



City of New Bedford
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Mayor Mitchell Announces “New Bedford Works”

*New Framework Establishes Clear Expectations for Developers to Employ
Local Workers and Companies*

New Bedford, Massachusetts- In an effort to improve access to economic opportunities for all New Bedford companies and workers, the City of New Bedford has adopted a set of mutual commitments by the City and prospective investors for the hiring of New Bedford residents and companies. “New Bedford Works,” is a series of guiding principles that emphasizes good faith, strong communication and clear expectations between local government and investors to help create economic opportunities for New Bedford workers and companies.

Mayor Jon Mitchell, who first announced New Bedford would formalize its expectations for investors in his last State of the City Address, said, “It is important that as new projects come on line, New Bedford is clear about what obligations are owed by investors to this community. Our expectations are simple and reasonable, if you are doing business in New Bedford, our people and our businesses deserve a chance to compete. I don’t believe this is asking too much.”

Mayor Mitchell added, “I thank the entire team that worked to help my office develop this policy, including the Workforce Investment Board, the New Bedford Economic Development Council and many other community leaders.”

City Council President Linda Morad said, “The City Council is pleased to support this initiative to promote the talented workforce of New Bedford residents and to establish expectations for working together with investors and companies committed to our City’s continued economic growth.”

“Both the Chamber and the WIB wholeheartedly support any initiative aimed at providing opportunities for local businesses and job seekers to work together. The Mayor’s proposal addresses that in terms of promoting a spirit of cooperation and improved communication between businesses looking to locate or expand in the city and local suppliers and job seekers looking for opportunities to grow as well. We are excited to be a part of and support this important step in improving the local economy,” said Attorney Joseph Michaud, Chair-Elect of

the New Bedford Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the New Bedford Workforce Investment Board.

“The NBEDC is committed to the principles that Mayor Mitchell has established for developers and investors working in New Bedford. The Council has partnered with the Mayor and the WIB to establish these principles and will assist in any way possible. Workers in New Bedford have a great work ethic and superb skills. They just need the opportunity to compete on a level playing field,” Anthony Sapienza Chair, New Bedford Economic Development Council and President of JA Apparel Corporation.

[Copy of the New Bedford Works guiding principles is attached.]

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