

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS To Title III, Chapter 17, Article XI of the Code of Ordinances concerning vendors (Economic Development Administrator)  
**REPORT:** 1520-09  
**ADVICE:** Approve as amended

### BACKGROUND

The Economic Development Administrator has submitted to the Board of Alders proposed Text Amendments to existing Title III, Chapter 17, Article XI of the Code of General Ordinances concerning vendors on both public and private property within the City of New Haven. The amendments to Chapter 17 would expand the portion of the City where such vending is permitted while at the same time providing a more comprehensive regulatory framework for the manner in which it is conducted.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A public hearing was held on July 20, 2016. A transcript of the hearing is stored in City Plan Department files.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:

The proposed text amendments are particularly prominent in certain sections of Chapter 17. The existing definitions section (Section. 17-11.1) is expanded from three defined terms to twenty three. These defined terms include the Special Vending District concept, four specific Special Vending Districts, and the five different vehicles or conveyances from which vending may take place. They also include as a variety of terms used to describe types of permits and operators as well general locations associated with vending.

The most significant of the amendments are the sections of the Chapter 17-11 that describe the boundaries and operational principles of the four Special Vending Districts. The Cedar Street Special Vending District, the Downtown Special Vending District, the Long Wharf Drive Special Vending District and the Sachem Street Special Vending District are all essentially overlay districts that allow vending under conditions unique to each district. What they all do have in common however is the inclusion of residentially zoned areas as well as PDDs and PDUs, areas which currently may not be used by vendors. This change reflects recognition of the idea that the determination of the appropriate location of street vendors is not simply a matter of zoning district but rather one that takes into consideration factors such as the level of pedestrian activity, proximity to institutional/educational uses and favorable roadway/right of way conditions. Furthermore the extensive supporting text in these amendments ensure that the sound concepts upon which the Special Vending District approach is based can be effectively and equitably implemented in a manner that will contribute to the continued livability and economic vibrancy of the affected portions of the City.

### ADVICE AND FINDINGS

Based on the above it is the finding of the Commission that the proposed text amendments are reasonable, equitable and represent changes that are in essential harmony with the Comprehensive Plan of Development and the City of New Haven Zoning Ordinance and should be approved.

**ADOPTED:** July 20, 2016  
Adam Marchand  
Acting Chair

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