plaza East Redevelopment Area			Leger Redevelop	nd oment Area			-
$Map \ \# \ l$							
Aerial Photograph							
Source: Parcels: City of Hartford, Planning Dept. (2008). Existing zoning: City of Hartford, Planning Dept. (2008). Planimetric Data: City of Hartford, Planning Dept. (2007).							
THIS MAP WAS DEVELOPED FOR USE AS A PLANNING DOCUMENT. DELINEATIONS MAY NOT BE EXACT.	0 25	50	100	150	Feet 200	$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$	HARRALL-MICHALOWSKI ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED AMilone & MacBroom Company Branford, CT August 2008



The Project Area is generally bounded on the north and west by land now or formerly of Constitution Plaza Inc., including air rights over Kinsley Street, on the south by the northerly right-of-way line of State Street, crossing Columbus Boulevard to its easterly right-of-way line, thence northerly along the easterly right-of-way line of Columbus Boulevard to its intersection with an extension of the northerly property line of the parcel.

The Project Area contains 2.18 acres.

B. Present Land Use and Zoning

The Project Area contains the following land use breakdown:

Use	Area	Percentage of Total
Vacant Hotel	31,983	31.5
Vacant Office Bldg.	23,958	23.6
Right-of-Way	45,485	44.8
Total Area	101,426	100%

Refer to Map #3 Existing Land Use.

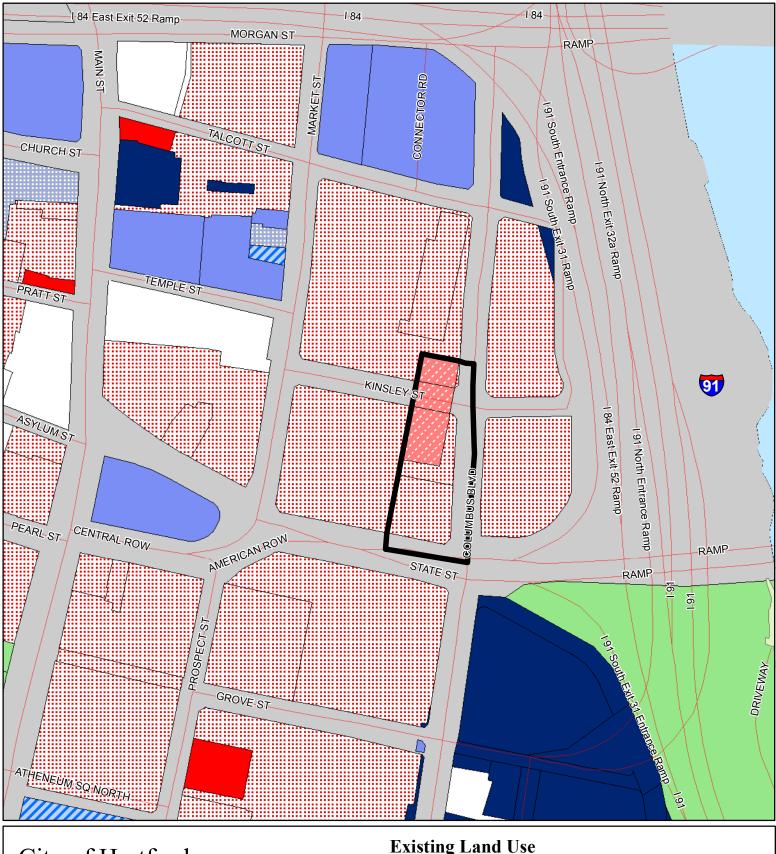
The Project Area is presently zoned B-1 and that zoning classification will be maintained (see Map #4 Existing and Proposed Zoning).

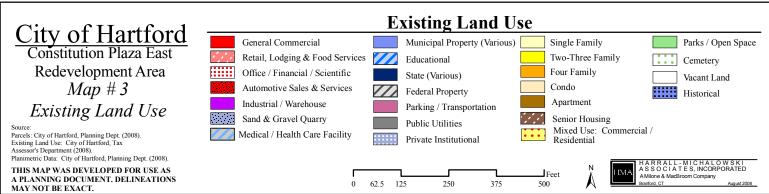
C. Present Use, Type and Conditions of Structures

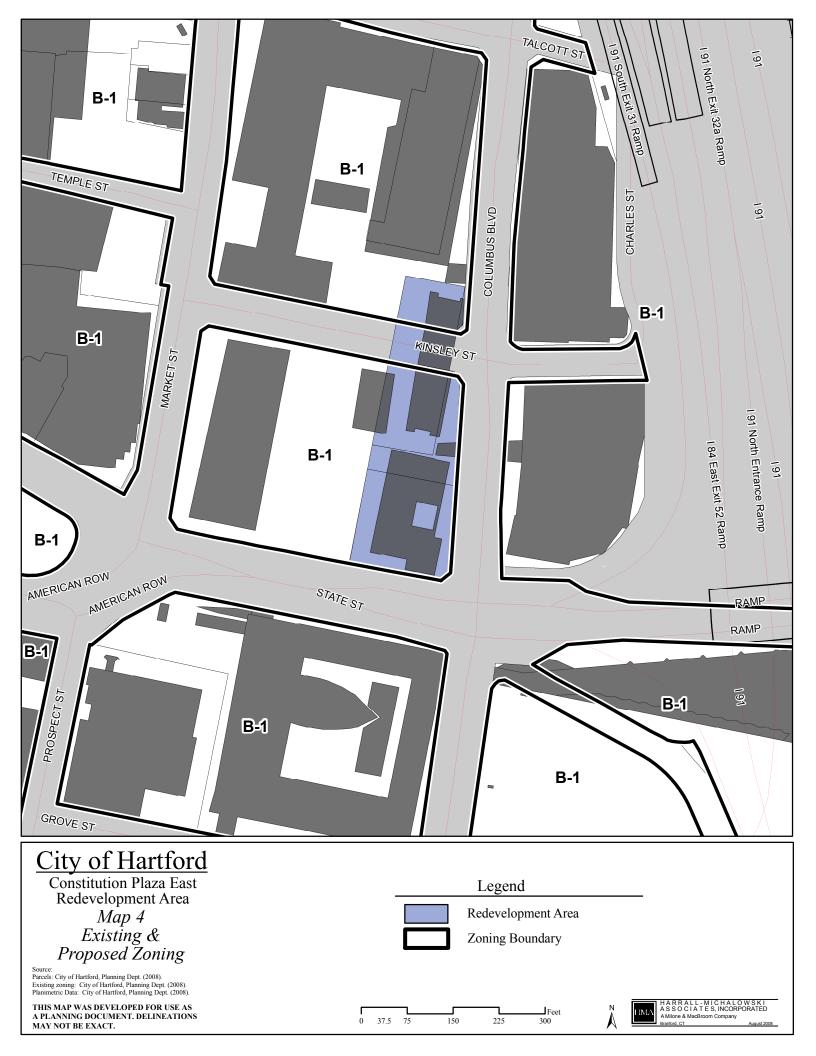
The Project Area contains a total of two (2) principal structures. The breakdown of their use and type is as follows.

Use	Number	Туре
Hotel	1	12 story masonry
Office	1	1-3 story brick/masonry

An exterior survey of the structures carried out by Agency representatives disclosed the following:







Condition	Number	Percent
Standard	1	50.0%
Deficient	1	50.0%
Seriously Deteriorated	0	0.0%
TOTAL	2	100%

III. General Purposes of the Project

The primary goal of the Constitution Plaza East Project is to remove obsolete and blighted buildings from a prime gateway to the Downtown and create a development opportunity for a high-profile, mixed use development that reinforces the considerable public and private investments made in the vicinity of the Project.

This Project Area is recommended for a signature building containing a unified, mixed use development with office space, residential units and ground floor retail, all located within a high-rise structural element. Future land use will be as permitted in the B-1 downtown zoning district. (See Appendix #1)

This Plan serves as a mechanism to achieve the above goal and incorporates several policy recommendations of the City of Hartford's Comprehensive Plan of Development. These goals and recommendations include:

- Make Downtown more livable and viable for individuals and businesses
- Create additional job opportunities Downtown
- Enhance Downtown's retail function
- Improve conditions by removing blight

IV. Acquisition and Demolition

A. Acquisition

The process for acquiring property in the Project Area to achieve Project objectives will be through negotiated purchase as necessary. In the cases where properties designated for development in the Project Plan cannot be acquired by negotiated purchase after good faith efforts, the powers of eminent domain granted to the Agency under Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes will be requested by the Agency staff to achieve the objectives of this Project Plan. Properties to be acquired by eminent domain must be specifically approved by the Redevelopment Agency and the Court of Common Council supported by a description why the use of such powers are necessary to achieve Plan objectives. The time period within which the real property located in the Project is slated to be acquired is to occur within sixty (60) months after the approval of the Plan by the Hartford Court of Common Council, the legislative body of the City.

The Plan provides for the potential acquisition of a total of two (2) parcels of privatelyowned property, of which both parcels are vacant. Refer to Map #5 <u>Proposed Acquisition</u> <u>Map</u> for present owners of properties shown as "to be acquired".

B. Demolition

Two (2) principal structures may be demolished under this Plan. They are located at 3 and 5 Constitution Plaza. These structures are in fair to poor condition, with 5 Constitution Plaza being vacant for over a decade. As these structures are integrated into the pedestrian plaza, parking structure, pedestrian access easements and utility corridors that run throughout the plaza, the Agency proposes to work with the designated redeveloper or redevelopers of the site to determine the extent that existing structural, utility, parking and pedestrian systems can be recycled. The land disposition agreement will specify the extent of demolition that the Agency will undertake after appropriate study and analysis.

V. Displacement and Relocation

As the properties are vacant, no displacement is anticipated.

The Agency is ultimately responsible for the relocation as the result of actions that are carried out in accordance with the Plan if it becomes necessary in the future. Relocation assistance will be furnished in accordance with State statutory requirements as specified in the State Uniform Relocation Assistance Act, as amended.

VI. Proposed Site Improvements

The Project Area is currently serviced by Columbus Boulevard, State Street and Kinsley Street, all of which have curbs and sidewalks and are also serviced by all major utilities. Downtown Hartford has the redevelopment advantage of a well-developed infrastructure. The majority of the infrastructure was replaced and/or upgraded over the last 30 years as part of various urban renewal/revitalization programs. Arterial streets have multiple travel lanes with adequate traffic-handling capacity. Parking garages are internal to Constitution Plaza with several municipal and private parking garages ringing the Project. Utilities including sanitary sewers, storm drainage and water have capacity to accommodate future development. <u>Map #6 Utility Systems</u> displays the location and components of the underground utility system. These systems will be utilized with upgrades made as necessary.

Improvements to strengthen the pedestrian environment in the Downtown will include the rehabilitation of portions of the public plazas and sidewalk areas at selected locations as part of an overall development program. At present, no street or site improvements are anticipated.

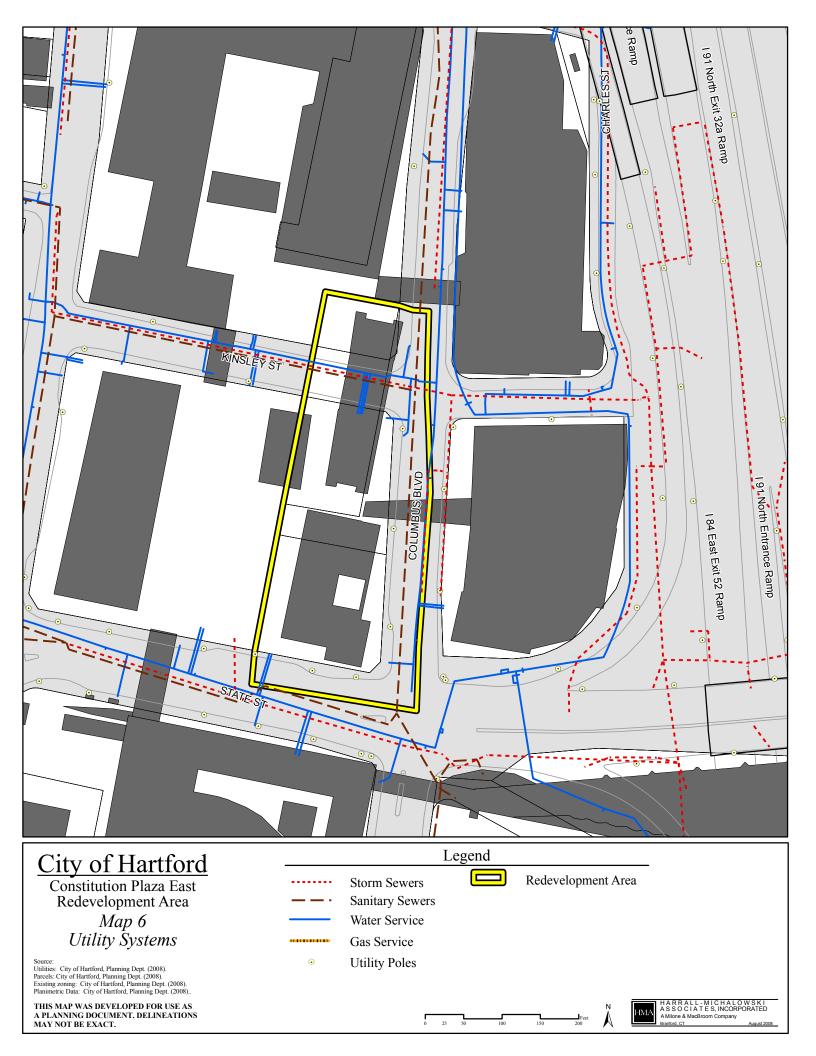
VII. Controls on Land Uses and Buildings

The following sections set forth both general and specific land use and building controls which the Agency considers to be the minimum required to implement the Constitution Plaza East Project Plan. Any variations from these controls must be justified by redevelopers in a written statement, with final determination to be made by the Agency.

A. General Controls

The redevelopment of all parcels and new construction within the Project Area shall conform to the following controls where applicable:

- 1. The Redevelopment Plan for the Constitution Plaza East Project adopted by the Agency and approved by the Court of Common Council.
- 2. The City of Hartford Zoning Ordinance, adopted December 6, 2005 with amendments to date.
- 3. The State of Connecticut Building Code with amendments to date.



The most restrictive provision of these documents with respect to a particular condition shall govern. During the period for which these controls are in effect, any new construction, expansion or reuse of property shall be in compliance with the controls and regulations set forth in this document.

The Agency may permit the short-term use of acquired property on a license or lease basis if it is determined that such use will not impede further development of the Project Area. Any license or lease agreements shall be in accordance with the City of Hartford Municipal Code. Other uses serving a community function may be acceptable. The Agency may establish such interim uses as it deems desirable and feasible in the public interest on property which has been acquired and not yet sold to a developer provided such uses do not have an adverse affect on any adjacent property or inhibit the disposition of such property.

B. Specific Controls

The following controls shall apply to all development in the Project Area.

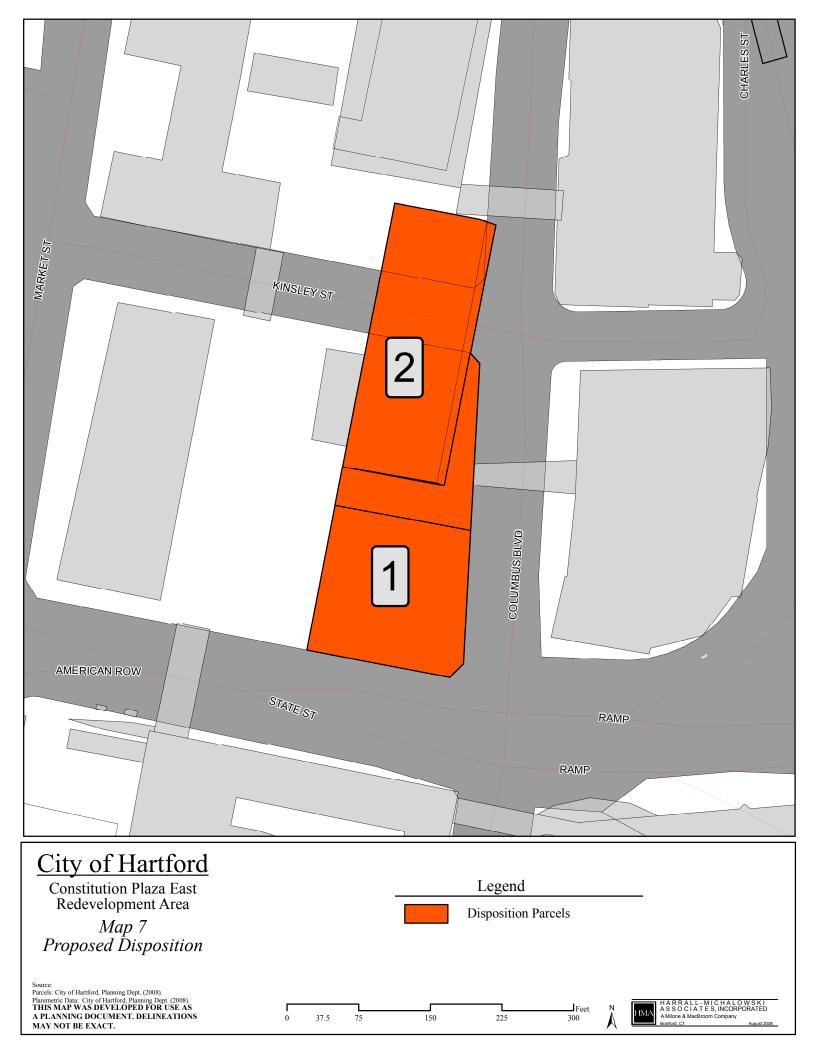
1. B-1 Downtown Development Zoning District

a) See Appendix #1.

2. Building Design

New structures shall recognize in their design the architecture of neighboring structures in terms of overall proportion, window proportion, solid-to-void proportion, solid-to-void rhythms, material, texture, color, and the relationship of architectural details and roof shapes. Most importantly, the relationship of building(s) to the established features of Constitution Plaza must be accommodated in the design.

In accordance with the provisions of the B-1 Downtown Development Zoning District, building design will be subject to the Design Review Board approval process as established in the Municipal Code.



3. Additional Requirements for Submission:

Redevelopers shall submit an illustrative site plan and building renderings and three-dimensional videos that demonstrate compliance with all controls listed herewith, and include a preliminary landscape plan. Submission of a separate final landscape plan, prepared by a registered landscape architect, is also required. Constitution Plaza is a highly refined public space with established pathways, sitting and assembly areas. Compatibility with the established pedestrian patterns of the Plaza and architectural character of the immediate area is a critical element in generating a successful development.

VIII. Land Disposition

After the site has been prepared for redevelopment, the Agency will arrange for the sale of this property to one or more redevelopers for the uses specified in the Plan. The Project has a total disposition area of 1.28 acres. See Map #7 Proposed Disposition Map.

The Agency will publicly announce the availability of land and solicit proposals from interested redevelopers using the standard Agency Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Redevelopers shall be nominated as Tentative Developer to carry out the Plan on the basis of the submission of an outstanding design plan, preliminary pro-forma, evidence of financial capacity and overall capability to carry out the proposed redevelopment, pursuant to standard Agency requirements. Upon selection, the redeveloper nominations are given 120 days to comply with these requirements. Upon satisfactory compliance with these requirements, selected redevelopers will be granted initial authorization to carry out the proposal. No redeveloper shall receive final approval to enter into a land disposition agreement with the Agency until the Agency is assured of the financial ability of the redeveloper to undertake the redevelopment and has met all standard Agency requirements.

Any contract for sale of Agency property in this Project shall be approved by the Hartford Court of Common Council before final approval by the Agency.

IX. Modification and Duration of Redevelopment Plan

A. Modification

This Plan may be modified at any time by the Agency, provided if it is modified after the lease or sale of real property in the Project Area, the modification must be consented to by the redeveloper or redevelopers of such real property or their successors in interest, whose interest is affected by the proposed modification. Where the proposed modification will substantially change this Plan as previously approved by the Hartford Court of Common Council, the modification must similarly be approved by said Court of Common Council.

B. Duration

This Plan and any modification thereof shall be in full force for a period of ten (10) years commencing on the date of approval of this Plan by the Court of Common Council. The Court of Common Council shall review this Plan at least once every ten years after the initial approval, and shall reapprove such Plan or an amended plan at least once every ten years after initial approval in accordance with State Statutes in order for the Plan or amended plan to remain in effect.

X. Estimated Project Budget

The Constitution Plaza East Project execution activities will be financed, in part, by City appropriations. Additional sources of financing will be pursued to implement the anticipated activities.

The combined fair market value for the two (2) properties identified for acquisition as part of this Plan is \$4,350,000. If the two properties are acquired through negotiated purchase, the estimated acquisition budget could be expected to be roughly \$4.4 million. If negotiated purchase is not achievable and eminent domain proceedings are necessary, it is possible that the acquisition budget could be as high as \$5.5 million to \$6 million for the combined properties.

XI. Maps

Maps Number 1 through 7 attached are hereby incorporated within and made part of this Plan. 2564-12-1-n2008-const.

APPENDIX #1

B-1 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ZONING REGULATIONS

DIVISION 5. B-1 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Sec. 291. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Applicant means the owner of a legal or an equitable interest in property located in the B-1 downtown development district or an agency of the city.

Bonus means the construction of floor area in excess of that permitted as of right in the B-1 downtown development district.

Bonus project means a project for which the applicant is seeking any one (1) or more of the bonuses provided in section 295 (relating to bonus eligibility).

Complex project means the erection, facade alteration or enlargement of a building on a lot or zoning lot where the floor area of such complex project exceeds one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) square feet, or which building height exceeds seventy five (75) feet, or which zoning lot exceeds twenty thousand (20,000) square feet. All bonus projects shall be considered complex projects. A complex project shall not include the alteration or enlargement of an existing project by less than ten (10) percent, nor a facade alteration which affects less than ten (10) percent of the facade of an existing building or structure. Signage shall be regulated under sections 1006 through 1014 (relating to signs and outdoor advertising) of these regulations.

Conforms to the downtown development plan means an application which furthers and enhances the goals and policies of the downtown development plan and does not obstruct their attainment.

Downtown development plan means the sections entitled "Downtown Development Plan" of the city's plan of conservation and development, as defined in general statutes section 8-23 (relating to preparation, amendment or adoption of plan of conservation and development) and Chapter VII, section 2(d) (relating to planning and zoning commission) of the Charter.

Facade alteration means a change on any exterior wall facing a street or visible from a street upon which a major architectural feature is added, altered, or removed. Such features may include but are not limited to cornices, window frames, entryways, columns and decorative wall treatments. Changes to the opacity of window glass shall be considered a facade alteration. Changes to signage shall not be considered a facade alteration.

Standard project means the erection, facade alteration or enlargement of a building on a lot or zoning lot where the floor area of such standard project does not exceed one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) square feet, or which building height does not exceed seventy five (75) feet, or which zoning lot does not exceed twenty thousand (20,000) square feet. A standard project shall not include the alteration or the enlargement of an existing structure by less than ten (10) percent, nor a facade alteration which affects less than ten (10) percent of the facade of an existing building or structure. Signage shall be regulated under sections 1006 through 1014 (relating to signs and outdoor advertising) of these regulations.

Sec. 292. Purpose.

The purpose of the B-1 downtown development district is to promote the health, safety, social and economic welfare of the residents of the city by increasing the city's tax base and promoting the long-term economic growth of the downtown area. By implementing an expeditious administrative process the city desires to encourage development that will be compatible with the character of the downtown area and conform to the downtown development plan. These regulations further the additional goals to:

- (1) Foster and promote the orderly expansion of commercial office development so that the city will enhance its position as a center for economic and business affairs;
- (2) Provide for an expanding source of employment opportunities for the city's inhabitants and encourage the development of a desirable working environment;
- (3) Implement a plan for improved pedestrian and vehicular circulation and parking management;
- (4) Retain and promote the establishment of a variety of retail consumer and service businesses so that the needs of the area's residential and working population will be satisfied;
- (5) Encourage excellence in urban design;
- (6) Preserve the unique character and historic fabric of the downtown;
- (7) Reinforce the role of the downtown as a community center and a meeting place for people from all walks of life and all economic groups;
- (8) Provide an incentive for development in a manner consistent with the objectives of the section; and
- (9) Provide for an increased presence and integration of the arts and related cultural activities in the downtown development district.

Sec. 293. Uses permitted.

B-1 land and water areas shall be used and buildings shall be erected, altered, enlarged or used only for one (1) or more of the uses permitted in the B-1 downtown development district by the table of permitted uses, article IV, division 1 (relating to permitted uses generally), of these regulations, subject to those standards and special requirements listed in the table of permitted uses and by article IV, division 2 (relating to required conditions for certain uses) of these regulations.

Sec. 294. Basic requirements.

All B-1 district projects shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) Uses mandated. For all buildings, at least fifteen (15) percent of the floor area of those floors which front on or connect to the pedestrian circulation system as shown in the downtown development plan shall be used for uses that are designated as retail trade under the table of permitted uses and permitted in the B-1 downtown development district. The retail trade use shall front on the pedestrian circulation system as shown in the downtown development district plan. The commission may waive this requirement, or reduce the required percentage of retail trade uses, if it specifically finds that no requirement or a lesser percentage is in accordance with the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district). The applicant shall covenant to ensure the continued use of such retail trade use for at least twenty (20) years, unless the commission specifically finds that a lesser period of time would be in accordance with the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district). Such covenant shall be recorded on the land records and run with the land.

- (2) *Permitted accessory uses.* Customary accessory uses are permitted.
- (3) *Required parking and loading areas.* Off-street parking shall be provided for nonresidential and residential uses in accordance with the provisions of article V (relating to off-street parking and off-street loading provisions) of these regulations.

- (4) Floor area ratio (FAR). In the B-1 downtown development district the floor area ratio shall be the floor area of the building on any lot or zoning lot divided by the area of such lot or zoning lot. Where off-street parking is provided, the space provided within the building or accessory building for parking shall be counted in determining the floor area of that building, with the exception of required parking for household units, transient parking provided in accordance with an approved transportation management plan, as defined in article V (relating to off-street parking and off-street loading provisions), or transportation analysis as described in section 297(2) (relating to application procedure for standard projects) and parking provided in a structure which has less than one-half of its floor-to-ceiling height above the average finished grade of the adjoining ground. The minimum total FAR for all buildings shall be two (2) for any lot or zoning lot. An applicant may request, and the commission may grant, permission to develop a project with an FAR of less than two (2) if a lower minimum FAR conforms to the downtown development plan and the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district). The maximum FAR permitted for non-bonus projects shall be ten (10) for any lot or zoning lot. For bonus projects there shall be no maximum FAR.
- (5) *Limitations on persons per acre.* There shall be no per acre requirement.
- (6) *Permitted lot coverage*. There shall be no lot coverage requirement.
- (7) *Requirements of floor space per dwelling unit.* Every dwelling unit shall meet the requirements of floor space per unit as set forth in section 16 (relating to floor area).
- (8) *Required lot area*. There shall be no lot area requirement.
- (9) Lot width. There shall be no lot width requirement.
- (10) *Front setback.* There shall be a front setback for all principal buildings in conformance with the existing building and veranda lines.
- (11) Side setback. There shall be no side setback requirement.
 - (12) *Rear setback.* There shall be no rear setback requirement.
 - (13) Maximum height limit. There shall be no maximum height requirement.
 - (14) *Required usable open space*. There shall be no usable open space requirement.

(15) *Transportation report.* A transportation management plan as described in section 960 (relating to transportation management plans) shall be submitted for complex projects. A transportation analysis as described in section 297(2) (relating to application procedures for standard projects) shall be submitted for standard projects.

Sec. 295. Bonus eligibility.

Except as provided in subsection (11) for the location of neighborhood investment projects, a project shall be eligible for a bonus if space is provided within the project for the uses, improvements, or facilities set forth in this section according to the schedule in section 296 (relating to schedule of bonuses).

- (1) *Residential uses* refers to all uses classified as household units under the table of permitted uses, article IV, division 1 (relating to permitted uses generally), of these regulations, and permitted as-of-right in the B-1 downtown development district.
- (2) *Pedestrian-oriented retail uses* refers to uses that are designated as retail trade under the table of permitted uses and permitted in the B-1 downtown development district. Such uses shall be located in accordance with the recommendations of the pedestrian circulation element of the downtown development plan and be visible from and have their major entrance on the pedestrian circulation system.
- (3) *Transient parking* refers to parking spaces provided for short-term parking in a parking garage. The applicant shall submit to the commission a plan for ensuring that such spaces shall be used for transient parking. The commission shall not grant a bonus for transient parking unless it has specifically found that the plan is satisfactory and conforms to the downtown development plan.
- (4) *Cultural/entertainment facilities* shall be open to the public on a regular basis. Such improvements shall include and be limited to visual arts space, performing arts space and motion picture theaters.
 - a. *Visual arts space* means facilities that provide space for the visual arts, including but not limited to exhibition halls and galleries, which are visible from and directly accessible to the pedestrian circulation system as shown on the pedestrian circulation element of the downtown development plan.
 - b. *Performing arts space* means facilities that provide spaces for the performing arts, including but not limited to concert halls and legitimate theaters, which are visible from (or have signage on) and are accessible to the pedestrian circulation system as shown on the pedestrian circulation element of the downtown development plan.
 - c. *Motion picture theaters* means facilities that provide indoor space for the showing of motion pictures, which are visible from (or have signage on) and are accessible to the pedestrian circulation system as shown on the pedestrian circulation element of the downtown development plan.
- (5) *Visitor and convention-related housing* refers to hotels furnishing lodging and food to travelers and other guests on a regular basis and providing exhibition space, assembly rooms and meeting rooms.
- (6) *Pedestrian circulation improvements* refers to improvements to which the public is assured access on a regular basis, or an area that is dedicated to and accepted by the city for public access purposes. Such improvements shall be directly accessible to the pedestrian circulation system, which system is shown on the pedestrian circulation element of the downtown development plan. Such improvements shall include and be limited to sidewalk widening, arcades, through-block arcades, plazas and urban parks.
 - a. *Sidewalk widening* means the widening of a paved walk at the side of a street. The widened area shall extend along the entire length of the lot or zoning lot and shall be open to the public at all times.
 - b. *Arcade* means a continuous covered but not necessarily enclosed space which extends along the facade of a building and has at least two (2) entrances opening directly to a street, open space area, or sidewalk.
 - c. *Through-block arcade* means a continuous covered space which runs through a building and connects a street, open space area or sidewalk to a street, open space area or sidewalk.
 - d. *Plaza* means a continuous area which is open from the ground level to the sky for its entire width and length, which fronts on a street, sidewalk, or sidewalk widening, and which is directly accessible to the

public at all times for use by the public for passive recreational purposes. The ground level of the plaza shall be constructed principally of hard-surfaced materials. An existing space between or next to a building or buildings shall not qualify.

- e. *Urban park* means a continuous area of land which is open from the ground level to the sky for its entire width and length, with the exception of recreational equipment or pedestrian amenities such as benches or lighting, which fronts on a street, sidewalk or sidewalk widening and which is directly accessible to the public during daylight hours for scenic or leisure purposes. The ground level of this area shall be covered principally with plantings.
- (7) *Day care centers/nurseries* refers to private and public establishments enrolling young children for care, instruction or recreation during or after school hours.
- (8) *Preservation of historic buildings* refers to a building listed in the National Register or located in a registered historic district and certified by the secretary of the interior as being in compliance with the standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating old buildings, for which the applicant donates a preservation restriction whose purpose is the preservation of the external nature of the building as of the date of the conveyance of such restriction to a governmental body or a charitable organization or trust whose purposes include preservation of buildings of historical significance.
- (9) *Employment and job training* refers to provision of employment or job training programs for city residents, either as part of the construction phase or upon completion of a project, which shall be in accordance with a hiring and employment agreement between the city and the applicant. In determining the FAR bonus for each permanent job pursuant to this paragraph, twenty-five (25) percent of the total employment in the occupancy phase of a project reserved for city residents shall be equal to six hundred twenty-five (625) square feet of bonus floor area. Failure to meet the employment reserved for city residents shall subject the applicant to a payment as provided in section 296 (relating to bonuses) for applicants who choose to make a payment to the linkage trust fund in lieu of providing residential uses or employment and job training.
- (10) *Streetscape improvements* refers to those physical improvements within the public right-of-way that lies between building frontages and which is part of, adjoins or is adjacent to the lot or zoning lot. Such improvements shall include, but not be limited to the use of unit pavers; street lighting which achieves a one-foot candle minimum at a maximum-to-minimum ratio of ten (10) to one (1) and which also achieves cut off at a maximum of seventy (70) degrees above nadir; street trees, which shall be a minimum of six (6) inches in caliper with an average of seven (7) inches in caliper, shall be of a species approved by the city forester, shall be placed with a flush grating such that one (1) tree is provided for every thirty (30) lineal feet of frontage and shall be installed in accordance with accepted city standards; curbing and catchbasins which shall be granite; benches, bollards, kiosks, moveable or fixed planters, drinking fountains, litter receptacles, walls and ledges, signage, etc., which shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. Depending on the physical constraints of the development area, the requirements of this paragraph may be modified upon recommendation of the board.
- (11) Neighborhood investment project refers to a project located outside the B-1 downtown development district or a residential project within the B-1 downtown development district designated by the commission as having strategic priority in achieving the objective of a neighborhood plan or the downtown development plan, and may but need not be a private development project or a project for which the city or the redevelopment agency has previously designated a developer.

Sec. 296. Schedule of bonuses.

(a) *Eligibility*. If a proposed use, improvement, or facility complies with the standards set forth in section 295 (relating to bonus eligibility) and this section, it shall be eligible for bonus floor space. The bonus ratio is the ratio of the area in square feet of the bonus use, improvement, or facility to the floor area permitted for bonus projects in excess of an FAR of ten (10). A bonus ratio of one (1) to three (3) means that for each square foot of the improvement, use, or facility the project shall be eligible for three (3) additional square feet of floor area for permitted uses. The FAR cap shall be the maximum increase in the FAR that shall be permitted for each category or subcategory of bonus, with the exception of pedestrian circulation improvements and cultural/entertainment facilities, where the FAR cap applies to the entire category. In a project as a park, a plaza, an arcade and a through block arcade, the combined maximum FAR cap for these improvements shall be one (1).

Use, improvement or facility	Bonus ratio	FAR cap
Residential uses	1:8	4
Pedestrian-oriented retail uses	1:3	2
Transient parking	1:4	2
Cultural/entertainment facilities:		
Visual arts space	1:4	1
Performing arts space	1:4	1
Motion picture theaters	1:4	1
Visitor and convention-related housing	1:1	1
Pedestrian circulation improvements:		
Sidewalk widening	1:4	1
Arcades	1:4	1
Through-block arcade	1:4	1
Plazas	1:4	1
Urban parks	1:4	1
Day care centers/nurseries	1:6	1
Preservation of historic buildings	1:3	2.5
Employment	1:625	6
Streetscape improvements		
Street	1:2	1
Sidewalk	1:1.5	1

Neighborhood improvement project	1:8	4

- (b) Payment in lieu of providing residential uses or employment and job training. Applicants for residential and/or employment bonuses may choose to receive additional floor area in lieu of residential construction and/or the provision of employment by contribution to the linkage trust fund an amount equal to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per square foot for each foot of bonus floor area. In determining the amount of additional FAR that can be permitted under these categories, the FAR cap for residential uses and/or employment shall apply.
- Neighborhood improvement project bonus. Applicants for a neighborhood investment project bonus may (c) include an offer of an equity investment in a neighborhood investment project which shall include a specified amount of floor area in a project in addition to that otherwise authorized under these regulations. Should the commission authorize additional floor area on such a basis, it shall specify in its resolution approving the special permit no fewer than three (3) eligible neighborhood investment projects. Applicants shall make investment in a neighborhood investment project so specified at such time determined by commission, but in no event later than the fifth anniversary of issuance of the zoning permit for the bonus special permit project. Applicants shall provide and maintain with the city treasurer a cash deposit, letter of credit or surety bond from the date of issuance of the zoning permit for the bonus special permit project until substantial completion of the neighborhood investment project or until such fifth anniversary, on which date the cash deposit, letter of credit or surety bond shall be forfeited to the neighborhood investment fund. The eligible bonus floor area for investment in a neighborhood investment project shall be eight (8) square feet of gross floor area for each one (1) square foot of gross floor area of residential use based on the applicant's fractional equity interest in the entity owning the neighborhood investment project or one (1) square foot of gross floor area for each ten dollars (\$10.00) of equity investment in developing nonresidential uses up to the FAR cap.
- (d) *Combined FAR cap for specified uses.* Applicants shall not be eligible to receive bonus floor area for residential uses, employment and job training or through investment in a neighborhood investment project, or any combination of the foregoing, in an amount greater than an FAR cap of ten (10).

Sec. 297. Procedures for standard projects.

- Applicants for standard B-1 projects shall apply for a special permit. Such projects shall be reviewed by the commission and the board.
- (1) *Informal review.* Potential applicants at the beginning of the conceptual phase of a project are encouraged to seek preliminary informal review of the proposed project with the city staff, before an application for a special permit is submitted. Potential applicants should be prepared to discuss the proposed site plan, basic massing, location of proposed uses, pedestrians and vehicular circulation, parking and access.
- (2) *Application procedure* Applicants shall submit to the commission an application for special permit approval. The application shall be filed and acted on in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 68 (relating to applications for zoning permits). The fee for such application shall be as set by the commission, and adopted by council (as shown on the fee schedule on file with the commission secretary). The commission shall, upon receipt of a complete application, refer it to the board. A complete application shall include all items listed below:
 - a. An application shall include four (4) copies of the following:
 - 1. A location map at a scale of one (1) inch to two hundred (200) feet showing the location of the proposed buildings and all property within three (3) city blocks of the lot and/or zoning lot on which the proposed project is to be located,
 - 2. A location map at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to fifty (50) feet showing the applicant's property and all property within one (1) city block of the lot and/or zoning lot on which the proposed project is to be located, along with the following information:
 - i. All lots, lot lines, their dimensions and lot area
 - ii. Location and use of all buildings
 - iii. Existing zoning classifications of the area
 - iv. All streets, alleys, and rights-of-way and their dimensions
 - v. Elevations of all buildings on the block on which the project fronts and
 - vi. All parking areas and the relationship of the existing and proposed buildings to the vehicular and pedestrian circulation systems;
 - 3. Perspective sketches at pedestrian eye level of proposed buildings from at least four (4) locations from which such buildings would be most visible;
 - 4. A site development plan of the applicant's property at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to twenty (20) feet prepared by a registered engineer, architect or land surveyor illustrating the proposed project development and including:
 - i. Property boundaries (existing and proposed) certified to the standards of a class A-2 survey as defined in the Code of Practices for Standards of Accuracy of Surveys and Maps, adopted December 10, 1975, and as amended to date by the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors, Inc., and their dimensions;
 - ii. Location of all buildings (existing and proposed) and the existing and proposed uses for each building;
 - iii. Height of all buildings (existing and proposed);

- iv. Location and dimension of all yards and setbacks;
- v. Location and dimensions of all existing and proposed off-street parking areas and parking spaces, designating those spaces which are for handicapped persons or for compact cars (each space to be numbered sequentially);
- vi. Location and dimensions of all driveways, delivery areas, and entrances/exits to such areas;
- vii. Location and dimensions of all off-street loading areas (present and proposed);
- viii. Location, dimensions, and description of all outside solid waste storage areas, facilities and equipment (existing and proposed);
- ix. Location and amount of all usable open space (existing and proposed);
- x. Location, size and type of all plantings, trees, landscaping and ground cover (existing and proposed);
- xi. Location and size of all existing and proposed walls and fences (materials specified);
- xii. Location, size and type of all existing and proposed lighting;
- xiii .Location and size of all existing and proposed sidewalks and walkways (materials specified);
- xiv. Location and description of all existing and proposed recreational facilities and equipment;
- xv. Existing and proposed topography of the property with contours at intervals of not more than two (2) feet;
- xvi. Location and size of all existing and proposed utilities;
- xvii. Location and size (capacity) of all drainage facilities;
- xviii. Existing and proposed vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns;
- xix. Location, size and type of existing and proposed public amenities;
- xx. All existing and proposed easements, rights-of-way, and conduits;
- xxi. Location and size of all dwelling units accessible to the handicapped or units adaptable for access by the handicapped; and
- xxii. Location, size and elevation of all designated inland wetlands and watercourses, and proposed wetlands and watercourses, if any.
- 5. Preliminary building plans at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to eight (8) feet, illustrating:
 - i. Typical floor plans indicating use and size of all spaces;
 - ii. Typical elevations including all signs, showing their shape, size, materials, and approximate design;
 - iii. Typical section;
 - iv. Exterior elevation and outline;
 - v. Total floor area of each floor and entire building;
 - vi. Elevation of roof of building at its lowest and highest points;
 - vii. Proposed lot coverage; and
 - viii. Exterior building materials, their colors, and the texture palette.
- 6. An architect's statement regarding the shadows to be cast by all buildings, and of wind, sun and noise impacts.
- 7. A transportation analysis which shall include the following information:

- i. The number of on-site parking spaces required by the provisions of section 954 (relating to application of off-street parking standards);
- ii. The number and types of parking spaces to be provided on-site such as: employee parking, transient parking for on-site uses, transient parking for off-site uses, parking for high occupancy vehicles, parking for compact cars and handicapped parking;
- iii. The number, location and type of any parking spaces to be provided off-site and the method of transporting persons between the off-site facility and the project site;
- iv. Alternative modes of transportation such as mass transit, carpools, vanpools available and to be provided;
- v. Expected usage of the alternative modes of transportation;
- vi. Location of all vehicular and pedestrian entrances and exits;
- vii. A trip generation study which shall estimate the number and type of trips generated by the project, the time of day of such trips and the expected modes of transportation used;
- viii. Construction details of all proposed signs, street furniture, plantings, exterior lighting, special paying treatments, walls, fences, and other features which affect the pedestrian environment;
- ix. Any other information which the commission or board, may reasonably require or which the applicant may wish to submit.
 - b. Applications for special permit approval shall be referred, at least thirty-five (35) days prior to the date assigned for public hearing by the commission, to the board for a report on its recommendations. The failure of the board to report to the commission at least five (5) days before the public hearing shall be considered as a favorable recommendation on the application by the board. A statement of the vote of the board approving, approving with modifications, or disapproving a proposal shall be publicly read at the public hearing. The report of the board regarding such application shall include the reasons for the recommendation thereon, and shall be incorporated into the record of the public hearing. The board, in making its recommendation, shall consider whether the application complies with the standards set forth in code section 2-299 (relating to project review).
 - c. The commission may grant a special permit if the applicant conforms to the downtown development plan; complies with the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district) complies with the basic requirements in sections 293 (relating to B-1 district permitted uses) and 294 (relating to B-1 district basic requirements); provides pedestrian amenities in conformance with the downtown development plan; will not be detrimental to existing development in the B-1 downtown development district because of its location, bulk, scale or design; and the proposed vehicular and pedestrian circulation pattern does not create safety hazards.

Sec. 298. Reserved.

Sec. 299. Procedures for complex and bonus projects.

Applicants for B-1 complex and bonus projects shall apply for a special permit.

- (1) *Informal review.* A potential applicant is encouraged to follow the procedures outlined in section 297(1) (relating to informal review for B-1 district standard projects). The potential applicant also should be prepared to discuss proposed bonus uses, facilities and improvements.
- (2) *Preapplication review.*
 - a. Applicants for a special permit for a complex or bonus project shall request a preapplication review by the commission and board. Such request shall include two (2) copies of the following:
 - 1. A location map at a scale of one (1) inch to two hundred (200) feet showing the location of the proposed buildings and all property within three (3) city blocks of the lot and/or zoning lot on which the proposed project is to be located.
 - 2. A location map at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to fifty (50) feet showing the applicant's property and all property within one (1) city block of the lot and/or zoning lot on which the proposed project is to be located, along with the following information:
 - i. All lots, lot lines, their dimensions and lot area;
 - ii. Location and use of all buildings;
 - iii. Existing zoning classifications of the area;
 - iv. All streets, alleys, and rights-of-way and their dimensions;
 - v. Elevations of all buildings on the block on which the project fronts; and
 - vi. All parking areas and the relationship of the existing and proposed buildings to the vehicular and pedestrian circulation systems.
 - 3. Perspective sketches at pedestrian eye level of proposed buildings from at least four (4) locations from which such buildings would be most visible.
 - 4. A site development plan of the applicant's property at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to twenty (20) feet prepared by a registered engineer, architect or land surveyor illustrating the proposed project development and including:
 - i. Property boundaries (existing and proposed) certified to the standards of a class A-2 survey as defined in the Code of Practices for Standards of Accuracy of Surveys and Maps, adopted December 10, 1975, and as amended to date by the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors, Inc., and their dimensions;
 - ii. Location of all buildings (existing and proposed) and the existing and proposed uses for each building;
 - iii. Height of all buildings (existing and proposed);
 - iv. Location and dimension of all yards and setbacks;
 - v. Location and dimensions of all existing and proposed off-street parking areas and parking spaces, designating those spaces which are for handicapped persons or for compact cars (each space to be numbered sequentially);

- vi. Location and dimensions of all driveways, delivery areas, and entrances/exits to such areas;
- vii. Location and dimensions of all off-street loading areas (present and proposed);
- viii. Location, dimensions, and description of all outside solid waste storage areas, facilities and equipment (existing and proposed);
- ix. Location and amount of all usable open space (existing and proposed);
- x. Location, size and type of all plantings, trees, landscaping and ground cover (existing and proposed);
- xi. Location and size of all existing and proposed walls and fences (materials specified);
- xii. Location, size and type of all existing and proposed lighting;
- xiii. Location and size of all existing and proposed sidewalks and walkways (materials specified);
- xiv. Location and description of all existing and proposed recreational facilities and equipment;
- xv. Existing and proposed topography of the property with contours at intervals of not more than two (2) feet;
- xvi. Location and size of all existing and proposed utilities;
- xvii. Location and size (capacity) of all drainage facilities;
- xviii. Existing and proposed vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns;
- xix. Location, size and type of existing and proposed public amenities;
- xx. All existing and proposed easements, rights-of-way, and conduits;
- xxi. Location and size of all dwelling units accessible to the handicapped or units adaptable for access by the handicapped; and
- xxii. Location, size and elevation of all designated inland wetlands and watercourses, and proposed wetlands and watercourses, if any.
- 5. Preliminary building plans at a scale not to exceed one (1) inch to eight (8) feet, illustrating:
 - i. Typical floor plans indicating use and size of all spaces;
 - ii. Typical elevations including all signs, showing their shape, size, materials, and approximate design;
 - iii. Typical section;
 - iv. Exterior elevation and outline;
 - v. Total floor area of each floor and entire building;
 - vi. Elevation of roof of building at its lowest and highest points;
 - vii. Proposed lot coverage; and
 - viii. Exterior building materials, their colors, and the texture palette.
- 6. An analysis of the shadows to be cast by all buildings, and of wind, sun and noise impacts.
- 7. A transportation management plan as defined in section 960 (relating to transportation management plans).
- 8. Construction details of all proposed signs, street furniture, plantings, exterior lighting, special paving treatments, walls, fences, and other features which affect the pedestrian environment.
- 9. Any other information which the commission or board, may reasonably require or which the applicant may wish to submit.

b. The commission and the board shall make a report of their recommendations to the applicant no less than thirty five (35) days after the receipt of the applicant's request. This period may be extended by an additional thirty-five (35) days at the request of the applicant. The failure of the commission or the board to report within the established time period, shall be considered as a favorable recommendation on the application, by the no reporting agency.

- (3) *Application procedure*
 - a. Applicants shall submit to the commission an application for a special permit. The application shall be filed and acted on in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 68 (relating to applications for zoning permits). The fee for such application shall be as set by the commission, and adopted by council (as shown on the fee schedule on file with the commission secretary). The commission shall, upon receipt of a complete application, refer it to the board. A complete application shall include the following:
 - 1. Four (4) copies of all items listed in subparagraph (2) a. of this section.
 - 2. The reports of the recommendations of the board under subparagraph (2) b. of this section.
 - 3. A report describing how the project addresses each of the recommendations of the board under subparagraph (2) b. of this section.
 - b. The commission may grant a special permit if the applicant conforms to the downtown development plan; complies with the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district); complies with the basic requirements in sections 293 (relating to B-1 district permitted uses) and 294 (relating to B-1 district basic requirements); provides pedestrian amenities in conformance with the downtown development plan; will not be detrimental to existing development in the B-1 downtown development district because of its location, bulk, scale or design; and the proposed vehicular and pedestrian circulation pattern does not create safety hazards.
 - c. The commission shall grant bonuses in accordance with sections 295 (relating to B-1 district bonus eligibility) and 296 (relating to bonuses) if the use, improvement, or facility is located in areas delineated for the particular use, improvement or facility in the downtown development plan and conforms to the downtown development plan and the application complies with the special permit standards set forth in subparagraph (3)b. of this section.
 - d. Applications for a special permit shall be referred, at least thirty-five (35) days prior to the date assigned for public hearing by the commission, to the board for a report on its recommendations. The failure of the board to report to the commission at least five (5) days before the public hearing shall be considered as a favorable recommendation on the application by the board. A statement of the vote of the board approving, approving with modifications, or disapproving a proposal shall be publicly read at the public hearing. The report of the board regarding such application shall include the reasons for the recommendation thereon, and shall be incorporated into the record of the public hearing. The board, in making its recommendation, shall consider whether the application complies with the standards set forth in code section 2-299 (relating to project review).
 - e. The commission may approve an application for a special permit if it complies with the standards set forth in subparagraph (3)b of this section. The commission shall grant bonuses if the use, improvement, or facility complies with the standards set forth in subparagraph (3)c, of this section.

Sec. 300. Bonuses, continuing character of obligation.

- (a) Where a bonus is granted pursuant to this division, the applicant shall covenant to ensure the continued use of the use, facility or improvement for the purpose for which the bonus was granted. The covenant shall be for a term of twenty (20) years, unless the commission specifically finds that another period of time would be in accordance with the purposes set forth in section 292 (relating to purposes of B-1 district). Such covenant shall be recorded on the land records and shall run with the land.
- (b) An applicant who constructs a pedestrian circulation improvement shall be responsible for the maintenance, upkeep and provision of insurance for the improvement, unless it has been dedicated to and accepted by the city. If the improvement is not maintained, the city may, at its sole option, place a lien on the property, maintain the improvement, and seek reimbursement from the owner.

Sec. 301. Amendments.

A major amendment to a special permit approved under this division shall be processed and considered as a new application. Minor amendments may be approved by the zoning administrator.

Sec. 302. Enforcement.

- (a) The applicant shall, before commencing any substantial work on the B-1 site in accordance with an approved special permit or site plan, meet with the director of licenses and inspections, or the director's designee, and establish construction and inspection schedules.
- (b) To ensure strict adherence to the approved B-1 plans, all construction shall be inspected by the zoning enforcement officer according to the schedule established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Any deviation from the approved site plan or special permit shall be sufficient cause for the zoning enforcement officer to issue a cease and desist order and for revocation by the commission of the approved site plan or special permit.
- (c) A certificate of occupancy shall not be granted until the zoning enforcement officer finds that the construction, erection, rehabilitation, use or alteration complies with the approved special permit or site plan.
- (d) A certificate of occupancy shall not be issued for bonus floor area, until the use, facility or improvement for which the bonus was granted has been completed in accordance with the approved special permit.
- (e) If the use, improvement or facility for which the commission granted the bonus is not suitably maintained, the city may, at its sole option, place a lien on the property, do the maintenance or repair work, and seek reimbursement from the owner.

Secs. 303-- 320. Reserved.

RESOLUTION OF HARTFORD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF 10/14/2008

AND

RESOLUTION OF HARTFORD REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF 11/13/2008

ATTACH HERE