

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS, concerning the permanent closure of a portion of Judith Terrace where it intersects with Riverview Street (Alder Rose Santana).
REPORT: 1543-12
ADVICE: Approval with conditions

BACKGROUND

Judith Terrace is in the Fair Haven Heights neighborhood. It became an accepted street in January 1963. In 1993, the Board of Alders first authorized a temporary closure of a portion of Judith Terrace and Riverview Street due in part to the prevalence of cut-through traffic from Quinnipiac Avenue to Crofton Street and Riverview Street. The temporary condition, basically with concrete barriers, has been in place since that time even though there has been extensive dialogue about a more permanent solution. This would be either a roundabout or permanent closure. With the new housing being developed by LCI on Judith Terrace (see attached picture of the houses under construction and the concrete barriers), Alder Santana has convened the residents of the area and a consensus emerged for a permanent closure.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

As a general point, the Commission encourages connectivity of streets for the benefit of public use and public safety considerations. In this particular instance, Judith Terrace is a winding road leading to the top of a hill. Furthermore, there is limited utility to reopening the Judith / Riverview connection, in part because the southerly terminus of Judith Terrace is to a one-way northbound segment of Quinnipiac Avenue. For these reasons, as well as the community input received by Alder Santana, the permanent closure is acceptable.

ADVICE

The Commission recommends that approval of the Order with the following conditions:

1. Closure for motorized traffic only; City to maintain access for bicycle and pedestrian traffic between barriers.
2. City to design and implement a more aesthetically-appropriate barrier system than as currently in place.
3. City Engineer to amend official City map and notify digital mapping services as may be appropriate.

ADOPTED: April 18, 2018
Leslie Radcliffe
Vice Chair

ATTEST: MPL
Michael Piscitelli, AICP
Deputy Economic Development Administrator

