

**RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR, EXECUTE, ACKNOWLEDGE, IMPLEMENT AND DELIVER ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GRANT: URBAN GREEN AND COMMUNITY GARDEN INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS: The **Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative** grant opportunity was announced by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") and the City of New Haven (the "City") worked to develop applications in a manner consistent with the foundation grant requirements; and

WHEREAS: the City has highlighted the need for more accessible greenspace in its Climate and Sustainability Framework Plan (2018) and Comprehensive Plan Update, Vision 2025 (2015); and

WHEREAS: the City has highlighted a need for this particular intervention to reduce flood risk and increase connectivity in the Mill River Trail Framework Plan (2018) and the Mill River Watershed Based Plan (2018); and

WHEREAS: the DEEP **Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative** seeks to fund projects that develop or enhance urban open spaces for public enjoyment and/or environmental education; and

WHEREAS: the **Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative** grant may be used to fund the reclaiming and enhancing of existing open space for the public's use; and

WHEREAS: improvements to the Mill River Trail will be designed with inclusive engagement from community stakeholders;

WHEREAS: recognizing the highly competitive nature of the Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative program, the City is making application for up to \$65,206 funding; and,

WHEREAS: the grant activities would contribute to the environmental justice by providing greater access to the waterfront and flood risk mitigation to Fair Haven, and would improve the usability of the John S. Martinez School playground; and

WHEREAS: the grant activities will be overseen by the City Plan Department and the City Engineering Department in collaboration with Save the Sound, and builds on existing work by these organizations on the Mill River Trail project

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Alders authorizes the Mayor, Justin Elicker, to apply for, execute, acknowledge, implement and deliver any

and all documents as may be considered necessary or appropriate for the Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative grant; which documents may include indemnifications of the federal or state agencies involved in the funding, to the extent necessary in order to obtain the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Mayor may enter into such agreements for the Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative grant funding for lesser amounts, in the event the City is awarded a grant at a lower funding level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Mayor may enter into subsequent agreements with the partner organizations or other entities in a manner consistent with the Urban Green and Community Garden Initiative grant program regulations.