

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS** authorizing the Mayor to sign an easement in favor of the Connecticut Department of Transportation for traffic purposes in Middletown Ave Park

Submitted by: Giovanni Zinn, PE, City Engineer

REPORT: **1651-14**

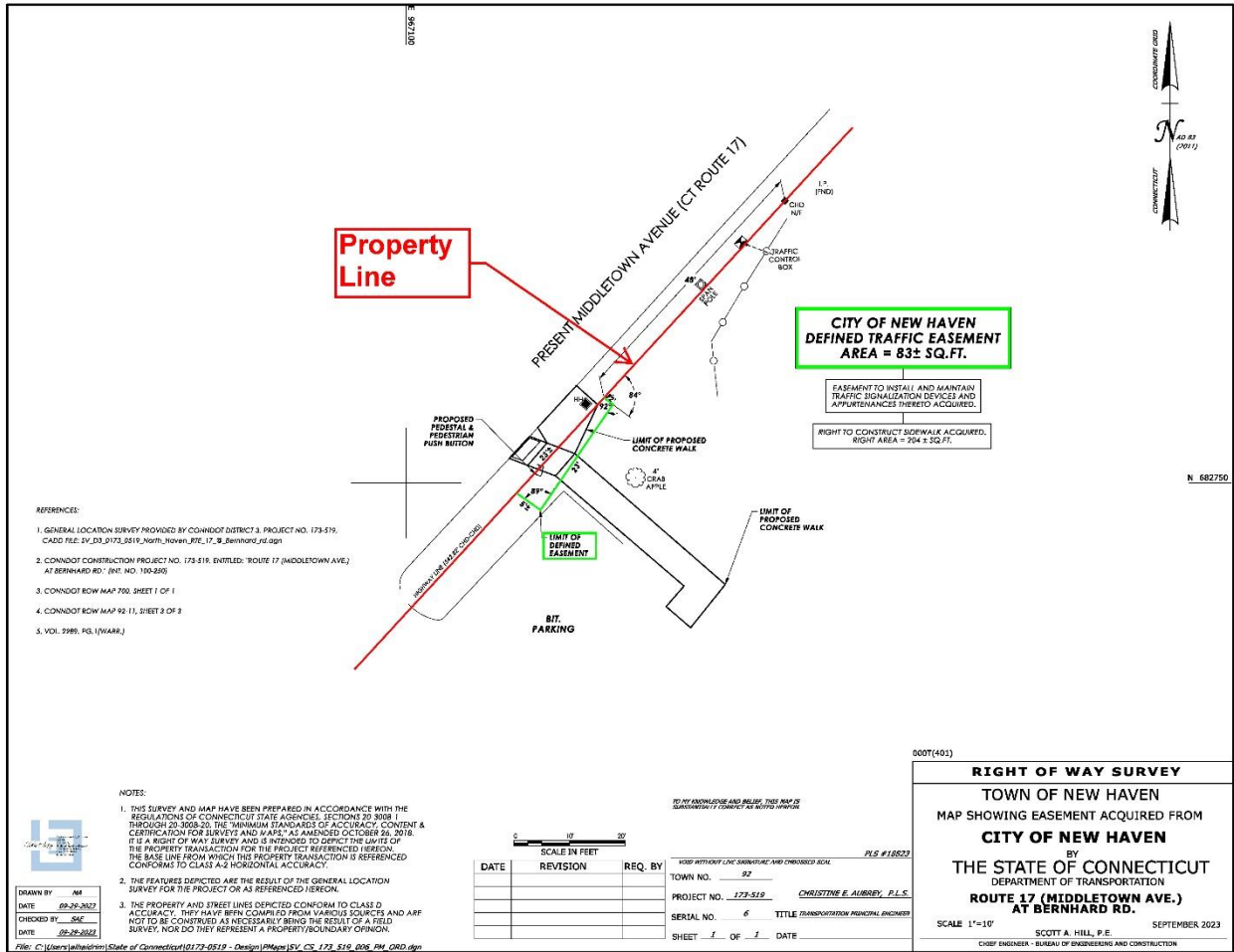
ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will be constructing traffic signal improvements to the intersection of Middletown Avenue and Bernhard Road, on the New Haven – North Haven town line. These improvements will include a pedestrian signal that leads into Middletown Avenue Park, which is owned by the City of New Haven. The CTDOT has asked the City for an eighty-three square foot permanent easement to provide space for the installation and maintenance of their traffic signal equipment.

The area in question is quite close to Middletown Ave (see included map) and the easement would not interfere with any park activities. The inclusion of a pedestrian signal will enhance safety for those wishing to access the park. The Parks Commission was presented with preliminary plans at their June 21, 2023 meeting, and voted in favor of the project.

The matter before you authorizes the Mayor to sign a permanent easement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, and also accept \$500 in compensation. While the easement was valued at \$58.10 by their real estate appraisal, \$500 is the minimum amount they pay for property rights and as such the City has been offered the larger sum. This appears to be a fair and equitable compensation for the negligible loss of functional property rights.



PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the preceding considerations and specific findings, the proposed easement is found to be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the City of New Haven.

New Haven Vision 2025, Environment, VII-29: "Connect all of the existing city parks and open spaces with safe pedestrian and bicycle access routes."

ADVICE

The Commission recommends approval of the Easement.

ADOPTED: July 31, 2024
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: _____
Laura E Brown
Executive Director, City Plan