NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

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January 27, 2010

Dear Alderperson:

We are writing today to urge the Legislation Committee to approve without delay Yale University's application to build a new School of Management (SOM) campus on Whitney Avenue.

Yale's tireless efforts have been a significant factor in the successes of New Haven's Construction Workforce Initiative program. Yale has partnered with us, the other trades, and with the City to help create a jobs pipeline that has allowed for employment of about 70 current New Haven resident carpentry apprentices and 70 New Haven resident journey level carpenters recently graduated from our apprentice training program, as well as other journeypersons of longer tenure.

The SOM project makes sense, and the university has been diligent in working with the City and the neighborhood to make sure it makes sense.

- 1) It is not an expansion of Yale's footprint, but a replacement of existing buildings already owned by Yale.
- Yale has held meeting after meeting with the neighborhood association and has modified the design significantly in answer to neighbors' and the city's concerns.
- The design incorporates Yale's commitment to green building: it is designed for LEED Gold certification.
 Its underground parking will eliminate outdated surface parking lots currently on the site.
- 4) The City Plan Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the project, imposing sensible conditions to prevent an unfinished situation that leaves a hole on Whitney Avenue.

Wages paid to local residents multiply themselves in the local economy. Now, at a time when the economy is under such severe stress and the New Haven school construction program is almost complete, you have the power to approve the next opportunity for our city's growing construction workforce. It is critical that high quality construction projects such as this one which include a commitment to employing New Haven residents be approved and started with as little delay as possible.

Please do your part and vote for approval.

Yours sincerely,

Charles J. Appleby, Jr.

President, Local 24