

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** **APPROPRIATING ORDINANCE #2** making tax levy and revenue assumptions for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

**Submitted by:** Mayor Justin Elicker

**REPORT:** 1681-20

**ADVICE:** Approval

### **BACKGROUND:**

The proposed **\$733 million budget** represents an increase of \$31 million, or 4.4 percent, from the previous year's budget. The proposed budget will continue to provide New Haven residents with necessary city services and programs in the face of federal uncertainty, including grant cuts that will require the City to transition several previously federally funded initiatives to the City budget.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 maintains the current level of city services across departments and covers rising fixed costs, but that refrains from significant new financial commitments. The proposed budget includes limited, strategic investments towards City priorities, including education, parks and climate, seniors, and vulnerable residents.

This Ordinance in particular codifies the proposed tax rates such that:

The taxes for said next fiscal year shall be based upon the rate of taxation recommended to this Board by the Mayor, of which for real estate, personal property and motor vehicle shall be at a rate of **40.98 mills** for Real Estate and Personal property and **32.46 mills** for motor vehicle, upon the ratable estimates within the limits of the City of New Haven to meet said expenses as enumerated in appropriating ordinance #1.

- I. Said taxes shall become due on July 1, 2026, and shall be payable in two semi-annual installments from that date: namely, July 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027. However, any tax of less than one hundred dollars (\$100) shall be due and payable in a single installment on July 1, 2026. Furthermore, the tax on any motor vehicles registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles after October 1, 2025, shall be due and payable in a single installment on January 1, 2027, as provided in Section 12-71b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958 as amended.
- II. Pursuant 12-144c of the general Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958 as amended; (a) any property tax due in an amount less than five dollars (\$5) is waived, and (b) any property tax that remains due on an account after the receipt of payment and that is less than two dollars (\$2) is waived.
- III. The receipts from taxes levied to meet the expenses of the City for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, and such miscellaneous revenues received by the City in said year, and not designated by law or regulation to be appropriated to other purposes, shall be and the same hereby are appropriated to meet the estimated general expenses of the City as contained in said Appropriating Ordinance #1 as approved by this Board.
- IV. Revenues received by the City for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, more than the total appropriations for the general expenses of the City as contained in said Appropriating Ordinance #1, shall not be expended or encumbered without approval by the Mayor and Board of Alders.

**PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

The budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 is in alignment with [Vision 2034](#), **New Haven's Comprehensive Plan**, from the standpoint of:

- Enhancing public safety services to effectively meet community needs;
- Supporting Board of Education goals to reduce high school dropout rates, engage the community in students' learning, and academically and financially prepare students to succeed;
- Improving the condition of parks and open space and ensure that they are safe and accessible to all;
- Supporting agencies, communities, and neighborhoods working together to become more resilient to climate change impacts;
- Expanding services for New Haven's older residents;
- Expanding temporary and supportive housing and programs that eliminate and prevent homelessness.

As a general point, in its review of the annual budget, the Commission has historically made note of issues relating to the Comprehensive Plan and the operation of the City Plan Department and does not take a line-by-line review of the budget overall. The City Plan Department notes that the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget aims to maintain the current level of city services across departments given the current uncertainty in federal funding opportunities.

**ADVICE**

Recommend approval.

**ADOPTED:** May 20, 2026  
Ernest Pagan  
Chair

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Brown  
Executive Director, City Plan Department