



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: James L. Hutchison, Mayor

DATE: February 20, 2004

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2004

On January 14, I attended a meeting of the Bond Bill Committee at the General Assembly. Also in attendance were members of the Delaware Civic Center Board and Dr. Sessoms, President of Delaware State University. At that time, we were able to present the overall project which proposes a partnership between Delaware State University and the Delaware Civic Center. It is our desire that the future Civic Center (multi-purpose facility) be a part of the wellness center and football complex at Delaware State University. It was the feeling of those in attendance that the presentation went well and there was some interest in such a concept.

I attended the State of the State Address by Governor Minner on January 22. Overall there is an indication that from a financial perspective, the outlook for the State of Delaware continues to change in a very positive direction. With that said, it is extremely critical for this city to prioritize issues of concern and make sure that the Governor and General Assembly know our priority list as they are going through the budget and decision-making process.

On January 23, I had a meeting with Brice Link, Plant Manager of Kraft Foods. Judy McKinney-Cherry was also in attendance for this overview of the Kraft Foods operation. Mr. Link also discussed some ideas for the future. He comes with a tremendous amount of experience and is focused on reaching out and taking care of the Dover operation. This year marks a very special year for Kraft Foods, as it celebrates 40 years in the City. This operation is very important, and Mr. Link knows that the City, County and State are only a phone call away.

JLH/tlk