



ESTABLISHED 1659

**CITY OF NORWICH**  
CONNECTICUT

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**To:** Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council  
**From:** John Salomone, City Manager  
**Subject:** City Manager's Report  
**Date:** January 2, 2018

Happy New Year!

I met with Abby Dolliver and staff regarding Alliance Funding for the coming year. The Alliance District program is a targeted investment in Connecticut's 33 lowest-performing districts. Connecticut General Statute Section 10-262u establishes a process for identifying Alliance Districts and allocating increased Education Cost Sharing (ECS) funding to support district strategies. This program assists the education experience and outcome of thousands of underserved students and families throughout the state.

My assistant and I met with Jim O'Shea of Achievement Unlimited of CT. Jim will be the facilitator for the special meeting of the Council and invited department heads that will be held on January 20th at Foundry 66 in downtown Norwich. Jim has extensive experience in facilitating retreats of this nature and has had community planning experience in Norwich. He will work with my assistant to supply a written report for the council regarding the outcomes of the meeting.

The City's new website has been launched successfully and press releases were sent to the local media. The focus of the website was redesigned with a focus on mobile users who now make up approximately 50% of the daily inquires. It provides the City with a stronger platform to introduce more transactional features in addition to on-line tax payments. Future enhancements will include on-line pavilion rental and building permit fees.

Press releases were also sent to inform taxpayers that they can pay their tax bill at local the local People's bank branches during the month of January. The lines have been longer than normal at the tax office even with the cold weather. I would like to remind everyone that the City still offers online payment, mail and night drop in addition to in-person payments.