

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: RENEWABLE ENERGY, Acceptance of Generating Equipment from the CT Clean Energy Options Program (Director of Sustainability).

REPORT: 1443-10

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

Christine Tang, Director of the Office of Sustainability, has requested that the Board of Aldermen authorize acceptance of renewable energy generating equipment from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund as part of the Connecticut Clean Energy Options Program. The CT Clean Energy Fund offers renewable energy generating systems (such as solar photovoltaic panels or solar thermal systems) to municipalities as an incentive to encourage residents and businessmen to participate in the program.

Renewable energy is energy which comes from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat, which are renewable (naturally replenished). New Haven is a leader in the State for the adoption of renewable energy technologies, including fuel cells, solar photovoltaic panels, and the largest wind turbine in the State (at Phoenix Press on James Street). New Haven was the first municipality in the state to commit to purchasing 20% Class I renewable energy for its operations in 2010. Over 1,200 residents and businesses in the City have signed up for renewable electricity through the CT Clean Energy Options Program.

As a reward for the City's leading participation, it has earned 22 kW of solar panels to be installed on three public buildings.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The panels will be used on the Fair Haven Library (15 kW of solar PV panels), caretaker's cottage at Lighthouse Park (4 kW of solar PV panels), and the building at Long Wharf pier (2 kW of PV panels and a solar thermal system). This equipment, valued at approximately \$140,000, is purchased and installed by the Fund at no cost to the City. Future projected maintenance costs are reduced by the value of the energy produced by the systems at an annual cost savings of \$5,000-6,000.

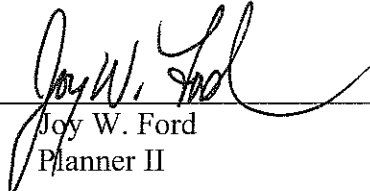
Aldermanic approval of this Order will allow the City to accept future equipment from the CT Clean Energy Options Program when it becomes available.

ADVICE

Approval

ADOPTED: August 18, 2010
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST:


Joy W. Ford
Planner II