



# Memorandum

**TO:** City Council Members, Planning Commission Members and Nicol Brown, City Manager  
City of Hartford

**FROM:** Donovan Smith, AICP Principal Planner  
Hillary Taylor, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** **Summary of visioning work done during the kick-off meeting**

**DATE:** June 11, 2025

**A summary of the visioning work done during the kick-off meeting** Thank you to everyone for their participation during the kick-off meeting on June 9, 2025. The meeting was very productive, we went over the timeline for the project, the proposed table of contents for both the Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance and established some background information on how the two (2) documents work together along with the many roles at the City. This memorandum is a summary of the very important visioning process that we engaged in to establish the core values for the projects moving forward. Below you will find a summary of the core areas of work.

## CORE VALUES

McKenna led the group in a brainstorming session on what core values should be included in the new Master Plan and translated into the Zoning Ordinance.

### Community engagement category

- 1) Community events
- 2) Youth voice
- 3) Community visioning

### Environment category

- 1) Resilient infrastructure
- 2) Better water
- 3) Urban forestry

### Land Use category

- 1) Smart growth/growth management
- 2) Mixed-use development
- 3) Historic preservation
- 4) Infill development
- 5) Brownfield development
- 6) Zoning modernization
- 7) Industrial land use



### **Housing category**

- 1) Neighborhood stabilization
- 2) Housing rehabilitation
- 3) Blight elimination
- 4) Affordable housing
- 5) Owner occupied housing

### **Economic Development category**

- 1) Small business support and attraction
- 2) Job creation
- 3) Agritourism
- 4) Commercial Corridor development
- 5) Main Street revitalization
- 6) Unity with adjoining townships

### **Transportation category**

- 1) Gateways
- 2) Sidewalks and ADA
- 3) Traffic calming
- 4) Safe-routes to school
- 5) Sidewalk repairs
- 6) Wayfinding and signage

### **Community character category**

- 1) Façade improvements
- 2) Civic pride and identity
- 3) Downtown identity and public art
- 4) Community areas

### **Parks and Recreation category**

- 1) Multigenerational amenities
- 2) River and trail connections
- 3) Park access
- 4) Open space preservation
- 5) Outdoor gathering space

### **ADDITIONAL VISIONING IDEAS IDENTIFIED**

Streetscape enhancement  
Good roads and streets  
Transparency



Capacity building  
Sustainable Development  
Cultural Heritage and diversity  
Bike infrastructure  
Walkability  
Community recreation  
Downtown parking  
Unity with education and government  
More professional stores  
Workforce housing  
Public Art  
Agriculture  
Noise Control  
School safety  
Complete streets