

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Authorizing the Mayor of the City of New Haven to execute Encroachment Permits, Maintenance Agreements, and other paperwork for a public art mural in the I-91 underpass at the intersection of State Street and Bradley Street, in accordance with the 2019 DOT Public Art Policy. (Submitted by: City Plan Department)

REPORT: **1579-02**

ADVICE: **Approve**

BACKGROUND

Community members have repeatedly shared their desire for an improvement to Bradley and State St. Underpass. A mural features a streetscape inspired by the houses and buildings along State St, designed by Arts for Learning CT, gained support from a broad group of stakeholders.

In April of 2020, the Board of Alders approved a resolution to support the installation of a public mural in the underpass at State Street and Bradley Street. Nevertheless, there is a clause regarding indemnification in the agreement template between the State and the City that was not addressed in the prior Order and requires the Board of Alder Approval.

The updated resolution would allow the Mayor to execute maintenance agreements with the Connecticut Department of Transportation per their new policies for artwork on DOT infrastructure, released in late 2019.

A third party will manage the installation and maintenance of the mural at no cost to the City, based on support from community members, the Upper State St Merchants Association, and the Could Be Fund of the Elm City Innovation Collaborative.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Authorizing the Mayor of the City of New Haven to execute Encroachment Permits, Maintenance Agreements, and other paperwork for a public art in the I-91 underpass at the intersection of State Street and Bradley Street complies with the City's Comprehensive Plan:

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...”

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