

2009 Voters Guide



The League of Women Voters of Greater Hartford
www.lwvgh.org



Tim Brennan	Democrat
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Biographical Information:

Tim Brennan serves as Deputy Mayor and is seeking a second term on the Council. Tim is an investment attorney for The Hartford, a graduate of Providence College, Washington University School of Law and spent a year studying at Oxford University. Tim and his wife, Deb, are proud parents of Jack, age 7, and Madeline, age 5. On weekends, Tim can be found volunteering as a coach for the kids' baseball and soccer teams. The Brennans are members of St. Helena's Catholic Church. For more information, please visit Tim's web site: www.VoteTimBrennan.com.

Response to Questions

1. Which West Hartford services can be reduced and still be viable (assume no increase in state aid)?

Services to residents should not be reduced; rather we need to continue to get scrappy to cut costs while maintaining or improving services. Successful examples include:

- Adoption of Connecticut's first Comprehensive Energy Plan, which will save millions of dollars for public safety, education and other services.
- Use of technology to cut costs in our Town Clerk's office and improve efficiency in other departments.
- Reduction in town vehicles.
- Obtaining federal grants and cheap financing to further efficiency goals.

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2. West Hartford and Bloomfield partner to operate the Health Department. What additional regional cooperative efforts could ease our economic situation?

We should continue to explore a regional energy manager to further reduce energy costs and to implement the action items in the Comprehensive Energy Plan. An energy manager, like an IT department for computers, is necessary given our nation's sweeping changes in energy. If accomplished at a regional level, we will save on our tremendous energy costs, share expenses and benefit from experiences of other towns.

3. What are the biggest challenges and opportunities of our changing demographics?

Challenges: West Hartford continues to be viewed by the State and others as a wealthy town. While that perception is not true, West Hartford has continued to receive reduced state aid compared to other municipalities.

Opportunities: Because of West Hartford's ever changing demographics and the quality of our Town, we have had an outpouring of volunteerism in the schools, sports, human services and in countless other areas. We need to continue to utilize and promote volunteerism, not only to save money, but also to further improve the Town through new ideas and community involvement.

4. If elected, what initiative would be your top priority?

While I hope to continue my work for the Public Safety Committee and West Hartford's newly formed Veteran's Commission, you have my promise to push to improve and reduce our energy usage. I am proud that the Town Council unanimously adopted Connecticut's first Comprehensive Energy Plan. Every dollar we save on energy helps to relieve a burden to taxpayers and supports our police and fire departments, our schools and all the other town services that we cherish. We have saved over \$1 Million on energy costs and I know through more effort, we can double that next year.

Issues at a Glance Grid Questions

1. Should West Hartford provide more incentives to assist and encourage small businesses? **YES**
2. Would you support reducing activities at senior centers to save money? **NO**
3. Should the town provide additional safe bike lanes? **YES**
4. Would you support an ordinance requiring developers to replant a tree for every tree removed in West Hartford? **YES**
5. Do you support prioritizing energy efficiency upgrades in the capital improvement budget? **YES**