

**NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ACTION**

**RE:** WATER STREET, EAST STREET and FORBES AVENUE, Authorization to Apply for and Accept Grant from Connecticut Department of Transportation to Prepare the Magellan Site Feasibility Study (City Plan Director).  
**REPORT:** 1391-37  
**ACTION:** Approval

**BACKGROUND**

The City Plan Department seeks authorization to apply for and accept a grant offered by the Connecticut Department of Transportation to prepare a feasibility study of the Magellan terminal site in the Belle Dock section of the city. This \$100,000 study would be used in part to explore the feasibility of developing a commercial ferry service from New Haven to Long Island.

**PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

The City and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) have long negotiated a series of projects, which collectively, are intended to mitigate the impact of the I-95 New Haven Crossing Corridor Improvement Project. In this instance, the City and ConnDOT agreed to study this 25-acre site at the southeast corner of Water Street and East Street primarily for the purpose of establishing a commercial ferry terminal.

The project includes several tasks intended to better understand Magellan’s existing use of the site and to explore opportunities for development of a ferry terminal and other job- and tax-creating land uses. In particular, the City is encouraged by recent studies, which suggest there is demand for a ferry service between New Haven and Long Island. Currently, New Haveners must use the ferry at Bridgeport or at New London (or drive through New York City) to reach Long Island. A new ferry service not only provides a transportation benefit by reducing vehicle travel time, but also provides more opportunities for New Haveners to do business on Long Island. There are approximately three million residents on Long Island and an untold number of new business opportunities.

City Plan has scheduled a two-year study period during which we will engage a consultant and look at the feasibility of the site from a planning, engineering, real estate, environmental, security and operational perspective. Magellan is among the largest petroleum terminals in the city and serves a local and regional marketplace. The city intends to work closely with Magellan, the local alders, the commercial ferry industry and the state DOT to initiate a commercial ferry service from New Haven.

**ADVICE:**

Approval.

**ADOPTED:** June 21, 2006  
Patricia A. King  
Chair

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Piscitelli, AICP  
Assistant Director,  
Comprehensive Planning