

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** CHURCH STREET SOUTH and ROBERT T. WOLFE Master Plan, Authorization to apply for and Accept Community Challenge Grant (\$960,000) under HUD Sustainable Communities (Economic Development Administrator).

**REPORT:** 1444-05

**ADVICE:** Approval

### BACKGROUND:

The federal department of Housing and Urban Development has made grant funding available for projects that support the six livability principles of the strategic partnership between HUD, USDOT and US EPA. (See CPC 1444-04)

The City and the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development are applying for \$2 million in HUD Community Challenge grant funding for Meriden and New Haven. US HUD DOT and EPA have formed a partnership for sustainable communities and are using their six Livability Principles to focus funding on place based strategies for their urban investments and incentives. DECD is applying for two Transit Oriented Districts, one in New Haven and one in Meriden.

The funds for New Haven will be used for the Church Street South and Robert T. Wolfe housing redevelopment to create a Master Plan using the current conceptual plan for the area. The redevelopment will create an overall mixed use, mixed income and transit oriented development with green technologies across Union Avenue from the rail station. This application is collaboration between the State of Connecticut, City of New Haven and City of Meriden. Of the \$2 million, New Haven's share is \$960,000.00 from HUD to be matched by in-kind labor and services from the City.

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The City supports and endorses the Six Livability Principles and urgently needs to improve the quality of the housing at the Church Street South and Robert T. Wolfe housing complexes. These developments were built nearly 40 years ago, have aging mechanical and building components and particularly in the case of CSS do not work well as defensible urban spaces.

### ADVICE

The Commission recommends approval of the HUD Challenge Grant application.

**ADOPTED:** September 22, 2010  
Edward Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:**   
Karyn M. Gilvarg, AIA  
Executive Director