



September 27, 2005

For further information, contact: David Greene
(203) 281-1213

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUNDBREAKING HELD FOR BLUE BACK SQUARE

Lieutenant Governor Kevin Sullivan and West Hartford Town officials take part in ceremonies in West Hartford Center

(West Hartford)--- With a dig from ceremonial shovels, the construction for Blue Back Square is officially, underway. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held on Tuesday, September 27 on a portion of the site, near Memorial Road in West Hartford Center.

Blue Back Square is a project of Blue Back Square, LLC, a venture between the affiliates of Street-Works, LLC of White Plains, New York; JDA Development of West Hartford, Connecticut; and Ronus Properties of Atlanta, Georgia. When complete, the mixed-use development will nearly double the size of West Hartford Center. It will encompass 230,000 s.f. of retail space, 175,000 s.f. of offices and 100 condominiums, in addition to public parking, two new public plazas and other green areas. Blue Back Square will also feature the expansion of the Town's Webster Library, renovations to Town Hall to

September 27, 2005/Blue Back Square Groundbreaking/Page Two

accommodate the Board of Education and the creation of a new, town park along Raymond Road.

Retail anchors include Crate & Barrel, Criterion Cinemas and REI, while Hartford Hospital's Wellness Center and Healthtrax are the key tenants in Blue Back Square's medical offices. A sales center for The Heritage condominiums will open in October at 966 Farmington Avenue.

Remarks were delivered before an audience of Town officials and community leaders by speakers, including Kevin J. Sullivan, Lieutenant Governor, State of Connecticut; West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka; 5th District State Senator Jonathan Harris; Joseph Verrengia, Minority Leader, West Hartford Town Council; Barbara Carpenter, member, West Hartford Town Council; Richard Heapes, partner, Blue Back Square, LLC; Jason Lipiec, Group Manager, Private Banking for M&T Bank of New York City; and Michael Lee, Market Manager, Commercial Real Estate for Sovereign Bank, based in Providence, Rhode Island. Robert Wiener, partner, Blue Back Square, LLC, served as host.

Sovereign Bank and M&T Bank provided construction financing for both the public and private improvements at Blue Back Square.

Following the program, the speakers were joined by other dignitaries, including Blue Back Square, LLC partners, Kenneth Narva and Richard Langhorne, as well as other West Hartford Town Council members, Chuck Coursey, Maureen McClay, Dr. Craolyn Thornberry, David Lemkuil and Shari Cantor. Wielding shovels and backed up by construction equipment, they turned over earth at the building site, which will yield the new Blue Back Square neighborhood in 2007.

Commenting on the event, Robert Wiener, Blue Back Square LLC partner, noted, "The consistent support of the community and West Hartford's leaders has allowed Blue Back Square to become reality, at long last. During the months to come, we look forward to continuing the partnership, as we build new excitement and vitality which will benefit all of West Hartford."