

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **BROOKSIDE AVENUE BRIDGE**, Authorization for Memorandum of Agreement with Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority and Housing Authority to provide Funds for Initial Effort towards Costs of Replacement (City Engineer).

REPORT: 1460-08

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

In the process of constructing the West Rock Development Project, the City, Housing Authority of New Haven, and Michaels Development Corporation, have determined that the Brookside Avenue Bridge over Wintergreen Brook requires replacement due to its poor condition. At the main entry to the new housing development of 433 Units, the bridge initially was proposed to have improvements but not full replacement. At the outset of the project it had been determined to be structurally sound and in fair condition, but its most recent evaluation shows it to have deteriorated to poor condition, thus requiring replacement.

Before the Board is a three-party Agreement among the City, the Housing Authority (HANH) and the Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority (GNHWPCA), including relocation of sewer lines which run beneath the bridge. Total replacement cost has been estimated at \$1.7 million. HANH has agreed to contribute \$400,000 towards the project, GNHWPCA has agreed to contribute \$300,000 for sewer relocation costs, and the City is responsible for \$1 million in Capital funds, some which may be eligible for reimbursement under the State's Local Bridge Program. The initial \$700,000 will enable the sewer relocation costs up front (as the lines are restricting water flow under the bridge) and the design costs.

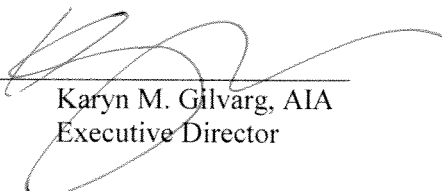
PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The City will be responsible for hiring a design engineer and for executing the bridge construction including the work GNHWPCA would normally do to relocate the sewer temporarily while the bridge construction is underway. Relocation work will involve abandonment of two sanitary sewer conveyance pipes from within existing bridge culverts and relocation to an area approximately 100' west of the existing west bridge abutment. When the bridge was evaluated by a consultant in 2008, it was deemed to be in fair condition with the roadway approaches in poor condition and a recommendation for full replacement within 2-5 years. It is now clear the replacement should occur in anticipation of full occupancy of the West Rock development and anticipated eventual connection with the Town of Hamden.

ADVICE

The Commission has long supported the maintenance of the City's aging infrastructure and recommends approval of the Agreement.

ADOPTED: January 18, 2012
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: 
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA
Executive Director