

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **2023 State Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA)**

New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability

November 22, 2023

**Funding request: \$757,475 for one year**

The Office of Climate & Sustainability will apply for grant funding under DERA for the purchase of an electric street sweeping vehicle, which would replace a diesel-powered street sweeping vehicle that is currently in operation. The 2021 Electrification Resolution calls on the City to electrify all municipal vehicles by the end of 2030. This electric street sweeping vehicle would be an important step toward upholding that commitment and meaningfully reduce the City's contribution to air pollution and smog. This reduction in air pollution, from vehicles that regularly circulate through our neighborhoods, has a direct impact on our residents who suffer from asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

Cars, trucks, and other mobile sources account for 36% of the carbon pollution and 67% of the smog-forming air pollution in Connecticut. Gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles along I-91 and I-95 have a severe impact on New Haven's air quality, leading Fair Haven, Downtown, and the Hill to see some of the highest rates of respiratory illness and heart disease in the state. To address this pollution, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is allocating to Connecticut a minimum of \$425,846.00, authorized under the federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA), for projects to reduce diesel pollution in the state.

With DERA funding and a federal incentive payment of \$40,000, the City can pilot an all-electric street sweeping vehicle at a cost comparable to a new diesel vehicle. The increased upfront cost of roughly \$20,000 will be recouped in the near term through decreased operational costs, such as reduced maintenance and fuel expenses. In the long term, in addition to the reduction in air pollution, the City will realize significant operational savings.