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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## City of Hartford Reveals Plans for Downtown Development at Hartford Public Library Event

North Park Master Plan Presentation will be Final Opportunity for Public Comment

HARTFORD, Connecticut (November 26, 2013) – In partnership with the City of Hartford, the Hartford Public Library will host a public meeting unveiling the Hartford North Park Master Plan on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 PM at the Downtown Library's Center for Contemporary Culture.

The third and final public meeting for the Hartford North Park Master Plan project will reveal the City's vision for the areas of Downtown Hartford north of Interstate 84 and just east of Union Station. The presentation will include the final opportunity for public comment on the plan, which considers new retail and housing market analyses, traffic patterns and the transportation network. The plan identifies priority development sites, and recommends design standards and zoning regulations that will ensure that any proposed future development is viable and beneficial for surrounding residents.

"The success of future development in Downtown Hartford depends heavily upon the input and support of the city's residents and businesses," says Matthew K. Poland, CEO of Hartford Public Library. "We're pleased to offer this opportunity and venue for collaboration and engagement, in order to ensure the cooperative creation of a vibrant Downtown."

The Downtown North and Downtown West areas of the city have seen substantive change over the last 50 years, in large part due to the construction of I-84 through the heart of Downtown in the 1960s. Previous studies have been examined and provide the foundation for the Harford North Park Master Plan, which will build upon those studies by focusing on creating a development framework that is founded on economically responsive, implementable projects.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Free parking will be available after 6:00 p.m. in the Arch Street parking garage. For more information about the Hartford North Park Master Plan, visit http://www.hartford.gov/planning/current-projects/hartford-north-park.

## **About Hartford Public Library**

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations and a Library-on-Wheels in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide

education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Visit <a href="https://publict.org">hplct.org</a> and the library's new blog at <a href="https://publict.org">blogs.hplct.org</a>.

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