NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: LIGHTHOUSE POINT PARK, Authorization to Accept Grant of \$5,000

from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

to plant Legacy Trees (Director of Parks, Recreation & Trees).

REPORT: 1462-04 ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

Before the Board is a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a \$5,000 Grant from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to plant "Legacy Trees" in Lighthouse Point Park. The Resolution submitted by Director Robert Levine of the City Department of Parks, Recreation and Trees states the grant money would be used to replace trees which have died or have been lost due to storms. A legacy tree is one of high quality and large caliper when planted which will become a mature, notable specimen when fully grown.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

In 2009 Mayor DeStefano announced a planting goal of 10,000 trees within five years in the City. To that end the Parks Department has been partnering with Urban Resources Initiative to raise citizen awareness towards protection of existing trees on both public and private property, to maintain and trim existing street trees and those in parks and to plant new trees as funding becomes available. A number of trees have been lost in Lighthouse Point Park due to disease, storm damage or age. Starting with larger trees of high quality will produce a more immediate canopy within the park. The DEEP grant will be timely as the 2012 spring planting season is imminent.

ADVICE

The Commission urges the Board of Aldermen to adopt the Resolution accepting the DEEP Grant so that the Legacy Trees can be located and tagged at nurseries, transported and planted as soon as weather will permit.

ADOPTED: March 21, 2012

Edward Mattison

Chair

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Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA

Executive Director