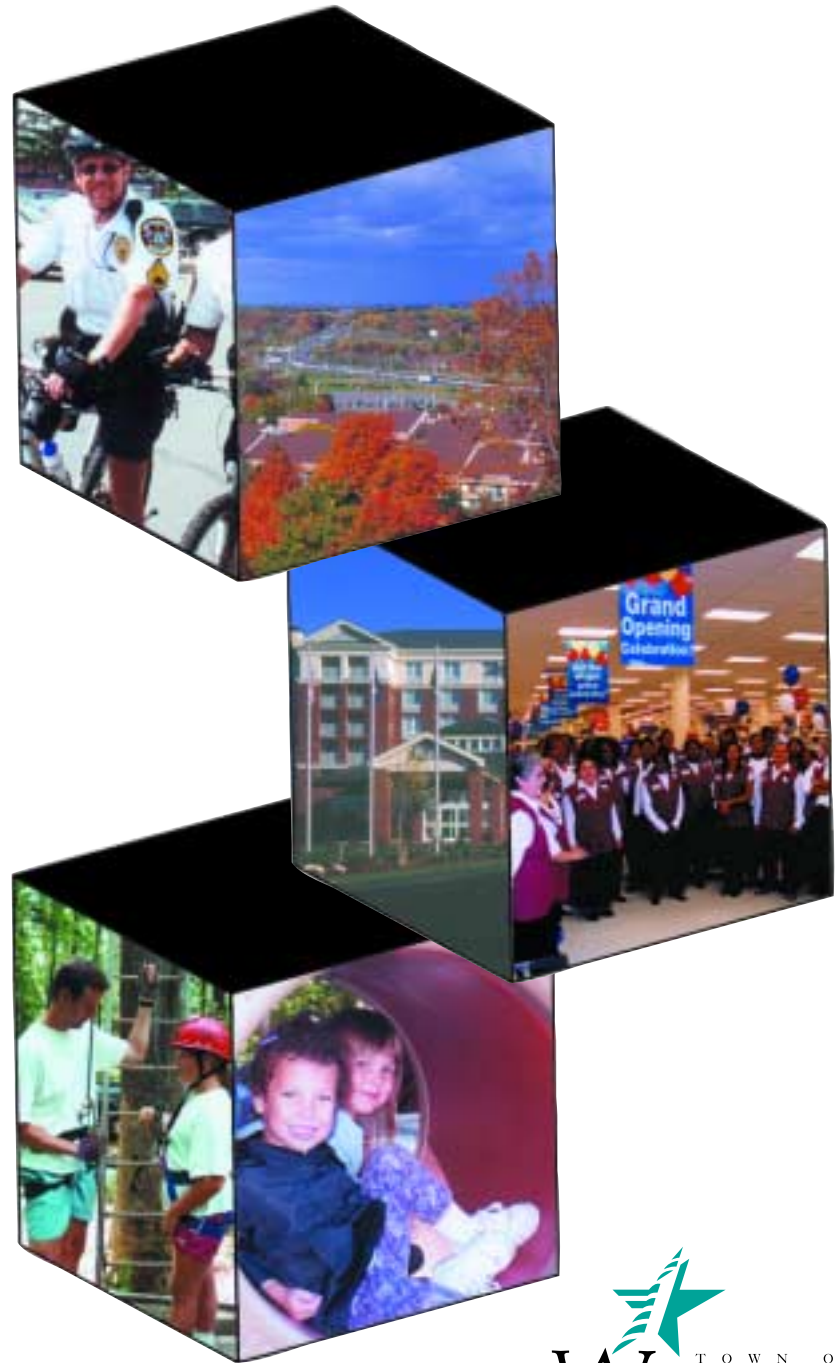








Windsor

Building

a great place
to live,
work and play



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FROM THE MAYOR

Connecticut's oldest town never stops building, as you will see throughout the pages of this Town of Windsor 2000 Annual Report. I am pleased to present this publication that highlights the activities and accomplishments of the past calendar year as well as a comprehensive snapshot of Windsor's local government at work.

Windsor has always been and I hope will always remain a community that never rests on its laurels. Our town understands and supports building, improving and growing. The renovation of Windsor High School is an example of that as is the support and encouragement we have given the new Hilton Hotel, JDS Uniphase and the Marriott. As this annual report shows, we build in other important ways, too. We work to build character in our young people, we build strong neighborhoods, we build a welcoming community for those who visit and we build an environment second to none in the State of Connecticut for business.

As always, I feel very fortunate to have served this community and do my part to help the community continue to build a great place to live, work and play.

Mary Hogan
Mayor



Mayor Hogan signs a proclamation in honor of Veterans Day

Building Greater Fun

Once again this past year, music drew many individuals and families to our Town Green. Windsor's summer concert series grew in popularity as approximately 3,000 people enjoyed the music on Thursday evenings. In the fall, the town teamed up with the Chamber of Commerce, First Town Downtown and the Police Athletic League to produce our first "Five Nights of Fright." The event culminated with a haunted house tour that drew more than 2,000 happily frightened participants. The annual Windsor Carol Sing drew 300 hearty singers this year, turning the green into a center of holiday spirit.

The town's recreation services also presented a number of community event programs. They included Family Nights on the Green, Northwest Park Trail Runs, Wet and Wild Wednesdays at Stroh Park, Family Trip Nights, Yankee Doodle 4th of July, WINSTOCK, and the Annual Family Day celebration, drawing over 3,000 people to the Town Green.

For the first time ever, all three of Windsor's outdoor swimming pools opened on Memorial Day Weekend. The Town Council approved funding for the reconstruction and re-design of the 40-year Goslee Pool located in Stroh Park. At a cost of \$850,000,

the newly designed pool will allow for more family recreation activities to take place at the site.



Lobby at 330 Windsor Avenue

In a step to provide even better recreation facilities, the town purchased and renovated a 34,000 square foot building at 330 Windsor Avenue. This allowed the town to offer additional recreation programs, a Teen Recreation Center and expanded community meeting space.

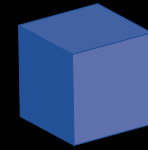
In July, the functions of the Youth Services Bureau were brought back under the administration of the town. Services such as crisis intervention, child welfare, juvenile justice, positive youth development, and recreation and cultural activities are now offered directly to our own young people by town staff.

The year also saw the town increase services to one of our most valued groups: seniors. Windsor's popular Senior Center reported that an aver-

age of 623 people use its facility each week. Twenty-two different programs are offered on a weekly basis. Additionally, there are monthly clinics, educational seminars and special seasonal events held throughout the year. More than 900 people took part in the 2000 Senior Health Fair, which was held in November.

The Senior Center's popular Dial-A-Ride program experienced an increase of 100 registered participants in the past year, providing 13,441 rides. In our volunteer transportation program, there were a record 975 requests for rides to out of town medical appointments, which were handled by our 29 volunteer medical drivers. Our 80 Meals-on-Wheels volunteers delivered over 1,040 meals each month to the 26 homebound seniors and disabled citizens, assisting them in staying healthy in their own homes.

Windsor's Milo Peck Discovery Center and Parent Center also had a busy and successful year. The center experienced a 10% increase in Montessori enrollment. Additional programs were offered, including: Vision Screening, Identi-Kid and a Food Share Day which collected more than 600 pounds of food for area families.



Families:

The strength of our
community



Families (continued)



The Parent Center completed 80 home visits to parents, offered 190 playgroups to parents, grandparents and caregivers and implemented Creative Movement and folkdance curriculum to children and families in the Head Start Program.

The year saw the town's unique Caring Connection program receive a three-year certification as a medical model with commendation for excellence from the Connecticut Association of Adult Day Care Centers. The Caring Connection also ran an "Adopt a Family" that succeeded in raising more than \$500 in money, gift certificates, toys and food items for a needy Windsor family.

Again this past year, Windsor's library's continue to offer popular programs. *Book Voyagers*, a parent

and child book discussion series was held at the Wilson Branch during the summer and at the Main Library in the fall. The participants in this program, which filled to capacity, were enthusiastic readers who loved talking about books.

The Wilson Branch library was awarded a \$4,500 Library Service and Technical Assistance grant for "Outreach to Children". The purpose of the grant is to reinforce the importance of reading to babies by extending library services and materials to all Windsor households with newborns.

Windsor Library participated in a statewide initiative, *The World of Words*. Libraries across Connecticut featured the literature and art of specific countries or regions. Foreign Consulates, state and local officials, attended the kick-off in April. Library programs include literature readings, art displays, crafts and music.

Adult book discussions continued to be popular and successful library programs. Approximately 300 people attended the morning and evening sessions this last year. In addition, both the Main and Branch libraries now offer a "Books to Go" program designed to save time for Windsor's busy customers. Library staff selects, checks out and has materials ready and waiting for patrons by the end of each workday.

The Windsor Library Association, Library Advisory Board and library staff worked with a consultant regarding the feasibility for conducting private fundraising to help offset costs of the library's expansion. An on-line survey was conducted to determine the level of support and to obtain valuable public feedback for this project.

Caseworkers from Windsor's Health and Social Services Department assisted 350 families with applying for state and federal programs, exploring housing options and housing needs, so that they can live independently. The Health Department also sponsored its annual flu clinic at two locations in late November with local physicians volunteering their time at these clinics. A total of 1,064 flu shots and 49 pneumonia shots were administered.

Windsor Social Services hosted a number of community support groups during the year. A Diabetic



Support Group met monthly to provide information on disease management. The group grew to more than 65 members. The case workers also formed a Low-Vision Support Group for adults and the "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" group met to share concerns and challenges. Staff also hosted a weekly Share Group for adults with disabilities and their caregivers. This group works on community service projects.

Approximately 1,200 adults participated in Windsor Adult Continuing Education. One hundred programs were offered over two semesters. New programs such as a *Home Buyer Education program*, offered in collaboration with the Windsor Neighborhood Service Center, which bolstered an already robust curriculum offered to Windsor adults.

In conjunction with the Oliver Ellsworth Family Resource Center, a daytime Adult Basic Education/General Education Development program was again offered at Oliver Ellsworth School. Previously offered only in the evening, this daytime alternative served the needs of 20 adults. A daytime ESL (English as a Second Language) program became available at LP Wilson Community Center beginning in January 2001.

Breaking ground for family fun at Goslee Pool

Windsor's Schools

The Windsor Public Schools serve 4,600 students with one kindergarten/early childhood center, four elementary schools for grades 1-5, one middle school and one four year high school. The entire system shares a single mission:

"Our schools, in partnership with families and the community will help all children become responsible and productive adults in a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse society."

2000 was an exciting and productive year for Windsor's young people. Each of the elementary schools continued the implementation of unique school reform models. At Poquonock Accelerated School, Visiting author-in residence Helen Lester spent a week with students discussing her books and teaching elements of writing to every class. Ms. Lester's visit included a "Meet the Author Night" as well as a book signing. During the year, the school also formed its first string orchestra. A high degree of parent involvement continued at Poquonock with 108 parent volunteers recognized for their participation.

Sage Park Middle School's accreditation in the New England Association of Schools and Colleges was renewed. Sage Park Middle School is

one of only ten middle schools in the state that is accredited by this association. In November, Sage Park's school handbook won the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Award of Excellence for educational communications. The Sage Park School handbook was selected as the first place winner in the state of Connecticut for districts with between 2000 to 5000 students.

Clover Street School adopted the school reform model, Basic School that focuses on four commonalities: curriculum, character, community,

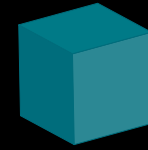


and climate. Classes are grouped into "families". Each building contains four classrooms each with a different grade level. Families plan

activities with an academic focus that allow for social interactions between students of different ages.

At John F. Kennedy School, the school reform model is called Little Red Schoolhouse. It aims to maximize the effectiveness of teaching and learning for every child and that all children can learn and attain high standards. During the year, Carol Giardi, an art teacher at JFK, received recognition as Connecticut Elementary Art Teacher of the Year. Sue Trummel, a grade 2 teacher at JFK, received recognition as Windsor's Educator of the Year. Kathy LaRosa and Rosemary Mullen received a Windsor Public Schools Innovative Incentive Grant that will help grade five students conduct science experiments at home and share their conclusions with classmates.

Oliver Ellsworth School continued the Success For All school reform program that is dedicated to all children succeeding. During the past year, Oliver Ellsworth School was named "Outstanding National School" by the Do Something Foundation for committing over 1,000 acts of kindness and justice. Ellsworth School's family center provided increased opportunities for parenting programs, adult education, after-school programs, and pre-school activities.



Young People:

Giggles, Excitement,
Learning and
Wonder . . .



Young People *(continued)*



Windsor Skate Park Grand Opening

During the past year, Roger Wolcott School received a \$100,000 Early Reading Success Grant from State Department of Education and a \$5,000 grant from Traveler's Foundation to develop a parent resource library. The school also developed an innovative "teaching peace" program focusing on character education concepts of respect, responsibility, caring, and cooperation. Parent education programs in early literacy and parent effectiveness were also held as were developmental screenings for three and four year old Windsor children.

Windsor High School continued its tradition as one of the outstanding schools in Connecticut. A member of the class of 2001 was selected as a Governor's Scholar for 2000 and 81% of the year 2000 graduating class went on to pursue higher education. The Windsor High School

F.I.R.S.T Robotics Team was formed and in its very first year, went on to win at regional competitions as well as to earn the highly regarded Sportsmanship Award. The new CISCO Academy at Windsor High School was a great success. Over 40 students enrolled in this innovative computer networking course.

The \$35-million dollar addition and renovation project to the Windsor High School began to take shape in the year 2000. Phase 1, which was partial asbestos abatement was performed over the summer of 1999. Phase 2, is the construction of a 14,000-sq. foot addition. Phase 3, is scheduled to begin in June 2001. The existing 280,000 square foot school will be completely renovated and all mechanical and electrical infrastructure systems will be removed, replaced and restored.

The Windsor School District received its third Technology Literacy Challenge Grant for teams of teachers and library media specialists to design exemplary student research projects that integrate the use of information technologies. The district also received a grant from the Southern New England Telephone division of SBC Communications to support the creation and distribution of a brochure that summarizes guidelines and promotes safe, responsible and effective use of technology.

Investing in our Youth

This year saw the completion of a concession stand and storage facility for youth sports teams at Sage Park Middle School facility. Football returned to the Sage Park Middle School when Windsor Public Works reconfigured the site layout. This also allowed for the addition of another full size soccer field at the High School.



New Windsor High School wing.

One of the most popular recreation initiatives of the year was the opening of a new skate park in October. A group called, "Friends of the Skate Park" raised funds to help pay for the new facility and Windsor Public Works repaved the surface, purchased and installed the ramps and other modular elements.

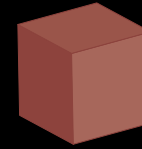
The Windsor Public Library and the Wilson Branch Library continued their popular programs for Windsor children. More than 1,000 young readers enjoyed the library and

books during the library's summer reading program. During the year the library's Kidspace partnered with the CT Reading Association, The CT Library Association, CT Education Media Association and CT Humanities Council to offer 112 literacy programs with a total attendance of 2,200.

Finally, the year 2000 saw a substantial increase in the popularity of Windsor's Club Café dances for middle school students. This year, more than 3,000 kids enjoyed these evening get-togethers. Those 3,000 kids also contributed non-perishable food for the Windsor Food Bank as part of their admission.

Windsor's magnificent Northwest Park implemented a program called "Wetland Studies via Canoes" for 7th grade students at Sage Park Middle School, which was very successful. The park's Nature Center broadened its exhibits and had more than 15,000 visitors.

The increased snowfall helped increase the number of hikers to more than 8,000, and many used the park's newly purchased snowshoes and cross-country skis. Special events drew large crowds from Windsor and surrounding communities. These included Northwest Park at Night, Wild and Woolly Sheep Day, Creatures of the Night, Pancake Breakfast and the Country Fair.



Business:

Building a growing role in New England

Corporate Growth Continues

Windsor's central location between New York and Boston combined with its pro-business attitude and streamlined approval process continues to be appealing to many national and international corporations over the last year. One international newcomer, Permasteelisa Group, builder of the Sydney Opera House and Guggenheim Museum in Spain, moved its US headquarters to Windsor bringing another 80 jobs.

More than 1,000,000 square feet of corporate office space was leased to or reoccupied by firms which included: Aetna, UTC/Pratt & Whitney, Hartford Fire Insurance, Raytel Medical Corp., Ohio Casualty Group, The Hartford, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance, Channel-Point, Corporate Express Document and Print Management, Ace Insurance, and Overhaul Support

Systems. Pratt & Whitney, Aetna and the Hartford alone accounted for 2,600 new jobs in Windsor during the first quarter of 2000.

JDS Uniphase, manufacturer of optical components for global telecommunications, began construction of a 165,000 sq. ft. plant. Approximately 600 new high tech manufacturing jobs will be generated by this first phase expansion in our town.

Another 150,000 square feet of new office and industrial flex space was constructed and occupied, demonstrating Windsor's strong market attraction.

More than 100,000 square feet of retail space was leased in Windsor this year, including 30,000 square feet for AJ Wright, a division of TJ Maxx, which opened in the Windsor Shopping Center just in time for the holidays. Price Rite, a grocery chain, also recognized the key location of this shopping center and leased 30,000 square feet.

Windsor Center was enhanced with the major remodeling of the popular Geissler Food Store and the opening of the Aglow Auction Gallery.

Through Windsor's Office of Community Development, a small business loan was awarded to the Water Closet, a local retail shop, for its expansion on Bloomfield Avenue.

The building owned by FBMW Carpet Installation on Windsor Avenue, is now a welcome site to motorists coming off of I-291, due to a facade improvement loan.

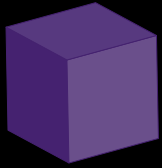
The business community not only likes being in Windsor, they like being part of the community. Clover Street School, in conjunction with the Windsor Chamber of Commerce, sponsored "Businesses Fueling Minds Through Books" read-aloud day in November. Forty area businesses provided a book and sent readers to share it with a class.



Businesses Fueling Minds Through Books



All smiles at AJ Wright



Government

Specializing
in continuous
improvement

The Town of Windsor's website <http://www.townofwindsorct.com> was expanded to enhance the flow of information to and from our citizens. The subscription rate to Windsor E-mail direct doubled in the past year, providing over 500 Internet users with electronic updates on town news. These enhancements, along with the new Windsor Police website, increased visitation to the town's website by 40%. *Windsor E-pinion*, an online forum to provide information on timely issues and poll citizen feedback, was created and "*There's a lot to do in Windsor*" and other town publications were made available on-line.

For those not fortunate enough to live in Windsor, an Internet photo gallery, First Image: a pictorial sampling of Connecticut's first town was created to provide internet browsers an opportunity to visit Windsor.

The Town Clerk's office accomplished a lot during the year including the extra responsibility of conducting several ballot questions.

The Presidential Election in November brought out 13,831 voters of 17,861 registered – a 76.9% turnout.

The annual Budget Referendum was held on May 9, 2000. Just 1,281 of the town's registered voters voted, passing the budget 799 to 482.

The Clerk's office and a number of volunteers again worked to preserve Windsor's fascinating history. During the year, they published *Storytellers II*, the second edition of the very popular book, *Storytellers*. These volumes contain stories written by people who lived in Windsor during the 20th Century and represent an irreplaceable history of our town.

2000 also saw the completion of the microfilming of all the town's maps from the late 1800's through 1950. These maps are now protected from deterioration and are available on compact disc. A map index was also completed.

Selected Windsor Year 2000 Vital Statistics include: 345 death certificates, 299 birth certificates and 258 marriage licenses. There were 6,035 land recordings. A decrease of 16.2% over 1999.

The Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for FY2000 was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting while the Town's budget received a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, both from the Government Finance Officers Association.

The Town received an AA bond rating from Standard & Poor's and Fitch and a Moody's rating of Aa2, reflecting sound financial management and a local employment base that is relatively deep and diverse. In addi-

tion, as a result of refinanced debt, the Town will save approximately \$627,000 in gross debt service payments over the life of its bonds.

During 2000, Windsor secured \$747,050 in Community Development Block Grant funds from the State of Connecticut for the Town's Housing Rehabilitation Program, Small Business Loan Program, Olga Avenue Improvement Project, and renovation of the 330 Windsor Avenue community center.

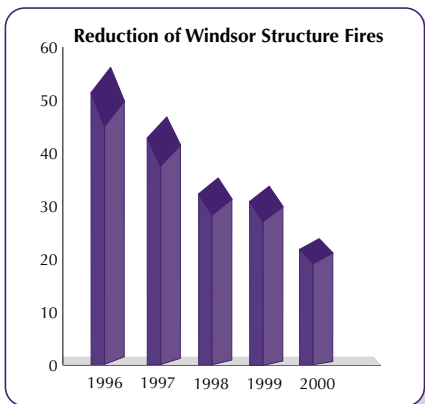
During the year, a Design Services (Engineering) unit was established under the direction of the Town Engineer. Design Services provided design and construction contract administration and inspection services for projects valuing over \$2,225,000. Those projects included reconstruction of Mack Street, reconstruction of Kennedy Road and improvements to Wilson Boat Launch Area, and the Kennedy School Parking Lot as well as repairs to retaining wall along Palisado Avenue and Olga Avenue Sidewalks.

Design Services personnel also assisted Public Works in administering and inspecting maintenance contracts for road overlays, sidewalk repairs and roadway crack sealing. More than 2,300 requests from "Call Before You Dig" were received which resulted in field investigations for approximately 900 of these requests.

The town designed and implemented a Citizen Response System (CRS). The Citizen Response System permits departments to efficiently capture and respond to requests for service. After compilation of the requests, the information will be used as an analysis tool to continuously improve town services.

Leadership in the Volunteer Fire Department changed following the retirement of Chief Dale Smith. William Lewis, an employee of the state fire marshal's office and volunteer firefighter in Windsor for thirty years was named as Chief of the Department in November.

Windsor's Volunteer Fire Department responded to a total of 1,076 calls during 2000. The number of Windsor structure fires declined by 30% from 1999. This is the fifth consecutive year that the number of fires in buildings has declined.



A new fire station was constructed on Rainbow Road to improve fire and emergency response in the Rainbow neighborhood of town. In addition, thermal imaging cameras were a major acquisition of the Fire Department this year. The cameras were purchased to enhance the ability of firefighters to see trapped victims and other firefighters in heavy smoke.

Our Fire Marshal's office, in cooperation with the Volunteer Fire Department published a comprehensive Pre-Plan Guide for use by the Fire Department. The guide provides firefighters with valuable fire and life safety information on more than 200 high-risk properties in Windsor.

Windsor families learned home safety tips when the Fire Marshal's office partnered with the American Fire Sprinkler Association for an all day residential fire sprinkler demonstration on the town green during the town's popular Weekend in Historic Windsor event.

The overall success of fire prevention and life safety programs is the result of community wide participation. The U.S. Administration and the Residential Life Safety Institute recognized these successes twice nationally in 2000. The town received recognition for a year of no fire fatalities and for the installation

and maintenance of automatic sprinkler protection in the town's Fire Stations.

Windsor's Discovery Center staff completed over 605 hours of Continuing Education. The Caring Connection at the L.P. Wilson Community Center won third place in the Service to Senior for Creative Intergenerational Programming by the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

A major effort in the past years was the planning and development for Windsor's Healthy People Initiative. The goal of this town-wide initiative is to make Windsor the healthiest community possible by creating an environment where individual needs are met in the four essential areas for personal growth — social, emotional, intellectual, and physical. A number of town employees served on the Healthy People Strategy Team, which is the planning arm for the overall initiative. The Healthy People Initiative's three task teams are the Healthy People Forum which is focusing on the delivery of mental health services in our community; the Home Visit Task Team which is designing a home visit program for families with children from pre-birth to age 5 and the Core Social Services Team which is working with families with special needs.



2000 Financial Highlights

General Fund

Revenues

The General Fund Budget approved for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000 amounted to \$60,501,470 *(not including opening cash)*, financed as follows:

	2000 Budget	%	2000 Actual Amount	%	1999 Actual Amount	%	\$ +/-
Property Taxes	46,614,210	77	46,723,633	77	44,638,469	76	2,085,164
State & Federal	10,387,480	17	10,160,416	16	10,063,511	17	96,905
Rev. Town Dept.	2,986,280	5	3,499,316	6	3,369,638	6	129,678
Other	513,500	1	519,820	1	517,979	1	1,841
Total	60,501,470	100	60,903,185	100	58,589,597	100	2,313,588

The Grand List of 1998, after exemptions and Board of Assessment Appeals revisions, amounted to \$2,044,330,830 and a tax rate of 22.7 mills was set for the 2000 budget.

Expenditures & Encumbrances

The original budget for expenditures of \$60,801,470 was increased during the year to \$61,657,905 by additional appropriations. Expenditures were incurred or encumbered in the following amounts.

	Rev. 2000 Budget	%	Actual 2000 Amount	%	Actual 1999 Amount	\$ +/-
General Government	24,747,805	40	24,502,679	40	22,592,861	1,909,818
Board of Education	36,910,100	60	36,907,564	60	34,647,140	2,260,424
Total	61,657,905	100	61,410,243	100	57,240,001	4,170,242

**Special Revenue Funds
Fiscal Year 2000**

Special Revenues

The Town received \$4,579,438 in revenues earmarked for specific programs in 2000 as compared to \$4,104,070 in 1999, a increase of 11.6%. The majority of this special revenue was received or earned from the following sources:

State of Connecticut	\$ 854,500
Federal Government	1,621,902
Sale of Food	1,092,386

The revenues were segregated into the following programs:

	2000		1999	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Cafeteria	\$1,501,905	33	\$1,428,550	35
Community Rehab Program	246,508	5	255,506	6
Education Grant Program	1,215,351	27	903,009	22
Other	1,615,674	35	1,517,005	37
Total	\$4,579,438	100	4,104,070	100

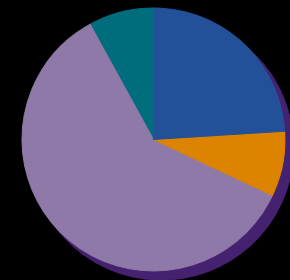
Expenditures

Expenditures totaled \$4,947,303 in 2000 as compared to \$4,334,262 in 1999.

Expenditures were distributed as follows:

	2000		1999	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Education	\$2,688,538	54	\$2,469,539	57
Family Services	967,978	20	786,669	18
Capital Outlay	3,475	0	3,500	0
Public Works	302,755	6	336,376	8
Other	984,557	20	738,178	17
Total	\$4,947,303	100	4,334,262	100

**General Fund
Expenditures
(Budgetary)
Fiscal Year 2000**



- Public Safety – 8%
- General Government – 24%
- Community Services – 8%
- Education – 60%



Region:

Strengthening an already strong presence



The Hilton Garden Inn opened in the fall of this year and stands as one of the signature buildings in Windsor along the I-91 corridor. The recently approved Hampton Inn and Marriott Hotel & Conference Center will provide more than 400 additional hotel rooms to serve the Day Hill Industrial Area and the Bradley International Airport area, as well as much needed space for private events including meetings, parties and weddings.

King's Landing, a 44-unit community located near the L. P. Wilson Community Center, will provide age restricted housing for active adults 55 years of age and older.

All of these projects demonstrated not only Windsor's overall attractiveness, but also our ability as a town to work with developers and businesses to provide information, help with local approvals and amend regulations where necessary.



Bradley Development League Board of Directors

Windsor's reputation for high quality development, the availability of development-ready corporate sites in proximity to Bradley International Airport, I-91 and I-84, and the town's rapid approval process have combined to make it another great year for development in Windsor.

In May, CorpTech ranked Windsor third in the New York Metro Region for the number of high tech jobs, ahead of such other Connecticut communities as Stamford and Hartford.

The Bradley Development League, a cooperative marketing effort of the Towns of Windsor, Windsor Locks, East Granby, and Suffield, incorporated and established a policy board to enhance our ability to capitalize on this major regional economic driver. Bradley International Airport passenger traffic grew to 645,722, a 26.5% increase between June 1999 and June 2000.

Our town received regional media coverage as our Town Council and our residents discussed the future of the Windsor/Bloomfield landfill. In the meantime, the town has continued to operate the landfill responsibly with an eye towards the future.



Hilton Garden Inn

The Health Department continued to monitor the cleanup of Combustion Engineering, Hamilton Standard, Bradley Airport and Knoll Atomic Power Laboratory. These cleanup projects will be continuing throughout the coming year.

The past year also saw the town enter into a partnership with AT&T to construct wireless telecommunication towers at the Public Works Garage on Day Hill Road, the Public Safety Complex on Bloomfield Avenue and the Wilson Fire Station on Pine Lane. These towers are strategically placed to provide improved emergency services communications for the town and better public wireless communications without intruding on our neighborhoods.

The Windsor Police Department underwent a complete reorganization with special emphasis on community policing. Community policing brings police officers into closer, everyday contact with the residents they are protecting. As a result of the reorganization, officers have been assigned to specific north or south coverage areas of Windsor. The geographical assignment of officers maximizes many efforts already in place such as bicycle and foot patrols, neighborhood watches and citizen's police academies, and will help ensure the success of the entire community policing philosophy.

The Neighborhood Enhancement Team, comprised of members of the Windsor Police, Building, Community Development, Town Manager's Office, and Public Works departments met on a regular basis with residents of the Oakland Hills and Tanglewood neighborhoods to facilitate citizen groups in these areas. A neighborhood newsletter, improved signage and social gatherings have resulted. 13 neighborhood watch programs were established in 2000.

There was a lot to learn at the Wilson Neighborhood Conference, held at the L.P. Wilson Community Center in April. 40 guest speakers and 20 breakout sessions focused

on housing rehabilitation, small business development, and residential leadership.

The Windsor Public Library and its Wilson Branch Library provide the community with access to over 100,000 informational resources in a variety of media, including the Internet. This year, the library's web page was visited more than 3,500 each month.

Other cultural programs at the Library included a Connecticut Humanities Council book discussion series. "Diversity in the Americas", was led by David Shuldiner of the University of Connecticut. Also in April, the library teamed up with the Windsor Afro-American Civic Association and the Windsor Library Association to present "World of Words", which celebrated the culture of West Africa with presentations of African drumming, art, folklore, and literature.



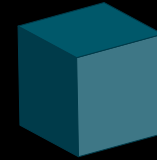
Reconstructing Custer Drive

Windsor's 132 miles of public roadway received a lot of attention during the last year. Streets which were resurfaced included: High Street, Rainbow Road, Addison Road, Waterside Crossing, Griffin Road North, Brewster Road, Long Hill Road, Kennedy Road, Woodland Street, Deerfield Road, Skitchewaug Street, Olga Avenue, and East Barber Street. On a larger scale, Custer Drive, a main artery road located in the Oakland Hills neighborhood, was totally reclaimed and repaved.

New street name signs were installed along Poquonock Avenue from High Street south to Prospect Hill Road. The vastly improved legibility of these new signs improves traffic safety day and night.

Design contracts for several future road reconstruction projects including Hayden Station Road, Pleasant Street, Elm Street, Laurel Avenue and River Street (from Kennedy Road to Old River Street) were begun. Designs are now underway for the construction of sidewalks along Lang Road.

A Community that Cares
"Windsor people helping people" is a theme that held true more than ever in the year 2000. Community service is a significant component



Community/ Neighborhoods:

Working together
in the place we
call home



Community/ Neighborhoods

(continued)



for students in the Windsor schools, dedicated volunteers and caring individuals, organizations and businesses in our community. Several worthwhile projects in the past year demonstrate this commitment to helping others.

Sage Park Middle School received state recognition for outstanding participation in the Challenge to Educational Citizenship Award Program. This prestigious award was presented by Governor John G. Rowland, the State Student Advisory Council on Education, and Commissioner of Education, Theodore S. Sergi on June 6, 2000.

Led by the student council, Sage Park Middle School students also collected non-perishable food items during the fall of 2000. The drive was a tremendous success with more than 4,300 items collected which represented the largest donation ever made to the Windsor Food Bank

At the Clover Street and John F. Kennedy elementary schools, community service projects are held ongoing throughout the year. Food and clothing drives help our children understand that they can make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. At JFK, students raised funds for their Trucker Buddies who had their truck stolen during their journey across the country. To make

their impact on the Windsor community, students took action to organize a coin drive to raise funds for additional playground equipment.

The Health and Social Services staff and the Windsor Community Service



Windsor students collaborate on community service projects

Council sponsored the Annual Holiday Toy program in November which provided toys and warm hats and mittens to 291 children. In addition, 36 holiday boxes were prepared by members of Windsor's private Loomis Chaffee School and distributed to low income people and adults on disability. Gift certificates to local supermarkets were mailed to 41 people, mostly seniors or those on low fixed incomes.

CPR and First Aid classes were conducted throughout the year with more than 90 persons becoming

certified. Approximately 30 of these people also became certified in the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

The Health and Social Services staff also continued to monitor the West Nile Virus situation throughout the state and in our community. During 2000, no virus activity was detected in Windsor. However, the town has a contract to treat town owned recreation areas for mosquito larvae and adult mosquito activity.

Community Beauty

Larry Shaw, a Windsor Eagle Scout candidate, several volunteers, and staff from Public Works created and planted two new garden sites in the town. One site was created in three previously overgrown medians at the intersection of Rainbow Road, High Street and Hamilton Street. The second location is on Batchelder Road near the Library and the railroad overpass.

A beautiful splash of natural color appeared after staff from Public Works improved the appearance of the town green by replanting the two beds on each side of the Town Hall portico, planting the bed on the south side of Town Hall, and around the Luddy House.

In other beautification efforts, Public Works established a standard aimed

Community/ Neighborhoods

(continued)

at mowing our heavily used areas such as the athletic fields, parks and the Green at least every five working days (weather permitting).

With funding in the amount of \$44,800 from a State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection grant, the Wilson Boat Launch located on East Barber Street became more inviting to passive recreation enthusiasts with the addition of a gazebo, improved drainage, a designated walkway, additional handicapped parking spaces, and improved views of the Connecticut River.

Growing & Building

The Town of Windsor, First Town Downtown and the Connecticut Main Street Program initiated the Windsor Center Corridor Study. The purposes of the study were to look at ways to make the Center more pedestrian friendly, slow traffic down on Broad Street, increase availability of on-street parking and enhance the beauty of the town Center. The consultants hired for the project developed several concept plans during the year that were presented to town staff, the Town Council, First Town Downtown as well as the public.

Purcell Associates and TPA Design Group were retained by the Town of Windsor to prepare a roadway and streetscape concept plan for the

Wilson Neighborhood Corridor from the Hartford/Windsor town line to the Windsor Shopping Center. Goals for the project include traffic calming, pedestrian circulation and safety, business retention and attraction through visual improvements, establishment of a neighborhood scale, visual unification, and access management. The project was launched with a public meeting at 330 Windsor Avenue in May of 2000 and the planning process is expected to continue into 2001.

In the past year, Windsor had ten "threshold projects" under construction or plan review. Certain construction projects are defined as "Threshold Structures" because of their size, complexity, or type of occupancy. These included:

- Windsor High School Phase 2 Renovations
- Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
- JDS Uniphase (Building No. 1 of 3 proposed)
- Three fixed cell phone towers and one 'cell on wheels' tower
- Hampton Hotel
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Loomis Chaffee gymnasium expansion project

In the year 2000, there were more than 90 new housing starts in Windsor, an 18% increase over previous year. The value of building permit work increased 57% over the previous year to approximately \$62 million, and more than 1,915 permits were issued which is an increase of 100 permits over the year 1999. Computerized scheduling of inspections began in 2000 to insure the efficient and timely handling of this increased volume of work.

The Veterans Cemetery on East Street will be nearing capacity over the next few years. In order to respond to this concern, Windsor Public Works developed an expansion to the cemetery which will increase the size by 66%. This project will allow the Town to continue to honor our veterans who have passed on with a place of burial for several years to come.



FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

While reflecting on the year 2000 it became very clear that in Windsor, it was the year of "building". By definition, the word building carries many meanings and I believe our community has touched upon each of those meanings this past year.

Of course the obvious is the increase of building permit work by 57% over last year. More than 1,915 permits were issued. In addition, Windsor has never had more than one "threshold project" per year, and in 2000 we had ten.

It has been an exciting year of building public/private partnerships in an effort to help large initiatives become reality. Conceptual and preliminary planning efforts to build a 6,300 seat outdoor Amphitheater at Windsor began in 2000 with an anticipated opening of that regional entertainment venue opening in fall of 2001. Public meetings were held to determine the town's role in the preservation of the Huntington House estate located on the Town Green and we have seen tremendous economic development growth with our corporate partners while maintaining a stable mill rate in our community.

The renovations at the 330 Windsor Avenue property and of course, the Windsor High School renovation project highlight the commitment Windsor has to offer only the best for its youth. We also partnered with 13 neighborhoods and supported their efforts to shape the community. Coupled with our outstanding school system, Healthy People Initiative and hundreds of program and activity offerings for Windsor families, this commitment truly makes Windsor the right choice for all families.

These accomplishments are not only noteworthy for 2000, but hopefully for many more generations. I look forward to continuing working together with the community.

R. Leon Churchill



**Windsor's Healthy People . . . Building an
educated, healthy, caring community**

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