

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: FIRE SUPPRESSION STANDPIPE SYSTEMS ON BRIDGES, Authorization for Mayor to enter into a Master Agreement between the City and State of Connecticut for the standpipe system installation at various locations (Chief of Fire Department and City Engineer).

REPORT:1472-03

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

Before the Board is an Order authorizing Mayor DeStefano to enter into an Agreement between the City and the State of Connecticut for the installation of fire suppression standpipe systems on bridges at various locations within the City. Submitted by Fire Chief Michael Grant and City Engineer Richard Miller, the Master Agreement memorializes the understanding of the State and City concerning their respective duties, rights, liabilities and obligations regarding fire protection on bridges over State or Federal highways or on State or Federal roadways crossed by a City roadway.

In the Master Agreement the State agrees to:

- Furnish and hire a contractor to install standpipe systems as part of construction contracts administered by the State;
- Provide the City with plans and specifications for review and comment during the design process on projects where design is performed by the State;
- Inspect the installation of and accept the system upon completion on construction contracts administered by the State.

The City agrees to:

- Furnish and hire a contractor to install a standpipe system as part of construction contracts administered by the City;
- Provide the State with plans and specifications for review and comment during the design process on projects where design is performed by the City;
- Assume all responsibility, liability and all costs associated for the proper maintenance, testing and operation of the standpipe systems listed in Exhibit A-1;
- Respond promptly to fire calls at any bridges listed in Exhibits A-1 and A-2;
- Test the systems initially and annually thereafter, more often should vandalism or tampering occur;
- Maintain the systems including draining or flushing after each use;
- Provide the water supply for the systems;
- Responsibility for indemnification of the State for any and all claims or liabilities;

The State and City mutually agree:

- State may add or delete a bridge location in the Exhibits A-1 and A-2 as may be requested by the City.

Exhibit A-1 includes a listing of 13 bridges to be maintained by the City where standpipe installations are already complete. Exhibit A-2 includes the Quinnipiac River Bridge where the installation is complete and will be maintained by the State.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

This Agreement formalizes the current practices of the Fire Department in that the City is responsible for owning and maintaining the standpipe systems on the 13 bridges. These fire suppression systems allow immediate access to the highways under and in the vicinity of the bridges where accidents involving fire primarily occur.

ADVICE

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

ADOPTED: December 19, 2012
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: 
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA
Executive Director