

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS Authorizing the mayor to accept funds for renewable energy generating equipment from the CT Green Bank. (City Engineer)

REPORT: 1525-05

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

On September 20, 2010 the Board of Alders passed a resolution (LM-2010-0250) authorizing the mayor to accept renewable energy systems earned as a result of the City's participation in the CT Clean Energy Fund's CT Energy Options program. Under this program, 19 kW of solar panels have been installed at no cost to the City at the Fair Haven Library, Lighthouse Park, and Common Ground High School.

In the intervening time the CT Clean Energy Fund changed its name to the CT Green Bank, the program was rebranded as the CT Clean Energy Communities Program. Previously the CT Green Bank installed the renewable energy generating equipment using their own contractors, but now the CT Green Bank wants to provide the City with the funds to purchase the renewable energy generating equipment and engage its own contractor to install the renewable energy generating equipment on City of New Haven property, including but not limited to Board of Education property.

The program is winding down, and the CT Green Bank would like the City to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for its last 9kW equivalent of funding. Upon review, Corporation Counsel requested that there be a clarifying resolution to ensure that the changes to the program still meet the Board's original intent in 2010. This resolution is intended to clarify the authority of the City to participate in the CT Energy Options Program, also now known as the Clean Energy Communities Program, as previously approved by the resolution adopted by the Board of Alders on September 20, 2010, but pursuant to the new process required by the CT Green Bank.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The City's Comprehensive Plan makes frequent mention of renewable energy, and includes a recommendation to "continue utilizing renewable power sources for all City-owned buildings." The proposed Resolution would not only continue to advance the goals of the original 2010 Resolution, but it also aligns with the current Comprehensive Plan that was enacted in 2015.

ADVICE

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

ADOPTED: December 21, 2016
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: 
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA
Executive Director