

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the Mayor of the City of New Haven to execute and deliver a five (5) year ground lease by and between New Haven Farms, Inc. and the City of New Haven for urban farming at various locations within the City of New Haven. (Livable City Initiative)

REPORT: 1541-07

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

The Livable City Initiative ("LCI") is submitting an order to the Board of Alders to authorize the Mayor of the City of New Haven to execute and deliver a five (5) year ground lease by and between New Haven Farms, Inc. ("NH Farms") and the City of New Haven for urban farms at various locations within the City of New Haven. NH Farms has previously leased, and, or licensed land from the City of New Haven for terms of (1) to five (5) years for a rent of \$1.00 per annum and the current lease will expire on June 30, 2019. LCI proposes a five (5) year lease of City owned land to NH Farms for urban farms at the following locations: 248 Ferry Street, 613-619 Ferry Street, 66 Liberty Street, 285 James Street, 42 Shelter Street, and 170 Ward Street. A companion order concerns the execution and delivery of a five (5) year ground lease between the City and the New Haven Land Trust, Inc.

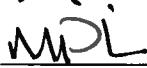
PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Since 2012, NH Farms has operated approximately six urban farms in New Haven on land owned by the City of New Haven. NH Farms has used these sites to serve the residents of New Haven through farming and offering educational opportunities regarding organic sustainable practices surrounding farming, health, and nutrition. The farms enhance the surrounding neighborhoods by providing recreational and educational opportunities for community members and increasing local rain water absorption through the various permeable surfaces that exist throughout the sites.

ADVICE

The Commission finds the Order in the best interest of the City and recommends approval.

ADOPTED: February 21, 2018
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: 

Michael Piscitelli, AICP
Deputy Economic Development Administrator