

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT**RE: ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS–**

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of New Haven to apply for and accept a Health Homes Production grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban development in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the period of October 27, 2021 to April 27, 2025 and to take a comprehensive approach to addressing multiple childhood diseases and injuries in the home by focusing on housing-related hazards in a coordinated fashion and to execute, acknowledge, implement and deliver any and all documents as may be considered necessary or appropriate with respect thereto.

(Submitted by: Maritza Bond, Director of Health)

REPORT: 1592-06

ADVICE: Approve

BACKGROUND

This request comes from the Board of Alders regarding the authorization of the Mayor to apply and accept (if awarded) Health Homes Production Grant Funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 from October 27, 2021 to April 27, 2025 from US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

This HUD funding (if granted) would allow the City to address multiple childhood diseases impacted by the home environment and injuries in the home related to safety. The grant would allow the City to focus on housing related hazards in a coordinated fashion in privately owned, low-income rental and/or owner-occupied dwelling units. The City will use the funds to identify and correct dwelling units with children, senior citizens (62 years or older) and/or families with persons with disabilities.

Accordingly, the grant would accomplish the following goals:

- Maximize both the number of vulnerable residents protected from housing-related environmental health and safety hazards and the number of housing units where these hazards are controlled;
- Identify and remediate housing-related health and safety hazards in privately owned, low-income rental and/or owner-occupied housing, especially in units and/or buildings where families with children, older adults sixty-two (62) years and older, or families with persons with disabilities reside;
- Promote cost-effective and efficient healthy home methods and approaches that can be replicated and sustained;
- Support public education and outreach that furthers the goal of protecting children and other vulnerable populations from housing-related health and safety hazards;
- Build local capacity to operate sustainable programs that will prevent and control housing-related environmental health and safety hazards in low- and very low-income residences, and develop a professional workforce that is trained in healthy homes assessment and principles;
- Promote integration of this grant program with housing rehabilitation, property maintenance, weatherization, healthy homes initiatives, local lead-based paint hazard control programs, health and safety programs, and energy efficiency improvement activities and programs;

- Build and enhance partner resources to develop the most cost-effective methods for identifying and controlling key housing-related environmental health and safety hazards;
- Promote collaboration, data sharing, and targeting between health and housing departments;
- Ensure to the greatest extent feasible that job training, employment, contracting, and other economic opportunities generated by this grant will be directed to low- and very-low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons in New Haven; and
- Further environmental justice, the fair treatment, and meaningful involvement of all people within the target communities regardless of race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sex, familial status or income regarding the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

This proposed amendment is 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, 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.

ADVICE

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

- Improves the quality, safety, health and welfare of housing within the City.
- Improves the quality of life for residents.

ADOPTED: September 22, 2021
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: 
Aicha Woods
Executive Director, City Plan Department