

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **ORDER** authorizing the Mayor to accept the Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities Grant (BRIC) from the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and to accept funding from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) under the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) to build a 10-foot stormwater Micro-Tunnel from Union Avenue to the New Haven Harbor to address inland flooding the Downtown, Hill and Long Wharf neighborhoods.
Submitted by: City Engineer

REPORT: 1613-04

ADVICE: Approve.

BACKGROUND

The City of New Haven is a potential subgrantee to the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) under the Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Connecticut Department of Transportation has funds available for the project under the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP). The project is subject to a 30% matching funds requirement which will be comprised of the LOTICIP funding and the Long Wharf Living Shoreline funds already accepted by the City in 2018. The City of New Haven desires to improve inland and coastal flood resiliency in the Downtown, Hill and Long Wharf Neighborhoods by utilizing funding to build a ten-foot stormwater micro-tunnel from Union Avenue to the New Haven Harbor. It is anticipated that the New Haven community at large will benefit from the project as described.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

In accordance with Title I, Article XIII, Section 2(A) of the New Haven Code of Ordinances states, **"Every Ordinance or Resolution of the Board of Alders relating to the location and use of any street, bridge, boulevard, esplanade, square, park, playground, playfield, aviation field, parking space, public building, [grant funding], the facilities or terminals of any public utility, or the establishment or change in the boundaries of or regulations concerning zoning, shall be at once referred to the City Planning Commission and final action shall not be taken on any such Ordinance or Resolution until the commission shall have reported thereon, provided that the Board of Alders may establish by ordinance a period of not less than sixty (60) Days within which the commission shall file its report with the City Clerk and if no report is filed within such period the approval of the commission shall be presumed."** Accordingly, the Board of Alders seeks guidance regarding the proposed amendment.

The Board of Alder seeks guidance as to:

- Whether the proposal is aligned with the City's Comprehensive Plan.

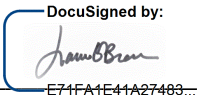
- The City’s Comprehensive Plan states, as a goal, to **“Adapt to sea level rise and other coastal/ inland flooding events by identifying and seeking new sources of funding to address and improve the resiliency of properties in V and VE flood zones”**

ADVICE

The proposal is aligned with the City’s Comprehensive Plan because it:

- Seeks funding opportunities to correct coastal, as well as inland, flooding issues within the city.
- Will allow the City to implement measures to correct existing flooding issues.
- Will allow the City to take preventative coastal resiliency measures to prevent loss of lives and property during major coastal flooding events.

ADOPTED: July 20, 2022
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: 

Laura E Brown
Executive Director, City Plan Department