

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS** authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept funding under the American Rescue Plan Act Capital Project Fund (CPF) made available to the State of Connecticut by the U.S. Department of Treasury for the Construction of a Multi-Purpose Community Facility in New Haven.

Submitted by: New Haven Engineering Department

REPORT: 1631-06

ADVICE: Approval

BACKGROUND

The City of New Haven has worked closely with the New Haven Board of Education and State Representative Toni Walker and the rest of the delegation to secure funding of up to \$20 million under the American Rescue Plan Act's Capital Project Fund. This fund enables investments in capital assets in communities to allow improvements of buildings designed to enable work, education, and health monitoring jointly and directly.

In August 2022, the New Haven Public Schools Board of Education approved the plan to move the Adult Education Center from Ella Grasso Boulevard to the Bassett Street location. This proposed action would authorize the Mayor to apply for and accept the funds to construct and improve the facility on Bassett Street into a Multi-Purpose Community Facility and provide a community resource in the Newhallville neighborhood.

The New Haven Adult and Continuing Education Center will become a community learning hub that serves the New Haven Community as we provide a comprehensive academic, health monitoring, workforce training and career counseling programs. Adult learners will be offered equitable opportunities to experience high-quality education as they acquire both employable and life-long learning skills. Having a successful model that offers High School Credit, G.E.D., Citizenship, National External Diploma, ESOL, as well as Dual Credit programs with area institutes of higher education, we are in an excellent position to offer a wider range of courses, degrees, certifications, and credentialing attainment.

The vision aligns with Governor Lamont and the Governor's Workforce Council's vision for the State of Connecticut which also serves as the vision in Connecticut's WIOA Unified State Plan: *Connecticut will create and sustain the global economy's best-educated, most-skilled, highest-productive workforce, capable of pursuing rewarding careers, such that Connecticut business has access to a qualified, skilled, job-ready workforce.*

The New Haven Adult & Continuing Education Center revolves around evidence-based practices that inform the Work, Education, and Health monitoring. There will be a "Solutions Center" that enables the coordination of the 3 target areas, as well as counseling team made up of support specialists, which will customize services to meet students where they are and progress to individualized academic, work, and personal goals.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

This grant proposal is aligned with the City comprehensive plan from the standpoint of:

- Continue to partner with local educational institutions to promote career pathways for local students
- Promote bi-lingual education and workforce training
- Support person-to-person outreach initiatives to encourage literacy, including English as a second language (ESL) and other forms of bilingual education and workforce training

ADVICE

Approval--Authorization of this grant application aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan.

ADOPTED: May 17, 2023
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: _____
Laura E Brown
Executive Director, City Plan Department