RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE WATERBURY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC RESURGENCE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Federal “FY 2014 Appropriations Act” appropriated $600 million to be awarded by the United States Department of Transportation (“USDOT”) for National Infrastructure Investments under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant program, and

WHEREAS, the TIGER Discretionary Grant program provides a unique opportunity for States and local municipalities to work to ensure a stronger transportation system for future generations by repairing existing infrastructure, connecting people to new jobs and opportunities, and contributing to our nation’s economic growth by investing in critical road, rail and transit projects across the nation, and

WHEREAS, the City of Waterbury (“City” or “Waterbury”), working collaboratively with its project partners, the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments, and the Waterbury Development Corporation, will be applying for a TIGER grant for the Waterbury Active Transportation and Economic Resurgence project, which meets the eligibility requirements for funding under the TIGER program, and

WHEREAS, Waterbury’s Greenway is a key section of the 44-mile long regional Naugatuck River Greenway, which has been identified by the U.S. Department of Interior as one of the best 100 outdoor projects in the nation and by the State of Connecticut as a “greenway of state-wide significance,” and

WHEREAS, Phase I of Waterbury’s Greenway is scheduled to begin construction in 2015 and with TIGER funding, Waterbury will able to extend its Greenway through the heart of Waterbury, and this new Greenway section, together with the proposed infrastructure improvements, will stimulate economic development thereby promoting job creation and will provide opportunities to catalyze remediation and sustainable redevelopment of underutilized land and brownfields along the Naugatuck River and the Freight Street Corridor, and
WHEREAS, Waterbury’s Greenway will improve the health, livability and vitality of the City by linking neighborhoods, education facilities and employment centers to each other as well as to the City’s Train Station, the Downtown and to neighboring river valley communities; will complement and enhance ongoing local and state transit improvements which will improve regional and local traffic accessibility and mobility as well as promote alternative modes of transportation thereby by reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality, and

WHEREAS, Waterbury’s Greenway will provide opportunities for public recreation and health and fitness activities; will promote ecological awareness and a sense of stewardship towards the river and surrounding environment, and will serve to redress environmental injustices of the past, particularly as it winds through, and reconnects, neighborhoods disjointed from the highway construction, abandoned brownfields and a general lack of private investment, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City of Waterbury Charter and Code of Ordinances, the legislative power and authority of the City is vested in the Board of Aldermen, including the power to adopt the City’s capital and operating budget; to make appropriations to meet the expenses of the City; to undertake public improvements; to approve the issuance of public bonds, and to provide for the due execution of grants and contracts, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF WATERBURY HEREBY:

Approve the completion and filing of an application by the City for TIGER Grant funds and acceptance of TIGER Grant funds, if awarded to the City of Waterbury for the Waterbury Active Transportation and Economic Resurgence project, and

In the even that TIGER Grant funds are awarded to the City of Waterbury, certifies that it will seek to secure local funding in the amount of TEN MILLION DOLLARS ($10,000,000) as set forth in Waterbury’s TIGER Grant application for the Waterbury Active Transportation and Economic Resurgence project.

DATED THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2014

ATTEST: 

Michael J. Dalton
City Clerk