

# NEW HAVEN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Laura Cahn, Chair --- Kathy Fay, Vice Chair --- Iris Kaminski, Secretary  
Frank Douglass, Jr., Board of Alders Representative  
Doreen Abubakar, Xochitl Garcia, Florestine Taylor

February 27, 2023

The Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers, President, and New Haven Board of Alders  
City Hall  
165 Church Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Re: \$4 Million EPA Grant for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling

Dear President Walker-Myers and Esteemed Alders:

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) supports New Haven's application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a \$4 million grant to purchase solid waste infrastructure for recycling and to provide for collection of food waste for composting.

We urge the Board of Alders to authorize the mayor to apply for this grant and accept funding.

The grant would fund the purchase of de-packaging and decontamination equipment to enable the West Haven composting facility to accept food scraps from the South Central Regional Council of Governments region. Additional funds would allow New Haven to operate a 9-month pilot program to collect food scraps and refuse in grant-funded color-coded bags (one color for refuse, the other for food scraps) in one trash truck at the same time, sort them, and send food scraps to West Haven for composting, like the co-collection of food scraps and refuse program piloted by West Haven and Meriden.

We look forward to these measures decreasing the cost of solid waste disposal in our city and the amount of waste New Haven sends to be burned or deposited in landfills.

Sincerely,

The New Haven Environmental Advisory Council  
<https://www.newhavenct.gov/government/boards-commissions/boards-commissions-listed/environmental-advisory-council>

Contact: Laura Cahn, Chairwoman, 203/397-2338 (landline)

Cc: Steven Winter, Executive Director, Climate and Sustainability