January 10, 2022

The Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, New Haven Board of Alders
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

RE: ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS ACCEPTING VOLUNTARY PAYMENTS FROM YALE UNIVERSITY IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH LETTER FROM PETER SALOVEY, PRESIDENT AND CHRIS ARGYRIS PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY DATED NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Dear President Walker-Myers,

I write to request your consideration and approval of the attached resolution concerning the recently-announced initiatives and new partnership between the City of New Haven (the “City”) with Yale University (the “University”).

On November 17, 2021, following several months of dialogue, the City and University announced (1) a significant increase in Yale’s voluntary payments to the city, totaling $52 million in new money over six years; (2) a new Center for Inclusive Growth to be established at Yale, to which the University will contribute an additional $5 million in the first six years; (3) the conversion of High Street between Chapel and Elm streets into a City-owned walkway without vehicular access; and (4) a new commitment by the University to partially offset the loss in tax revenues for any properties the University acquires and converts to exempt status over the next six years.

In no uncertain terms, this is an historic moment in our relationship with the University, which has contributed in many ways to the City. With today’s announcement, the University has committed to contribute more financially over the next six years than it has over the last 20 combined. This funding, in addition to the creation of the Center for Inclusive Growth, will help the city make more investments in the New Haven community, continue to stabilize our financial footing, and improve opportunities for residents.

For years people have been calling on Yale to deepen its commitment to New Haven. The University has now taken a meaningful step in this direction and I wish to personally thank Peter Salovey for his partnership and leadership over the course of our discussions as well as Henry Fernandez, who led our negotiating team.
Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to working with the Board of Alders, our residents and the entire Yale community to put this agreement into practice.

Sincerely,

Justin Elicker
Mayor

attachments
cc  Kevin Alvarez, Mayor’s Office
   file