

Jerry Silber – silberjerry@gmail.com

My name is Jerry Silber and I have lived in Stamford for over 40 years. My two daughters grew up here and both attended and graduated from Stamford High.

I am writing to request your approval of the Mayor's budget. It has a number of important components that are critical to have our City continue to thrive for all its constituents.

Probably none is more important than funding the two dedicated housing staff positions in the Land Use Bureau. It is well known that we have a housing crisis in this state. We rank 49 out of the 50 states in new residential permits per capita. We would love to have our newly married younger daughter move to Stamford where she would be close to us and many of her school friends. We need more housing here to make it possible. The increased staff would enable the City to continue current housing initiatives and develop new ones to deal with this crisis.

Another important element of the budget is increasing street safety. There were seven pedestrian deaths in Stamford last year. That is seven too many! We need more and safer sidewalks as well as a more comprehensive network of bicycle lanes to make it easier for more people to bike safely.

Of course funding to enhance our schools is fundamental for any community to thrive.

And finally continuing to build out our parks and support the planting and growth of healthy trees is important for the environment as well as our body and soul.

Thanks for your support!

Jerry