

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the Mayor of the City Of New Haven to accept funding of approximately \$100,000 from the State of Connecticut and to execute Encroachment Permits, Maintenance Agreements, and other paperwork for future public artwork in State Department underpasses in New Haven, in accordance with the DOT Public Art Policy. (Submitted by: City Plan Department)

REPORT: **1579-01**

ADVICE: **Approve**

BACKGROUND

The City of New Haven secured funding of approximately \$100,000 from the State of Connecticut to install public artworks on CT DOT property in New Haven. About five underpass sites have been identified for funding by the State of Connecticut Governor's Office and CT DOT as part of Covid 19 response to support local artists and youth initiatives and provide opportunities for safe outdoor activities.

The artwork would be selected in a transparent and equitable process based on community support, in accordance with the City's Guidelines for Public Art, adopted by the Board of Alders in 2010. Various City Departments will manage the installation and maintenance of any given artwork on behalf of local community groups.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Authorizing the Mayor of the City Of New Haven to accept funding of approximately \$100,000 from the State of Connecticut and to execute Encroachment Permits, Maintenance Agreements, and other paperwork for future public artwork in State Department underpasses in New Haven, in accordance with the DOT Public Art Policy is in keeping with the City's call for incorporating public art in commercial areas in its Comprehensive Plan. While this proposal focuses on underpasses rather than underutilized building facades, the logic behind it remains:

New Haven Vision 2025, Section V-21:

“Continue to support the temporary re-use of vacant and under-utilized building façades **to showcase art murals** through the City's Project Storefronts program, thus **improving the aesthetics** in commercial areas.”

New Haven Vision 2025, Section V-12(c):

“Promote safe, efficient, reliable, and accessible public transit system throughout the city to connect residents to jobs, services, and their community. **Consider placemaking as a strategy beyond traffic for transportation improvements...**”

ADVICE

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

ADOPTED: December 16, 2020
Edward Mattison
Chair

ATTEST: Aicha Woods
Aicha Woods
Executive Director, City Plan Department