



STAMFORD MAYOR  
MICHAEL A. PAVIA

**S**tamford is the City That Works on many different levels and in many areas. We believe it is important to keep our residents informed of what we're working on as we continually strive to enhance Stamford for our residents, visitors and businesses. From capital improvements, economic development initiatives, public safety and health issues, local governance and operations, the City of Stamford remains hard at work.

Stamford is about to embark on Charter Revision. The Board of Representatives, along with community members, will be reviewing laws and ordinances that may no longer be applicable or require updating. This process, last completed ten years ago, will begin this November and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2012.

A fully executed agreement by the Joint Venture has been signed by three out of four volunteer fire companies that would create the Stamford Volunteer Fire Department. The agreement represents a consolidation of these volunteer departments to safely and efficiently serve all of the residents in the volunteer districts. To further understand the structure and purpose of the Agreement, as well as answers to many questions, please visit [www.boardofreps.org](http://www.boardofreps.org) and click on "Fire Service Plan."

As we head into our next budget season, we continue to be faced with a challenging economic climate, increasing operational costs and a number of costly labor contracts. For the last two years, we have worked hard to keep taxes low while maintaining core services, facilities and programs. The City's capital budget continues to prioritize improvements and repairs to our roadways and infrastructure. Projects include the renovation of Scalzi Park that will feature a splash pad, a new skate park and playground, and lantern-lit walkways; the Mill River Park recently begun Phase I of its development, will also provide recreational and leisure opportunities for our residents in the heart of downtown Stamford; also underway are plans for the remediation and development of Scofield Town Park in the northern part of the City.

Stamford remains a highly competitive and attractive location for new business as evidenced by the recent announcement of the move by NBC Sports Group of its headquarters to Stamford from New York City, slated for September 2012 and located in the same campus as Chelsea Piers opening next spring. Residential units continue to open in both the Downtown and South End, attracting many non-Stamford residents to come to live in Stamford. There are exciting projects on the drawing boards as well, all pointing to the continuing strength of our economy.

I invite all of you to read my thoughts on why I believe the City of Stamford continues to be the place where people and business want to thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Pavia". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael A. Pavia  
Mayor



by Stamford Mayor Michael A. Pavia

## A VALUE PROPOSITION

**P**eople often ask me what makes Stamford a special place. I answer that Stamford has a unique “value proposition,” which means the city is blessed with attributes that while individually are good, when combined, form what truly sets Stamford apart from just about any other city. Let me take you on a high-level view of what I mean:

The foundation of our value proposition is our incredible *quality of life*, which keeps Stamford citizens here and attracts newcomers, and I would like to highlight several.

One of Stamford’s features I am most proud of is the diversity of its population -- from 4<sup>th</sup> generation families such as mine to our newest arrivals from around the world, who give the City its vibrancy and energy, which is at the heart of our current success and future growth.

Stamford ranks 8<sup>th</sup> nationally overall in reported crime for cities with 100,000+ in population:

- #7 Sunnyvale, CA
- #8 Stamford, CT
- #9 Sterling Heights, MI

Crime in 2010 **dropped 7.4% versus 2009**. I want to thank our terrific Stamford police department for the job it does every day to keep us one of the safest cities in the United States.

Our Stamford Transportation Center is the busiest train station between New York City and Boston:

- 55,000 daily commuters
- Weekday Metro-North trains between 4:43 AM and 1:53 AM to/from NYC with 200+ trips
- Regional Amtrak hub - daily service to Boston, Philadelphia, Washington
- Greyhound Bus daily service - 1,100+ bus trips

We are within 30-90 minutes of four airports, including La Guardia, Kennedy, Newark, and Westchester.

Recreationally our options range from the City’s coast line of Long Island shore to the back woods of North Stamford. The City is dotted with parks, beaches, walking trails, a nature museum, ice skating rinks, ball fields and golf courses.

We have a vibrant 24/7 downtown with 80+ restaurants offering almost every cuisine, great retail shopping and a wide variety of entertainment -- from the Stamford Symphony, concerts at the Palace Theater, and movies to the terrific Ferguson Library. Our downtown also has more than 18,000 residential units and 41,000 citizens within a one mile radius.

The Stamford Hospital is a 305-bed facility that serves not only Stamford but Fairfield & Westchester counties. It is a Level II trauma center and is an affiliate of New York-Presbyterian Healthcare System and teaching affiliate of Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons.

Stamford has one of the highest educated populations in the US:

- 90% of its adults are high school graduates
- 46% have a bachelor's degree or higher

Stamford is tied with Iowa City, Iowa, for the U.S. metropolitan area with the highest percentage of adults with a BA degree or higher

Our public schools continue to ex-

ceed state and national test scores across a wide range of subjects.

There are two International Baccalaureate Programs within the school system.

In addition there are parochial and private schools and branches of Universities of Connecticut, Bridgeport and Sacred Heart University.

I am proud to say that Stamford is the *undisputed economic engine* for the State. We have a strong and diverse economy with global leaders in finance, pharmaceuticals, insurance, hospitality, media and consumer products. We have an extensive network of small- and medium-sized businesses that serve these global leaders as well as providing a vast array of products and services throughout the region.

- More than 67,000 jobs in Stamford - largest city labor force in State
- Lower unemployment (7.1% vs. State (8.9%) and Federal (9.0%))
- 13 million square feet of office space (with 7 million in downtown)
- 40% of total Fairfield County office space market

Many of us regard Stamford as “a subway stop” away from New York City. Our proximity allows Stamford residents to work and enjoy the many sights of New York while returning back home in less than an hour on the train. No other city in Connecticut can make that claim. It also means that Stamford-based companies can draw on talent and other resources from New York.

*As you can see, there is so much to be proud of about our wonderful City. Stamford is certainly Stamford Plus!*