

## OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

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March 20, 2025

The Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers President, Board of Alders City of New Haven 165 Church St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl New Haven, CT 06510

RE: <u>ORDINANCE AMENDMENT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN UPDATING THE PROCESSES FOR ROOMING HOUSES AND RECEIVERSHIPS</u>

Dear President Walker-Myers:

The Director of the Livable City Initiative submits the attached proposed amendment to Title V, the City's Housing Code Ordinance.

The primary purpose of the proposal is to amend the procedures for rooming house permitting and receivership actions to align with current state statutory requirements, including 1) to allow for denial of rooming house permits to be appealed to a hearing officer rather than a board of code appeals and 2) to update the receivership ordinance to reference the current state statue rather than the outdated – nonexistent statute. Article 4 currently requires a person denied a rooming house permit to appeal to the "board of code appeals." LCI does not have a board of code appeals, but rather hearing officers appointed under C.G.S. 7-152c. The City must amend the housing code ordinance to align with our current practice and state statute, to ensure that the owners of rooming houses can be effectively regulated and maintain their legal right to an appeal. Furthermore, Article 5 – the process for LCI to bring receivership actions - currently references outdated state statutes which has moved to a different part of the Connecticut General Statutes. The City must amend the housing code ordinance to reference the current state statute.

This amendment will not have a fiscal impact on the City in terms of personnel.

The proposed amendment also proposes other minor clarifications to the process and updates the language to accommodate gender neutrality.

I urge your favorable review and action on this matter. If you have any questions or if you require any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Very Truly yours, Sinclair Williams, Assistant Corporation Counsel, LCI