

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:**       **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the mayor to apply for, execute, acknowledge, implement, and deliver any and all documents as may be considered necessary or appropriate for the TIGER 8 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (City Plan Director)

**REPORT:** 1521-09

**ADVICE:** Approval

### BACKGROUND

The City is making application for \$40 million in TIGER 8 funding and has previously worked with the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). DECD has already made a \$21.5 million commitment to the Downtown Crossing project, and the City has already committed \$12 million in capital funds to complete the South Orange Street crossing. The new TIGER 8 grant funds are sought to complete the Temple Street crossing, which will be the third crossing to be constructed as a portion of the Downtown Crossing project, after the already completed College Street crossing and the in-design South Orange Street crossing.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Downtown Crossing is a project of state-wide significance as a transportation safety and connectivity project and as a catalyst for new job creation in the growing medical district, and downtown areas. Completion of Phases II and III of Downtown Crossing, which this grant seeks to fund, is a recommendation of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan adopted by the City Plan Commission. The project addresses a persistent legacy of the urban renewal era, when over 881 households were relocated and 350 businesses were cleared to build the never-finished Route 34 highway. Instead of clearing already developed land the project makes excess transportation ROW and air rights available for new construction and jobs. It will also re-establish street grid connections ruptured by the highway construction. The street infrastructure will support the approved Live Work Learn Play mixed use plan for the former Coliseum site and a new development at 101 College and improve connectivity and safety for all modes of transportation with particular emphasis on creating more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly complete streets. Travel times for all modes, including transit, between the downtown and the medical area and the Hill neighborhood will be reduced.

### ADVICE

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

**ADOPTED:**   August 24, 2016  
                  Edward Mattison  
                  Chair

**ATTEST:**   
                  Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA  
                  Executive Director