TO: Jeffrey R. Beckham, Secretary

FROM: Kimberly Kennison, Executive Financial Officer Kimbuly Kennison

DATE: December 22, 2023

SUBJECT: City of Hartford – Tier II Redesignation

This letter is sent on behalf of the <u>Municipal Finance Advisory Commission</u> (MFAC). The Commission met with the City of Hartford's Mayor Luke Bronin met with the Commission on December 13, 2023, as you requested in your November 17, 2023, letter to the Commission.

Mayor Bronin provided the Commissioners an overview of the progress the City has made towards financial stability from when it first came under the oversight of the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB) six years ago as a Tier III designated municipality. He indicated that the improvements in the City's financial condition have resulted in the City meeting the conditions in Chapter 117 of the General Statutes for being released from its Tier III designation. The MARB agrees with the City's request to be redesignated from a Tier III municipality to a Tier II municipality based upon the progress made in the City's financial condition.

As a Commission charged with working with municipalities to improve upon their fiscal condition and practices, we congratulate Mayor Bronin and the MARB on the improvements made to the City's financial condition. We have evaluated the City's plan to continue to work with the MARB by seeking redesignation from a Tier III municipality to a Tier II municipality. We conclude that the City's designation as a Tier II municipality is a sound approach for allowing the City and MARB to continue to work upon the City's long-term fiscal stability and towards further improvements in the City of Hartford's fiscal condition and practices.

Subsequent to the City's presentation, a motion was made that the MFAC agrees with Mayor Bronin and the MARB's intent for the City of Hartford to be redesignated from a Tier III municipality to a Tier II municipality, allowing the City to continue to work under the oversight of the MARB. The motion was unanimously approved by all Commissioners.

Please contact the Commission should you have any questions on this communication.

Cc: Members of the MFAC

Luke A. Bronin, Mayor, City of Hartford

Erick Russell, State Treasurer