

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:**           **ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the Mayor to accept funding from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for Living Shoreline Resiliency Projects at East Shore Park and Long Wharf Park (City Engineer)

**REPORT: 1554-11**  
**ADVICE:** Approval

### BACKGROUND

The City Engineer is requesting that the Board of Alders authorize the Mayor to accept \$8,000,000 of funding from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to implement various coastal resiliency projects. The proposed funding will enable the City to reconstruct approximately 3000' of shoreline along Long Wharf Park and East Shore Park using living shoreline techniques, which rely on established natural systems, such as intertidal marshes and dunes, supported by human-made structures such as stone sills and imported material. Proposed Living Shoreline Resiliency projects, which also include design elements such as walking paths to improve access of park users, will support habitat preservation and significantly enhance existing wetlands' resiliency to erosion, shoreline degradation, and sea level rise. Multiple public meetings were held during the initial phase of the project that included a HUD CDBG-DR funded study of flood hazards in the Long Wharf area. Another public meeting will be held at East Shore Park in February to gather input on potential design elements.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection funding will help to address immediate needs of protecting the city's shoreline from sea level rise and supports New Haven Vision 2025 goals of implementing flood proofing, shoreline stabilization, and coastal resiliency measures along the City's coast.

### ADVICE

The Commission finds the Order in the best interest of the City and recommends approval.

**ADOPTED:** February 20, 2019  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:** MPL  
Michael Piscitelli, AICP  
Interim Economic Development Administrator