



Toni N. Harp
Mayor

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

City of New Haven
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Giovanni Zinn, P.E.
City Engineer

January 22, 2019

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

Re: Order Authorizing the Mayor to Accept Funding from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and Sign any Associated State Agreements including Project Authorization Letters, Agreements with Contractors and Other Documents that may be Desirable or Necessary, including any Subsequent Amendments to Agreements for the Rehabilitation of the Grand Avenue Bridge over Quinnipiac River – Bridge No. 03810

Dear President Walker-Myers:

As has been previously discussed under various other items, the Grand Avenue Bridge over the Quinnipiac River needs a major rehabilitation project. Various mechanical and electrical systems are rated “serious” by the CT DOT in its latest bridge inspection report. In addition, the original approach spans from 1898 need to be replaced, along with the deck and other repairs. Finally, the entire structure will be blast cleaned and painted to preserve the bridge for another 30 years. The estimated construction cost produced by the consultant engineer at semi-final design is \$25,036,625.

The City has worked very hard with the CT DOT to secure funding for the bridge. I am happy to inform you that thanks to the commitment made by the Board of Alders in the FY 18-19 budget, the bridge has been fully funded through federal and state sources. Including previous City Bridge bond funds, the City’s commitment is \$7,601,707.50. This is then matched with \$4,916,605 of Federal Earmark and Surface Transportation Program – Urban funding. Finally, the State Local Bridge Program matches the funding above at a 1:1 rate, for a contribution of \$12,518,312.50. These numbers are subject to adjustment as the project finalizes design, however they contain a 10% contingency and are the best numbers available from our consultant design team. Design is nearly complete, and there should not be major changes to the scope that would wildly alter the budget. Naturally, we rely on the outside experts who develop these estimates, and there is always the possibility of unforeseen conditions, although we have taken many steps to do our due diligence in the field through borings, test pits, and other investigations to limit our construction risk. The City share is approximately 30% of the project cost.

The action before you authorizes the Mayor to sign a Project Authorization Letter under the Master Municipal Agreement for Construction with CTDOT that the Board of Alders previously authorized, in addition to any other documents required. The construction will be bid as per usual procurement procedures and in accordance with Federal and State rules.

Contingent upon a commitment to fund by CTDOT, the project will bid in the first half of 2019, and construction activities on-site are expected to start in late 2019 with a 12-24 month duration. The bridge will be fully closed for a significant portion of this time. We have conducted multiple public outreach sessions to date and will have another session on January 29, 2019. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Giovanni Zinn, PE
City Engineer

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enclosures: (1) BOA submission package

c: Sean Matteson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Jeffrey Pescosolido, Director, Public Works
Zachary Shapiro, PE, Chief Structural Engineer