



## **Memo**

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: September 10, 2019  
Re: Town Manager's Report

---

Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, the staff, and the community:

### **Council Business & Meetings**

- *Human Services Committee* – September 12 at 8:00 AM (Rm 312)
- *Community Planning & Physical Services Committee* - September 18 at 8:00 AM (Rm 312)
- *Town Council Meetings* – Please note that the schedule for the next three Council meetings is as follows:
  - Tuesday, September 24 at 7:30 PM (Rm 314)
  - Monday, October 7 at 7:30 PM (Rm 314)
  - Tuesday, October 22 at 7:30 PM (Rm 314)

### **Staff Reports**

- *Park Road/I84 Project* – Park Road at the I-84 interchange is nearing completion. On Wednesday, September 11 (weather dependent), the contractor is scheduled to begin milling portions of Park Road and Trout Brook Drive in preparation for final paving. This work will occur at night between 8PM and 6AM to minimize impacts to the traveling public. This work is expected to last two nights.

The final paving work is scheduled for Sunday, September 15 (weather dependent). This work will also occur at night, between 6PM and 6AM and is expected to last two nights.

In order to complete this work safely and efficiently, road closures will be in place on the following streets: Overbrook Road, Park Road, Raymond Road, Thomson Road, and Trout Brook Drive.

The I-84 on-ramp at Park Road will also be closed at times. The I-84 off-ramp (Exit 43-Park Road) will remain open and traffic will be directed around the work zone.

Motorists are strongly encouraged to avoid the project area and to seek alternate routes during the scheduled construction periods.



Upon completion of the final paving, the remaining work includes pavement markings, guide rails, and landscaping. These activities should be completed with only minor traffic impacts and temporary lane closures. Staff expects the project to be substantially complete later this fall.

- *Paving in West Hartford Center, September 16-17* – Over the course of two days, the Town plans to repave sections of Farmington Avenue (Walden Street to North/South Main Street) and LaSalle Road (Farmington Avenue to Arapahoe Road). Milling is planned for Monday, September 16 from midnight to 11:00 a.m. and paving is planned for Tuesday, September 17 from midnight to 11:00 a.m.

In order to safely perform this work, Farmington Avenue and LaSalle Road will be closed, except to local traffic. Signed detours will be in place to direct traffic around the work zone (see below). Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times, but on-street parking will not be permitted within the work zone.

The contractors will start on Farmington Avenue at the North/South Main Street intersection, which will allow the intersection to be re-opened to traffic in time for the morning commute.

This project is a short-term solution and only the travel lanes will be repaved as part of this work. The utility improvements are expected to begin this fall and will continue for the next several years. Based on the current pavement condition, delaying the re-paving work until after the utility work is not an option.

- *Final Round of Paving* - The Town typically completes three rounds of repaving each year. Several roadways have either undergone complete reconstruction this year, or are still in the process of being constructed. Those roadways include Garden Lane, High Street, Lancaster Road, Stanley Street, and Ridgewood Road from Farmington Avenue to Sedgwick Road. The following roads are included in the third round of milling and repaving:
  - Clark Drive
  - Dodge Drive
  - Huron Drive
  - Midlands
  - Osage Road
  - Rosedale Road
  - St. Charles Street
  - Seymour Avenue
  - Stoner Drive
  - Westmont (Clark Drive to Canal Road)



- *Town Staff Completes Important Capital and IT Projects* – Summer is an important time to complete key capital and IT projects, especially in the schools. This summer our capital projects team completed a host of key projects, including the roof replacement and structural repairs, the Hall science labs, and Sedgwick Auditorium seating replacement. In addition, among other initiatives our IT team implemented new guest wireless (Wi-Fi) service at various Leisure Services facilities, provided ongoing Cybersecurity training for Town staff, and deployed 1,139 devices in our public schools. Congratulations, team, on a job well done!
- *WHPD welcomes Christopher Cutler* – The West Hartford Police Department welcomes Christopher Cutler as the department's newest officer. Officer Cutler is a Glastonbury native and graduated from Glastonbury High School. He attended Middlesex Community College and then earned his bachelor's degree in economics at the University of Connecticut. Welcome, Christopher!
- *WHPD Citizen's Academy Class* – If you ever wanted to know what it is like to be a West Hartford Police Officer, now's your chance. The Police Department is holding a free Citizens' Academy Class on September 18. An application is required and the deadline to apply is Thursday, September 12. To learn more, please contact the Community Relations Division at 860-570-8820.
- *Day of Happiness* – On Saturday, September 28, the West Hartford Library is presenting a Day of Happiness featuring workshops from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM that are geared towards making you smile. Workshops include chocolate making for both adults and children, decorating a treasure for kids, perfume making for adults, happy emoji string art for teens, and live music for all. Visit [www.WestHartfordLibrary.org](http://www.WestHartfordLibrary.org) to register or learn more.
- *Yard Waste Barrels a Success*– The Department of Public Works has sold 500 brown yard waste barrels and has noticed a reduction in waste tonnage already in the first month of the fiscal year. The 96-gallon barrels sell for \$73.12 and hold the equivalent of three, 30-gallon paper leaf bags. To order one, complete the on-line order form found on the DPW web site, [www.westhartfordct.gov/publicworks](http://www.westhartfordct.gov/publicworks).
- *Introducing RecDesk* – The Department of Leisure Services has converted to RecDesk, a new and improved program registration software. All registrations will now be processed electronically, giving the department the flexibility to make class changes, issue refunds and allow users to view their accounts more easily. Each household will have a family I.D. number. New point-of-sale kiosks are found in the town hall lobby and in the libraries to assist those without computer access.



- *Join the Ten Minute Walk Initiative* - West Hartford is proud to participate in the Ten Minute Walk campaign, a national effort to engage communities in their local parks. Everyone in an urban or suburban area deserves to live a 10-minute walk from a public park or playground. Our new PARKS Bingo game is a fun way to explore your neighborhood parks. Pick up your card at any Leisure Services facility and start playing today! The deadline is October 31. Game On!

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**

- *Food Pantry needs your help* - The West Hartford Food Pantry needs your help. The inventory is critically low of the following items:
  - Canned fruit/apple sauce
  - Rice
  - Peanut butter
  - Tuna
  - Canned corn
  - Soup
  - Pasta and sauce

Last year the Food Pantry gave out over 6,300 bags of food to residents. If anyone is planning to host a holiday food drive, now would be a great time to do it! Donations may be left in the lobby of town hall (Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM). For more information or assistance, please contact Nancy Stockman at 860-561-7569 or '[Nancy.Stockman@westhartfordct.gov](mailto:Nancy.Stockman@westhartfordct.gov)'.

- *Last Call to Sign-up for Park Road Parade* – Now's the time to sign-up for the Park Road Parade which will be held on Saturday, October 5 at 10:30 AM. Visit [www.ParkRoadCT.com](http://www.ParkRoadCT.com) and click on Parade' to download the form. Or email [renee@westhartfordct.gov](mailto:renee@westhartfordct.gov).
- *Chamber of Commerce's Golf Tournament, 9/16* - The West Hartford Chamber of Commerce's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Wampanoag Country Club. This year a portion of the proceeds raised from the tournament will benefit The Town That Cares. The price per golfer is \$240. Visit [www.WHChamber.com](http://www.WHChamber.com) for details.
- *Open Rehearsals for West Hartford Women's Chorale, 9/17* - The West Hartford Women's Chorale will hold open rehearsals on Tuesday, September 17, 7:00PM to 8:45PM at the Flagg United Church of Christ, 134 Flagg Road. The Chorale is a non-audition choir that welcomes all interested female singers regardless of musical experience.



- *Senior Job Bank's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 9/24* - The Seniors Job Bank will celebrate its 40 years of service to the Greater Hartford community with a festive cocktail reception on Tuesday, September 24, 5:00-7:00PM, at the Governor's Mansion, 990 Prospect Avenue. The non-profit, volunteer-driven organization connects men and women over 50 looking for work with businesses, government agencies and households that have part-time job openings. Information about the 40th anniversary reception and the Seniors Job Bank is available on its website, [www.SJBCT.org](http://www.SJBCT.org).

- *Feast on the Farm, 9/27* - The 7th annual Feast on the Farm will be held on Friday, September 27, 6:00-9:00 PM, at Westmoor Park on Flagg Road. This farm-to-table, four-course dinner will feature regional produce and products, and highlight the talent of Chef Dorjan Puka. Tickets are \$100 per person, and are on sale online through Leisure Services or Westmoor Park.

Proceeds will help fund facility enhancements, which are needed to support Westmoor Park's environmental education programs. For more information, visit [www.westhartfordct.gov/leisureservices](http://www.westhartfordct.gov/leisureservices).

- *Household Hazardous Waste Day, 9/28* - The MDC-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will take place at Public Works, 17 Brixton Street, on Saturday, September 28 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The collection is free and is open to all MDC-serviced towns.

Collect your household waste items in their original containers, place them in a box and bring them to the collection site on September 28, and MDC will handle the rest. Typical items are kitchen cleaners, garage and workshop chemicals, and yard insecticides and hobby solvents, to name a few.

- *Playhouse on Park's presents NUNSENSE* - Playhouse on Park's 11th season kicks off with Dan Goggin's *NUNSENSE*. Previews are scheduled for Wednesday, September 18 at 7:30pm, as well as Thursday, September 19 at 2pm and 7:30pm. All preview tickets are \$17.50. Opening night, complete with a complementary pre-show wine and cheese reception is Friday, September 20 at 8:00 PM. For more information, visit [www.playhouseonpark.org](http://www.playhouseonpark.org).