

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: 1060 CHAPEL STREET, Authorization for Business Sign over Public Sidewalk
(National Sign Corporation for Panera Bread).
REPORT: 1471-14
ADVICE: Leave to Withdraw; apply for Building permit following zoning sign off

BACKGROUND

National Sign Corporation has petitioned the Board of Aldermen for a projecting sign at Panera, a new restaurant which plans to locate at 1060 Chapel Street. The non-illuminated blade sign is proposed to be square (30"x 30") and will be mounted in a stationary position on the front building wall on 3" long rods with 1/2" thick aluminum plates. The sign and mountings will project a total of 33" from the building wall.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Board of Aldermen controls encroachments on the public right-of-way under the general authority of Section 49 of the Charter and Section 9-2 of the Code or Ordinances. Language in 9-2(2) states that *a wooden or metal stationary sign that is attached to a building, in which its lowest part is not less than eight (8) feet above the sidewalk, may extend into the street beyond the street line at a distance of not exceeding three (3) feet from such line, provided that the director of the department of public works approves of its construction and secured position.* If an appurtenance does not meet these requirements, then aldermanic authorization is required. Since the proposed sign is stationary and extends only 33" from the street line, less than the 36" stated in 9-2, it does not require the approval of the Board of Aldermen.

ADVICE

The City Plan Commission therefore recommends that the matter be withdrawn from consideration by the Board of Aldermen and that the applicant proceed to obtain zoning approval from the City Plan Department, and then apply for a building permit from the Building Department.

ADOPTED: November 20, 2012
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: 
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA
Executive Director