

## **NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT**

**RE: RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the application to a grant from 100 Resilient Cities/ Rockefeller Foundation to advance the resilience of the City of New Haven to physical, social and economic challenges. (Director of Development and Policy)

**REPORT:** 1515-05

**ADVICE:** Approval

### **BACKGROUND**

The 100 Resilient Cities Challenge seeks to find 100 cities that are ready to build resilience to the social, economic, and physical challenges that cities face in an increasingly urbanized world. The finalists identified during 2015's 100 Resilient Cities Challenge will be eligible to receive:

- Funding in the form of a grant to hire a Chief Resilience Officer;
- Technical support to develop a holistic resilience strategy that reflects each city's distinct needs;
- Access to an innovative platform of services to support strategy development and implementation. Platform partners come from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors, and will offer tools in areas such as innovative finance, technology, infrastructure, land use, and community and social resilience;
- Membership in the 100 Resilient Cities network to share knowledge and practices with other member cities.

### **PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

Participation in the 100 Resilient Cities network will provide New Haven with the resources to advance our resilience to the threats of climate change and severe storms. The City intends to partner with Stamford in pursuing designation as one of the 100 Resilient Cities, as both municipalities share common social and environmental shocks and stresses. For instance, New Haven's high unemployment rate and Stamford's growing job availability could be addressed by improving aging, inadequate transportation and infrastructure. The State and Yale University Schools of Forestry and Environmental Studies and Management have already committed to supporting both cities, if selected.

### **ADVICE**

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

**ADOPTED:** February 17, 2016  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

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