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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR JUSTIN ELICKER TO ACCEPT AN OPEN SPACE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$70,000 FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEEP) FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO COMMUNITY GARDENS AND PRESERVES MANAGED BY GATHER NEW HAVEN, INC. AND EXECUTE ANY REQUIRED RELATED DOCUMENTS

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WHEREAS, Gather New Haven, Inc. made an application to the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as project Co-sponsor for an Urban Green and Community Garden Grant in the amount of \$70,000 to make needed improvements to community gardens and preserves under its management; and,

WHEREAS, the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is authorized by Public Act 2005-228, Sec. 6(3) to make grants to a municipality for this purpose; and,

WHEREAS, the City of New Haven supports the efforts of local organizations to promote community gardens and green spaces as a way of revitalizing neighborhoods, and encouraging the preservation of green areas throughout the City; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Alders of the City of New Haven previously approved the acceptance of the DEEP grant funds at the regular meeting of October 18th, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, Gather New Haven was awarded the grant and DEEP and Gather are working to execute the final grant agreement; and,

WHEREAS, DEEP requires local authorization dated within twelve months of execution of the final grant agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Alders of the City of New Haven that it approves acceptance of the DEEP grant funds on behalf of Gather New Haven, Inc, and authorizes Mayor Justin Elicker to sign the grant agreement with the state on behalf of the city; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Justin Elicker is authorized to execute any required paperwork to pass these funds on to Gather New Haven, Inc. to be used in accordance with the grant requirements.