Mayor Jon Mitchell Announces Neighborhood Office Hours

Mayor Jon Mitchell announced today that he will add monthly neighborhood office hours to his schedule to create more time for residents to meet with him outside of normal business hours and in their own neighborhood. The first of Mayor Mitchell's neighborhood office hours will be held on the evening of <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>September 20</u>, <u>2016 5:30PM-7:30PM at the</u> <u>Wilks Library Branch</u>, <u>1944 Acushnet Avenue</u> in New Bedford's north end, just south of Brooklawn Park.

The Mayor's monthly neighborhood office hours will be announced each month and residents are invited to attend to meet with Mayor Mitchell directly and share their concerns and ideas. No advance appointments are required and meetings with the Mayor will be done on a first come, first serve basis.

"I encourage residents to call my office anytime they would like our help in working through an issue, need information or want to share their ideas about how we can work together to keep building a better New Bedford. I feel it is important however, that residents have an opportunity to meet with me outside of normal business hours and in their own neighborhoods so I am setting aside time each month to hold office hours in city neighborhoods," said Mayor Mitchell.

Mayor Mitchell said the idea that local government is the place where individuals can feel most connected to their government inspired him in part to serve as mayor. "I believe we can inspire public confidence and trust in local government through communication and personal interactions and so that's why I've made it a priority to meet with city residents directly and share information through many different channels." Since taking office Mayor Mitchell has hosted a live one hour radio show on WBSM AM 1420 from 12 to noon on Wednesdays where listeners are encouraged to call in with questions. Mayor Mitchell also tapes a briefing for the public on a weekly basis which airs on the New Bedford Cable News Network and is available on the City's YouTube channel. In addition, on a monthly basis, Mayor Mitchell participates in a live, interactive interview with New Bedford Guide and its thousands of Facebook followers.