

..TITLE

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT GRANT AWARD FROM US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO ELECTRIFY THE HOMES OF ENERGY-BURDENED RESIDENTS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND REDUCE ENERGY BILLS, AND TO ENTER INTO ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND CARRY OUT THE ASSOCIATED GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

..BODY

WHEREAS, studies estimate that one in six families nationally owe utility arrearages of \$791 on average and home heating prices are at the highest level in ten years, leading to the highest increase in households seeking utility assistance since 2009; and

WHEREAS, research shows that utility debt is the most common form of debt among New Haven households; and

WHEREAS, aging heating and cooking systems are often costly and inefficient, and can exacerbate health conditions related to indoor air quality, such as asthma; and

WHEREAS, the New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability recognizes that healthy homes remediation, energy efficiency, and electrification improvements in residential buildings present critical opportunities for improving public health, lowering utility bills, and increasing resiliency; and

WHEREAS, the New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability recognizes that healthy homes remediation, home energy efficiency and electrification improvements lowers the overall greenhouse gas emissions of the city's residential building sector; and

WHEREAS, the New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability seeks to build partnerships with community-based organizations in New Haven that have a long history of energy assistance work in low-income neighborhoods and have built deep relationships with those residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Haven will apply for funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency; and upon receipt of such grant, the City will accept said grant in its entirety; and

WHEREAS, the US Environmental Protection Agency has issued a request for proposals, entitled Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program, intended to attain measurable environmental or public health results in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ORDERED by Board of Alders of the City of New Haven that the Mayor, on behalf of the City, is authorized to apply for and accept the grant mentioned herein from the US Environmental Protection Agency.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Mayor is authorized to execute said application for funding for an amount of \$1,000,000, to execute any revisions, amendments or modifications to said contract, and to sign any associated federal agreements, agreements with contractors, and other documents, any of which may have a term of longer than one year and any federal agreements that

may include indemnification provisions, that the Mayor deems desirable or necessary, including any subsequent amendments to agreements, in order to accept grant funding and carry out the associated grant program activities.