

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS REFERRAL -
Order Approving The Negotiation And Execution Of A Multi-Year Lease Agreement By And Between The City Of New Haven And The State Of Connecticut For Use Of Connecticut DOT Land Along Bradley Street At The Intersection Of State Street (See Map) To Be Used As A Community Greenspace. Said Multi-Year Lease Shall Be For A Period Not To Exceed Fifteen (15) Years At A Fixed Rent Of \$1.00 Per Year. The Lease Shall Be In The Standard Form Utilized By The State of Connecticut. (Submitted by: Arlevia Samuel, Acting Executive Director, Livable City Initiative)

REPORT: 1593-07

ADVICE: Approve.

BACKGROUND

This request is to consider allowing the residents of the East Rock Section to create, develop and maintain community greenspace within a Right-of-Way owned by the State of Connecticut by way of lease agreement. These greenspace improvements would be located along Bradley Street near the intersection of State Street.

The City's Livable City Initiative encourages "green" infrastructure and landscape improvements in densely populated neighborhoods because this infrastructure beautifies the neighborhood, builds strong neighborhood networks, creates a greater sense of "place" and fosters intergenerational socializing while preserving open space. The City's Livable City Initiative ventures to partner with grassroots organizations to maintain stewardship of parcels such as this site.

Accordingly, the City's Livable City Initiative seeks a multi-year lease agreement with the State of Connecticut for \$1.00 per year to create more open space/"green-space" within the City; specifically, along Bradley Street.

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, 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, “**Encourage the creation of safe open space opportunities and community gardens.**”

ADVICE

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

- Fosters a greater “sense of place” and neighborhood pride.
- Beautifies the community.
- Fosters intergenerational socialization.
- Increases the City’s open space.
- Increases the number of street trees within the City.

ADOPTED: October 6, 2021

Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: _____ *Aicha Woods*

Aicha Woods
Executive Director, City Plan Department