

CITY OF HARTFORD PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION RESOLUTION SOUTHWEST/BEHIND THE ROCKS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Whereas,

Following the adoption of the City's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) in 2020, a multi-year neighborhood planning process was initiated, to develop planning recommendations at the neighborhood-level consistent with the POCD and its transformative projects; and

Whereas,

The Department of Development Services Planning Division engaged two consultant teams, FHI Studio and Kounkuey Design Initiative, to develop neighborhood plans for the Northeast, Frog Hollow, Upper Albany and Southwest/Behind the Rocks neighborhoods, in partnership with their respective Neighborhoods Revitalization Zones (NRZs), and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC); and

Whereas,

The Southwest/Behind the Rocks neighborhood planning efforts was initiated in June 2022, with the goal of creating a succinct, action-oriented plan informed by the vision and goals of the neighborhood's residents and stakeholders, such that future development is coordinated, equitable, and improves quality-of-life; and

Whereas,

A Neighborhood Planning Committee was convened for the Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ, which was instrumental in guiding the development of a shared vision, engagement strategy, and implementable action items; and

Whereas,

FHI Studio made best efforts to outline existing neighborhood conditions, engage a broad section of the community, and identify viable strategies and actions to achieve the neighborhood's goals, in partnership with the Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ, the Neighborhood Planning Committee, Planning Division staff, and Southwest/Behind the Rocks residents and stakeholders; and

Whereas,

The draft Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan was publicly posted, promoted in City newsletters and online media, and distributed to the Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ and stakeholders beginning January 16, 2023, and was presented to the Planning & Zoning Commission at its meeting on January 24, 2023; and

Whereas,

Staff from the Department of Development Services reviewed the draft Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan and requested comments from the public, Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ, and other City departments, and incorporated these comments and those of Commissioners in the final Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan, where possible; and

Whereas, The Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan was endorsed by the Southwest/Behind the Rocks NRZ in its meeting March 14, 2023; and

Whereas,

Adoption of the Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan would generally support the POCD by providing neighborhood-level strategies for accomplishing many of the POCD's goals, a roadmap for implementation of these strategies, and a document against which development proposals and City actions affecting the Southwest/Behind the Rocks neighborhood may be reviewed for consistency with the City and neighborhood goals and vision; and

Now therefore Be It

Resolved, The City of Hartford Planning & Zoning Commission does/does not hereby endorse the Southwest/Behind the Rocks Neighborhood Plan; and

Resolved, Nothing in this resolution should be construed to limit the ability of this Commission to decide individual applications on a case-by-case basis, weighted towards consistency with the POCD.

Be It Further,

Resolved, This 30th of May, 2023.