



NEW HAVEN
CITY PLAN DEPARTMENT

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September 10, 2024

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers, President
Board of Alders of the City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear President Walker-Myers:

I am pleased to submit for your consideration the attached resolution authorizing the application for and execution of a grant agreement between the City of New Haven and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) program. This \$7 million grant request aims to address the critical barriers to affordable housing production within our community, aligning with HUD's efforts to promote equitable housing opportunities nationwide.

The proposed initiative will focus on community engagement and planning to address outdated zoning and land use policies, improve neighborhood infrastructure, and establish targeted investment funds and programs. These efforts will include 1) Neighborhood planning and policy development- community engagement and neighborhood planning to target updating land use policies, ensuring that zoning regulations support affordable housing development. 2) Support for priority residential and mixed-use projects that promote affordability and inclusivity through increased housing density while maintaining neighborhood scale and character, enhancing climate resilience and walkability. 3) Anti-displacement strategies that provide direct support - create housing support funds and programs to assist homeowners and developers in building and preserving affordable housing. Incentives will prioritize long-term community stability by protecting vulnerable residents from displacement and fostering inclusive, equitable development that benefits all. Together, these measures will not only increase the number of affordable units but also strengthen neighborhood connectivity and promote sustainable development that benefits both current and future residents. The initiative is designed to foster long-term stability by ensuring that development is implemented in a way that protects vulnerable populations from displacement.

These efforts are a key component of the City's broader commitment to addressing the housing affordability crisis and promoting economic growth in a way that uplifts all residents, particularly those in historically underserved communities. By breaking down barriers to housing, this proposal will support social and economic equity, improve neighborhood well-being, and create new opportunities for residents to thrive. I urge your favorable review and action on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Laura E. Brown
Executive Director