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Memo

Date: January 27, 2016

To: Waterbury Board of Aldermen

From: Kathleen McNamara, Grants Administrator

Re: City of Waterbury Application for State of Connecticut Responsible Growth Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program: Request for a Certified Resolution Authorizing City to Submit an Application and the Mayor to Sign Grant Documents

WATERBURY CITY CLERK
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Summary

The City of Waterbury is requesting a certified resolution (See attached) from the Board of Aldermen authorizing the City to submit an application for a State of Connecticut Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Program grant. Said resolution will also authorize the Mayor to sign the grant application and any documents associated with administering the grant, should it be awarded to the City of Waterbury. Signing of legal documents would be subject to all City legal requirements and approval by Corporation Counsel. This certified resolution is required by the State of Connecticut in order to submit the grant application. The attached resolution is based upon the sample resolution provided by the State of Connecticut.

The City is requesting $189,000 for the funding of the *Freight Street District reDevelopment Strategy*, a predevelopment plan for the mixed-used redevelopment of Freight Street. The City will provide a match of 10% which is equivalent to $21,000, for a total project cost of $210,000. The Waterbury Development Corporation will be a partner in the application and will assist the City in administering the planning grant, if received. WDC will receive a 5% administration fee ($10,000). That fee is included in the $210,000 project total.

If the City is awarded the grant, the City is required to obtain Board of Aldermen approval for the transfer of match funding and Board of Aldermen and Corporation Counsel approval for execution of the grant contract and any future grant amendments.

Grant Background

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) has issued a Request for Applications (RFA) from municipalities or Councils of Government in order to generate a pool of eligible projects for funding by the Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program. The minimum request is $25,000 and the maximum is $2,000,000.

The grant program funds construction projects that expand on previous state investment in TOD or planning and construction projects that demonstrate responsible growth consistent with the State's conservation and development policies set forth in Connecticut's Conservation & Development Policies Plan. Only Connecticut municipalities may apply, although OPM encourages partnerships of multiple municipalities or municipalities and non-profit or private entities. The municipality is required to submit a certified resolution from both its legislative body and respective Council of Governments. Partners must also submit a similar resolution authorizing the lead official of the municipality to submit on their behalf. The due date for applications is February 4, 2016. Resolutions are due by February 25, 2016.

City of Waterbury Project Proposal

The City of Waterbury is preparing a grant application to OPM for the funding of the *Freight Street District re-Development Strategy.* This grant presents a timely opportunity, as the City's TIGER-funded WATER project (Waterbury Active Transportation and Economic Resurgence) in the Freight Street District will be in construction by fall 2016. Federal funding for these infrastructure improvements were awarded for the purpose of catalyzing transit-oriented redevelopment of the District and attracting jobs and new investment. The Freight Street area was singled out in the City's Plan of Conservation and Development as "the last major redevelopment opportunity with the potential for a transformative impact on the City economy."

The *Freight Street District re-Development Strategy* is composed of several planning and pre-development components which serve to begin the planning and redevelopment process that is essential to attracting future funding and investment interest. These components include: Environmental Updates and Assessments; a Targeted Market Analysis; a Conceptual Plan and Identification of Strategic Investments; a Zoning Assessment and Illustrative Framework; and, Public Participation and Outreach. WDC, identified in the TIGER grant application as the City's redevelopment partner, will administer the planning process and work with the City.

Certified Resolution of the City of Waterbury Board of Aldermen

Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program

The Legislative Body of the City of Waterbury met on _____ and adopted a resolution by the vote of _____ to _____ which:

(1) authorizes submission of the Waterbury Freight Street District Redevelopment Strategy proposal, in accordance with the Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Request for Applications;

(2) authorizes Mayor Neil M. O'Leary, or his successor(s), subject to approval by Corporation Counsel, to sign the grant application, and to sign any other documents associated with administering the grant, if awarded, including any amendments thereto.

Attested to by:

Name: _____

Title: _____
(City Clerk)

Date: _____