



**CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERS**

May 15, 2020

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, New Haven Board of Alders

Dear President Walker-Myers,

We would like to respectfully submit to the Board of Alders the attached Order calling for a public hearing regarding the City's lighting policy. Residents from neighborhoods across the City have expressed grave concern about dark stretches on some of the City's busiest roadways. Residents have noted that lighting is not only critical for traffic safety, but that it also serves as a deterrent for criminal behavior.

Recently there has been an alarming increase in the number of pedestrian crashes, many of which have been fatal. Various factors may have contributed to causing these incidents and a public hearing can help us investigate whether City lighting policy can be improved to prevent future incidents.

We are specifically interested in how lighting can help improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists; what standards are used to determine whether a street is well-lit; and what type of lighting best promotes public safety and health. It would be valuable to better understand when the City chooses to install new lights, upgrade existing lights, and install different styles of lighting (e.g. mounted to utility poles versus decorative poles).

A public hearing will address these concerns expressed and consider solutions from the appropriate City departments which must include but are not limited to public safety and traffic calming.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to hold a public hearing before the appropriate aldermanic committee to discuss the City's lighting policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Steve Winter
Ward 21, Alder

Hon. Eli Sabin
Ward 1, Alder

Hon. Abigail Roth
Ward 7 Alder

Hon. Gerald Antunes
Ward 12, Alder

Hon. Kimberly Edwards
Ward 19 Alder

Hon. Darryl Brackeen
Ward 26, Alder

Hon. Richard Furlow
Ward 27, Alder

ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE LIGHTING POLICY OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN.

WHEREAS: it would be very constructive to hold a public hearing before the appropriate aldermanic committee to discuss the lighting policy of the City of New Haven; and

WHEREAS: residents expressed grave concern about dark stretches on some of the City's busiest roadways; and

WHEREAS: residents have noted that lighting is not only critical for traffic safety, but that it also serves as a deterrent for criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS: recently there has been an alarming increase in the number of pedestrian crashes, many of which have been fatal; and

WHEREAS: lighting can help improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists;

WHEREAS: it would be valuable to better understand when the City chooses to install new lights, upgrade existing lights, and install different styles of lighting (e.g. mounted to utility poles versus decorative poles); and

WHEREAS: a public hearing will address concerns and consider solutions from the appropriate City departments, which must include but are not limited to public safety and traffic calming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that the New Haven Board of Alders conduct a public hearing regarding the City's lighting policy, and that any records and plans regarding the policy be be furnished to the appropriate committee prior to the workshop.