



TOWN OF PRESTON  
TOWN OFFICES  
389 ROUTE 2  
PRESTON, CONNECTICUT 06365-8830

December 5, 2008

The Honorable Robert Genuario, Secretary  
State of Connecticut  
Office of Policy and Management  
450 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106-1308

Dear Secretary Genuario,

As you are aware, the Town of Preston's purchase option for the former Norwich State Hospital expires on January 5, 2009. Given the current extraordinarily bleak economic and credit environment, the Town is requesting your support for extension of the term of the current Purchase and Sales Agreement for another two years. The Town is also seeking support from all parties to the current agreement.

The efforts and monies expended by the Town to find a development partner for the site are well documented. This process resulted in the identification of two experienced and qualified development teams, either of which we believe would have been in a position to proceed with their proposal, absent unprecedented collapse of the credit markets over the last several months. Given current economic conditions, which could not have been anticipated when the Town established its RFP timetable, it is an unrealistic expectation that committed funds for remediation and development of the site will be available within the existing time periods established by the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

The Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments recently unanimously voted to send you and Governor Rell a letter supporting the Town's effort to extend the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

It is my understanding that as early as April or May of 2009 the Federal Government will be doing a second economic stimulus program that would include brown-fields projects. The Town of Preston has expended well over a million dollars on environmental due-diligence making the site shovel ready. The Town is positioned to take advantage of this opportunity if and when federal stimulus monies become available.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you are not willing to support our request would you please explain the State's reasons so that I might share them with the Norwich Hospital Advisory Committee, residents of Preston, and the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments?

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bc' or 'Bob Congdon', written in a cursive style.

Bob Congdon  
First Selectman

cc: Michael Cicchetti, Deputy Secretary