

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** 266 COLLEGE STREET, Authorization for Sign over the City Sidewalk (Bespoke Restaurant).  
**REPORT:** 1438-30  
**ADVICE:** Approval with Conditions

### BACKGROUND

Bespoke Restaurant at 266 College Street has petitioned the Board of Aldermen for a projecting sign over the sidewalk in the Downtown. The sign will be a double-sided wood art piece to hang from an existing sign pole affixed to the façade of the building. The sign itself is 24" wide, 36" high and 2" thick and will be installed at a height of 10' above the sidewalk. It will be fastened to the pole by stainless steel strapping which will wrap around the pole and feed through a bracket and screw into the sign. The sign will be further stabilized by hooking its bottom to the wooden patio superstructure. The sign overhangs the edge of a small patio constructed over the sidewalk for outdoor dining. The patio also requires an annual permit from the City.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Board of Aldermen controls encroachments on the public right-of-way under the general authority of Section 49 of the Charter and Section 9-2 of the Code or Ordinances. The Commission advises the Board in considering proposals for appurtenances over City sidewalks, and looks at suitability of design, scale, durability of product and its supports, quality of construction materials, and height above the sidewalk in the light of potential vandalism. In cases where the location is within a Historic District or the building is historic in nature, the Commission looks further at whether the appurtenance is complimentary to the architecture of the building. The sign appears to be constructed of durable materials at an adequate height above the sidewalk. The building at 266 College Street is a contributing building in the Chapel Street National Register Historic District, and the design will not detract from the historic nature of the building. The former owner of the restaurant made some contemporary improvements to the facade

The City requires an indemnity agreement where the City is held harmless from damages. A public liability insurance certificate where the City is listed as additional insured, as acceptable to the City's Corporation Counsel, is required.

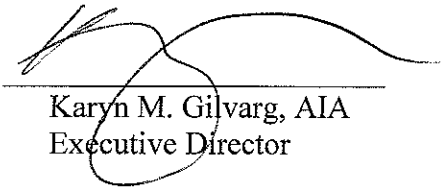
### ADVICE

The City Plan Commission recommends approval of the proposed sign as shown in the submitted plans with the following conditions:

1. The sign shall require a permit from the Building Department.
2. The applicant shall maintain a **current** and continuous public liability certificate of insurance, in an amount acceptable to the City's Corporation Counsel.
3. The City reserves the right to revoke the privilege for the sign if hazardous to pedestrians using the sidewalk or not maintained in good repair and clean condition, or the Certificate of Liability Insurance lapses.

**ADOPTED:** March 17, 2010  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:**

  
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA  
Executive Director