

## **Session 2: The Connecticut State Budget: Cut spending, raise taxes, or denial?**

Friday, June 4, 2010

Locations: Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall Annex, 999 Broad Street,  
Bridgeport, CT

### **Agenda**

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| 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.   | <u>Continental Breakfast and networking</u>  |
| 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  | <u>Connecticut's State Budget: An overview of the major issues facing the state now and in the future</u><br>Michael J. Cicchetti, Deputy Secretary, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management |
| 11:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. | Break  |
| 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | <u>What impact does the State Budget have upon municipalities, key services, and overall fiscal health of the state?</u><br>William Finch, Mayor, City of Bridgeport, CT                         |
| 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.  | <u>Reflections on State Budget Issues</u><br>Discussion and working lunch  |
| 1:00 p.m.                | <u>Adjourn</u>   |

## Session 2

### The Connecticut State Budget: Cut spending, raise taxes, or denial?

Expected outcomes:

1. Participants will be introduced to the Connecticut state budget and gain an understanding of the major budget issues facing the state both now and in the future.
2. Participants will gain an understanding of the impact of Connecticut's state budget upon municipalities, key state services, and the upcoming midterm elections.

Resource materials:

- Budget deficits that just don't quit, The Connecticut Economy, [http://cteconomy.uconn.edu/TCE\\_Issues/Spring\\_2010.pdf](http://cteconomy.uconn.edu/TCE_Issues/Spring_2010.pdf)
- State Budget Process, Connecticut General Assembly Office of Fiscal Analysis, <http://www.cga.ct.gov/OFA/Documents/AboutOFA/BudgetProcess.htm>
- OLR Major Issues 2010, Connecticut General Assembly Office of Legislative Research, <http://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/2010Major%20Issues/2010-R-0029.pdf>
- Connecticut 2010 Legislative Priorities: It's all about the budget! [http://www.businessfairfield.com/webpdf/BCFC\\_Legislative\\_Agenda\\_2010.pdf](http://www.businessfairfield.com/webpdf/BCFC_Legislative_Agenda_2010.pdf)
- State Budget, Debt, and Long Term Obligations, <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/rpt/2009-R-0341.htm>
- 2010 Gubernatorial Forum, [http://www.businessfairfield.com/Governors'\\_Forum\\_2010.htm](http://www.businessfairfield.com/Governors'_Forum_2010.htm)
- Business Council of Fairfield County Legislative Leadership Breakfast, [http://ctnv1.ctn.state.ct.us/B/business\\_council\\_3-24-10.wmv](http://ctnv1.ctn.state.ct.us/B/business_council_3-24-10.wmv)

Faculty:

**Michael J. Cicchetti, Deputy Secretary, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management**

No biography available at this time.

**William Finch, Mayor, City of Bridgeport, CT**

Bill Finch grew up in Trumbull and Bridgeport. After graduating from the University of Connecticut, he moved back to Bridgeport where he later became a City Council member for nine and a half years. While on the City Council, Bill developed a strong record of cutting taxes, helping to create new jobs, and enhancing public safety by voting to add more police officers to the force and promoting programs such as gun safety lock distribution.

As a councilman Bill also worked hard to enhance Bridgeport's infrastructure, helping to negotiate the construction of the Bluefish Baseball Stadium, the Arena at Harbor Yard, Steel Point, and other key projects. Bill has served as member of the Grow Bridgeport Fund, the Connecticut Zoological Society, and the Leo J. Ryan Education Foundation Board of Directors.

In 2000 Bill was elected State Senator for the 22nd district, representing Bridgeport, Trumbull, and Monroe. He served in the legislature as Senate Chairman of the Environment Committee and as Senate

Vice Chairman of the Transportation Committee. He was also a member of the Education Committee and the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee. As a Senator, Finch's legislative priorities included property tax reform, smart growth initiatives, education funding, expanding the Husky healthcare initiative, combating underage drinking, transportation issues, and gun control and crime prevention. Upon arriving at the Senate, Bill initiated the "Who Wants to Change the World?" Contest--an exciting, hands-on program to involve youth with government and inspire them to be active citizens. He also spearheaded an ongoing movement to recognize and preserve the works of renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted.

Bill received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Connecticut, and while he was there served as the student representative to the University's Board of Trustees and was elected President of the undergraduate student government. Bill was elected Mayor of Bridgeport in November 2007 with approximately 76% of the vote.