

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Approving the Parks Commission to accept a donation of In-Kind Improvements from the Urban Resources Initiative to help complete the Masterplan Improvements at Cherry Ann Park. (Submitted By: Rebecca Bombero of the New Haven Department of Parks, Recreation, and Trees)

REPORT: 1560-16

ADVICE: Approve

BACKGROUND

Cherry Ann Street Park is approximately 4 acres of land located in the northern-most portion of Beaver Pond Park and bordered by K-8 public school, Beaver Pond, and SCSU. David Moser, the former landscape architect for the City of New Haven and dearly missed, led a community-based design and review process for the park design. After significant pushback from City departments with regard to safety and maintenance concerns, David Moser enlisted the help of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Connecticut Audubon, and the Urban Resources Initiative (URI).

This collaboration, along with neighbors, businesses stakeholders, and the Parks Department, resulted in a revised plan that was more attuned to the physical and cultural conditions of the park. In 2015, the Parks Commission approved this Master Plan for the Cherry Ann Street Park.

URI has received funding commitments from private donors to complete improvements to the park in compliance with the Master Plan. The City through its Engineering and Parks Departments will review, inspect and accept all URI's completed work. This is a Resolution to accept those improvements.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

New Haven Vision 2025, VII-24: "Continue to enhance the image of all City parks to make them accessible, inviting, exciting, and well maintained. This can be accomplished through landscape improvements, turf renovations, and new signage and site furniture. The Commission further recommends repair of deteriorated infrastructure such as bulkheads; parking lots; roadways; irrigation systems; tennis, basketball, and bocce courts; splash pads; and other support amenities... Seek to expand opportunities to promote safe access to the existing parks and enhance programming in underserved neighborhoods by capitalizing on site and resource opportunities when available."

ADVICE

The Commission finds the Resolution in the best interest of the city and recommends approval.

ADOPTED: August 21, 2019
Leslie Radcliffe
Vice Chair

ATTEST: 
Aicha Woods
Executive Director, City Plan Department