



Douglas Hausladen
Executive Director

April 1, 2024

Mayor Justin Elicker
The City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Subject: Funding Opportunity #EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07, Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants General Competition

To: City of New Haven

Dear Mayor Elicker,

On behalf of the New Haven Parking Authority (NHPA), I am writing this Letter of Commitment and Intent in strong support of the City of New Haven's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grants Program.

The City of New Haven's proposal represents a bold effort to decarbonize a critical transit hub that serves over 625,000 riders annually while providing clean geothermal energy to the energy-burdened community adjacent to it via a strategic deployment of shared energy infrastructure known as a Thermal Energy Network. If the City is awarded funding for this project, the gateway to New Haven, its busiest train station and the housing development greeting new arrivals, will be transformed into a highly visible symbol of the environmental, health, and resilience benefits of Thermal Energy Networks.

The NHPA is excited to be part of a coalition application as a partner of the City of New Haven. By way of background, the NHPA serves as the operational lead at the Union Station Transportation Campus (Union Station). Pursuant to a 2022 Lease, Operating and Funding Agreement (LOFA) between the City of New Haven and the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, the NHPA was designated to operate the parking, station building and campus groups at Union Station.

As such and as may be directed by the City and State pursuant to the LOFA, the NHPA commits to working with the City and the contractor selected for this project to finalize the design and installation plans for the retrofit of Union Station. This retrofit will include the installation of

geothermal heat pump capacity necessary to replace the existing boilers and chiller at Union Station and the connection of this heat pump to the proposed networked geothermal system.

The NHPA intends to work with the City of New Haven and New Haven Housing Authority as they develop the Memorandum of Agreement further describing the roles, responsibilities and commitments each partner will make to ensure project success before the July 1, 2024 deadline. I understand and fully confident that the NHPA can play an integral part in successfully carrying out this project.

Reliable and equitable access to clean, renewable energy is critically needed by the New Haven community. To achieve its goal of eliminating fossil fuel emissions by 2030, the City of New Haven must pursue bold, transformative energy projects like this one, which seeks to provide clean, affordable energy to an entire area of the city, rather than individual homes or buildings. This project would install a thermal energy network that would provide low-cost, pollution-free heating and cooling to both Union Station and the planned 1,000-unit, mixed-income housing development to be constructed across the street. The Union Station Area Thermal Energy Network (USATEN), would be designed to support additional buildings in the future and may expand or extend into other nearby neighborhoods. Serving as a model for municipally-owned neighborhood-scale decarbonization, USATEN will utilize modern public-private partnership, engineering design best practices, and highly refined project planning techniques emphasizing local participation and equity. The State of Connecticut's Priority Climate Action Plan, which includes thermal energy networks as a carbon pollution reduction measure, provides the framework for this project.

This transformative project is of particular interest to the NHPA because the NHPA has been a climate and sustainability leader in New Haven, installing dozens of electric vehicle charging stations, deploying electric vehicles in our operations, and working recently to re-launch the City's bikeshare program.

I strongly support this proposal as it serves both as a critical first step toward the decarbonization of the city's housing stock and transit system and serves as a vehicle for building a coalition of proponents who can support the expansion of thermal energy networks in New Haven.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Kelleher", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Executive Director
New Haven Parking Authority