NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN

approving the Parks & Public Works Department to apply for and accept up to \$550,000 from the U.S. Forest Service Inflation Reduction Act Urban and Community Forestry Notice Of Funding Opportunity.

Submitted by: New Haven Department of Parks & Public Works

REPORT: 1632-17

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

The New Haven Department of Parks and Public Works seeks funding from the USDA Forest Service to create an Urban Forest Management Plan and support professional development of the Department of Parks and Public Works Tree Division staff. Funds will be used to:

- Hire consultant(s) to perform urban tree canopy assessment mapping, analyze data and make recommendations, facilitate community outreach meetings, and provide a written Urban Forest Management Report plan to guide policy and management decisions with the final goal of equitable, sustainable, and climate resilient care, management, and growth of New Haven's urban forest.
- Support the travel and attendance of Tree Division staff to local and national educational events, trainings, classes, and workshops for the purpose of professional development, information sharing, and meeting industry arboricultural standards.
- Perform annual updates to the tree inventory by neighborhood.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

This grant proposal is aligned with the City Comprehensive Plan because it will further Comprehensive Plan goals to:

- Allocate adequate resources for the Parks Department to inventory trees, assess the health of the trees, and document and update the City's tree inventory.
- Continue to retain existing trees, to the extent possible, and aim at further increasing the tree canopy to improve aesthetics and public health, as well as mitigate adverse effects of air pollution.
- Continue to enhance the image of all city parks to make them accessible, inviting, exciting, and well maintained

ADVICE

Approval. Authorization of this grant application aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan goals.

ADOPTED: June 21, 2023

Leslie Radcliffe

Chair

ATTEST: June 23, 2023 | 12:23 PM E

Laura E Brown

Executive Director, City Plan Department