

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the mayor to submit and accept funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Choice Neighborhood Implementation grant in an amount not to exceed \$30 million for the purposes of redevelopment of Church Street South and surrounding neighborhood improvements consistent with strategy outlined in the Hill-to-Downtown Plan, City Transformation Plan, and Promise Zone (Livable City Initiative Executive Director)

**REPORT:** 1537-06

**ADVICE:** Approval

### BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) created Choice Neighborhoods as HUD's signature place-based initiative in support of the President's goal to build Ladders of Opportunity to the middle class. This vision builds on the work that has been done by the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI), an interagency partnership between HUD and the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Justice, and the Treasury, that since 2009 has helped improve access to affordable housing opportunities through revitalization and stabilization; mediate homelessness; and promote development, redevelopment and/or rehabilitation of existing structures. The Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant application for the sum of up to \$30 Million in new federal grant funds is to support housing, neighborhoods, and people as part of the larger Hill-to-Downtown Plan.

The same grant application was made in 2016. The pending application is largely similar, with changes made based on feedback received from HUD to strengthen the application's chances of winning a grant.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The objectives of the Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant will be to replace deteriorated housing with new housing at the Church Street South Development Complex, reconnect Hill to Downtown including the Trowbridge area, create new public space and retail amenities, and expand job opportunities for residents within walking distance of the surrounding neighborhood. The development goals that would be achieved through implementation of this grant are in line with both the Hill-to-Downtown Community Plan, which envisions a vibrant, walkable, mixed-use district combining new homes with growing medical and research uses, served by new retail and entertainment venues, walkable streets, and new public spaces, as well as the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, which calls for Downtown residential mixed-use throughout much of the grant implementation area.

### ADVICE

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

**ADOPTED:** October 18, 2017  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:**   
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA  
Executive Director