



CITY OF NORWALK

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**Statement from Mayor Rilling on Longstanding Property Owner
Opening Workforce Training Center**

(Norwalk, CT) – Mayor Rilling released the following statement regarding the importance of workforce development following today’s ribbon cutting ceremony for the Workforce Training Center. The Workforce Training Center is a vocational training program located at 25 Van Zant Street and directed by the site’s owner and developer, Winthrop Baum.

“We are proud that Winthrop Baum, a longstanding property owner in Norwalk, recognizes the importance of workforce development training. Through his commitment to opening up the Workforce Training Center in our community, which will provide a variety of vocational education opportunities, he is investing in our local workforce and economy.

Whether it’s vocational training in culinary arts, hospitality, nursing, or electrical studies, this program will help more of our workforce gain the skills they need to be ready to enter the industry of their choice.

Properly preparing our workforce for the future is critical, especially in a City like Norwalk that is consistently attracting new businesses and finding innovative ways to best prepare our workforce with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of a competitive economy.

Trainings and educational opportunities in a variety of trades will help increase opportunities for our residents in Norwalk, so they can continue to work, live and grow their families here in our community.

The importance of trade school to our local and state economy cannot be overstated. The very building that the Workforce Training Center is in on 25 Van Zant Street was once a hat factory and where I worked making hats after school. It’s amazing to see this building return to its trade and as a community, we will continue supporting programs that invest in our workforce and help us meet the demands of our global economy.”

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