

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 two existing public murals on State Department of Transportation underpasses along State Street, in accordance with the 2019 DOT Public Art Policy. (Submitted by: City Plan Department)

REPORT: **1579-03**

ADVICE: **Approve**

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this resolution is to bring two existing murals- under I-91 at Humphrey Street between East and State Street and in Cedar Hill at Warren and State Street- into an agreement with state policies, as required by the DOT. This would allow the Mayor to execute maintenance agreements with the Connecticut Department of Transportation per their new guidelines for artwork on DOT infrastructure.

In April of 2020, the Board of Alders approved a resolution to bring two existing murals into an agreement with state policies, as required by the DOT. 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. Each mural was installed with substantial community engagement, the appropriate insurance, and plans for ongoing maintenance - but not the multi-year maintenance agreements that the state DOT now requires. Therefore, an amended resolution is required.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Authorizing the Mayor of the City of New Haven to execute Encroachment Permits, Maintenance Agreements, and other paperwork for two existing public murals on State Department of Transportation underpasses along State Street, in accordance with the 2019 DOT Public Art Policy 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...**”

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