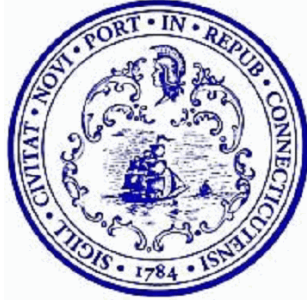


City of New Haven

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New Haven, CT 06510
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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 16, 2025

6:00 PM

Meeting can be viewed on Board of Alders YouTube.

Aldermanic Chamber

City Services and Environmental Policy

(Board of Alders Notice New Haven) The City Services and Environmental Policy Committee of the Board of Alders will meet “in-person” on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Alders Chamber located at 165 Church Street, 2nd Floor, New Haven, Connecticut, to hear and act on the following items:

- 1) [LM-2025-0381](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS DESIGNATING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF ORCHARD STREET AND EDGEWOOD AVENUE AS “DEACON JOHN E. COTTON, SR. CORNER,” IN HONOR OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AS AN ANCHOR, STAPLE, LEADER, AND PILLAR OF THE DWIGHT COMMUNITY AND CITYWIDE.
- 2) [LM-2025-0418](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ROUND 2 GRANT FROM CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO IMPLEMENT CURBSIDE CO-COLLECTION OF FOOD SCRAPS USING UNIFORM COLLECTION BAGS AND TO ENTER INTO ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND CARRY OUT THE ASSOCIATED GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
- 3) [LM-2025-0497](#) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT UP TO \$2,289,980 FROM THE FEMA PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM AND ACCEPT, EXECUTE, AND IF NECESSARY, MODIFY ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS, CONTRACTS, AND SUCH INSTRUMENTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY.
- 4) [LM-2024-0723](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS SUPPORTING THE TRANSPORTATION TRANSFORMATION RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE NEW HAVEN CLIMATE MOVEMENT TO PROMOTE A SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY NEW HAVEN WHILE RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.

Per Order: Hon. Anna M. Festa, Chair

Attest: Hon. Michael Smart, City/Town Clerk

These items are on file and available in the Office of Legislative Services, City Hall, 165 Church Street, 2nd Floor, New Haven, Connecticut 06510.

For accessibility related accommodations, please call (203) 946 7651 (V) or (203) 946 8582 (TTY/TDD).

Public comment/testimony may also be submitted via email to publictestimony@newhavenct.gov before 2:00 pm on the day of the meeting.

This meeting may be viewed on the New Haven Board of Alders YouTube page.

Minutes

Alder Anna M. Festa, Chair, called the public hearing to order at 6:02 p.m. Present were Alders Anna M. Festa, Chair, Kampton Singh, Vice-chair, Troy Streater, Caroline Tanbee Smith, and Gary Hogan.

1. ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS DESIGNATING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF ORCHARD STREET AND EDGEWOOD AVENUE AS "DEACON JOHN E. COTTON, SR. CORNER," IN HONOR OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AS AN ANCHOR, STAPLE, LEADER, AND PILLAR OF THE DWIGHT COMMUNITY AND CITYWIDE.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No public testimony.

COMMITTEE ACTION

No committee action.

2. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ROUND 2 GRANT FROM CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO IMPLEMENT CURBSIDE CO COLLECTION OF FOOD SCRAPS USING UNIFORM COLLECTION BAGS AND TO ENTER INTO ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND CARRY OUT THE ASSOCIATED GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenters

Steven Winter, Director of Executive Director of Climate & Sustainability, 459 Dixwell Ave.

Rose Richi, Recycling Educator, 66 Nash Street

Mark Dancy, Waste Zero, SCROG, 189 Broadway, Milford

Director Winter presented this item detailing how colored bags would be used to collect food scraps in the toters with household trash that could be sorted out at the transfer station. The grant would cover providing free bags for up to several months and educating residents. This presentation is on file in the Office of Legislative Services.

In response to Alder Festa, Ms. Richi discussed how one of the great aspects of this program will be allowing more conversations to happen with residents to help educate them on recycling. Reviewed the information passed out to residents and how one of the flyers has a QR code to direct people to CT Recycle website, but it does not direct people to the information in additional languages.

In response to Alder Festa, Mr. Dancy discussed how most of the trash in Connecticut goes to Bridgeport, but Connecticut does not have the capacity to handle all the trash produced in Connecticut. If the trash cannot be handled in Connecticut, it is up to the haulers where they have contracted to haul it. Reviewed how Rhode Island only has one active land field that will be closed in 2035. New land fields have not been approved in a long time. There are almost no active land fields in the Northeast, which means all the trash must be incinerated or hauled out of state.

Director Winter confirmed that most of New Haven's waste goes to Bridgeport or Lisbon based on current contracts. Director Winter confirmed the initial phase will involve educating residents, and they will not be ticketing anyone for using their current trash bags.

Director Winter discussed how the grant does not cover hiring additional staff for Public Works. The grant is focused on rolling out the program at the curbside. CWPM, the current contractor for the transfer station, would need additional staff to have enough employees to sort the bags and pull them off the conveyor belt.

In response to Alder Hogan, Director Winter confirmed that SCROG stands for South Central Regional Council of Governments. Confirmed residents would need a staging system to sort the trash into food scraps, recycling, and trash. Discussed how sorting trash at this level would greatly reduce the amount in the trash totes.

Mr. Dancy spoke about how the trash currently in trashcans under this program could be reduced by 70%. Stressed the importance of education and how educating and changing behaviors is possible across all demographics. Director Winter reviewed how Worcester has similar demographics to New Haven and has been able to reduce their costs by around 50% due to implementing changes and educating residents.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Mr. Dancy confirmed the costs for trash have remained flat for the past 2-3 years. They expect to save around \$600,000 annually with this food scrap diversion program. Director Winter reviewed how they would save around 50% of costs for disposal, although there would be additional sorting costs. The state completes a procurement process for bags, and the city will more than likely piggyback on the state's process. However, the city could use its own procurement process for the trash bags if it chooses.

In response to Alder Singh, Director Winter discussed how they have not decided on the color of bags for regular trash yet. Some places use orange, blue, or purple.

In response to Alder Festa, Director Winter discussed how there are a lot of options for composting the material including backyard composting, Common Ground, and others. The goal is to make it available to everyone. No expectations for the city to fine people for not using the food scrap bags, as some families may be composting in their backyards and do not need them. Director Winter spoke about how many people are trying really hard to recycle correctly and stressed the importance of education. Discussed how twenty schools have recycling programs and eight schools have a composting program. The commercial composter uses a large digester

that is used to produce gas for electricity. They mix leaves with what is left after this process and produce rich soil. The soil is sold to landscapers and others that can use it.

Director Winter reviewed how they would contract with a vendor to help with educating residents. This grant does not include additional staffing. The city has not been awarded the grant. The city hopes to hear soon, but it might be later in the year. Confirmed they will be using social media as an educational outreach tool.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 2, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the Alders spoke in favor of the item. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed.

3. RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT UP TO \$2,289,980 FROM THE
FEMA PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM AND ACCEPT, EXECUTE, AND IF
NECESSARY, MODIFY ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS, CONTRACTS, AND SUCH
INSTRUMENTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenters

Kayla Bland, Emergency Management Director

Justin McCarthy, Chief Administrator Officer

Rebecca Bombero, Deputy Chief Administrator Officer

Director Bland presented the item and how the amount awarded was reduced to \$124,796, which includes a 25% local match of \$31,199 from the city. The amount approved was for the replacement and maintenance of port cameras. They only were given two weeks to apply for the grant this year.

CAO McCarthy discussed how they have not determined if they want to accept the grant yet due to federal stipulations. Currently, Corporation Counsel is reviewing the grant.

In response to Alder Festa, Deputy Bombero reviewed how the match will be met through current funds already allocated for the maintenance of cameras.

CAO McCarthy discussed how they expect there will be additional funding for radios for the fire department through a different grant. Reviewed how maintenance has already been completed for the marine vessel including replacing the windows due to vandalism.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Deputy Bombero reviewed how in the past couple of years the city has not received funding from this FEMA grant as it has not aligned with the city needs. Director Bland discussed how they have received more funding in the past including covering the

purchase of the marine vessel. Surprised, this grant did not include the maintenance of the marine vessel this round.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 3, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. Alder Kampton Singh moved to amend item # 3 by substitution, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the alders spoke in favor of the amendment, and motion to amend was unanimously approved. All the alders spoke in favor of the item, as amended. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed, as amended.

4. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS SUPPORTING A TRANSPORTATION TRANSFORMATION RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE A SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY NEW HAVEN WHILE RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Adrian Huq and Chris Schweitzer, representing New Haven Climate Movement, spoke regarding this item.

In response to Alder Festa, Mx. Huq confirmed that guidance counselors in high schools have free public bus passes for students. However, they have noticed that there is a lack of awareness of the program and where to access the bus passes.

David Agosta, 431 Orange Street, spoke about the need for public transport like bikes and scooters to have additional storage. Discussed his complaint he has on file with the Department of Justice, which could be resolved by complete streets, Save Routes for All, and Save Routes for Schools. Spoke of the importance of establishing benchmarks with repercussions for failing to meet these benchmarks.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 4, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. Alder Kampton Singh moved to amend item # 4 by substitution, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the alders spoke in favor of the amendment, and motion to amend was unanimously approved. All the alders spoke in favor of the item, as amended. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed, as amended.

Alder Kampton Singh moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. The motion was unanimously approved at 7:57 p.m.

Alder Kampton Singh moved to adjourn, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: 8:04 p.m.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed on the Board of Alders' YouTube channel here:
<https://youtube.com/@boardofalders8363>.

Respectfully submitted,
Misty Maza, J.D., Legislative Aide II