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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**New Haven Mayor Releases Statement on
Connecticut DEEP Tentative Approval on 19 Wheeler Street**

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Today New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker released the following statement regarding the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s tentative approval of the expansion of a waste processing facility at 19 Wheeler Street in New Haven:

Earlier today, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection issued a notice of tentative determination to approve receipt and processing of municipal solid waste – basically household garbage – at 19 Wheeler Street, which is a 15-acre site along the Quinnipiac River. I have already expressed serious concerns about this proposal, as have many members of our Board of Alders, State Delegation and environmental stakeholders.

Based on my initial review, this decision is inconsistent with DEEP’s very own Solid Waste and Materials Management Plan. This is an environmental justice issue. The proposed expansion of materials the facility will be allowed to process is entirely for the benefit of our suburban neighbors, given that our own municipal ordinance requires all trash created in the City of New Haven to be processed through the Solid Waste Authority’s transfer station. And this facility is detrimental to the surrounding neighborhood and beautiful Quinnipiac River waterfront. I strongly encourage residents to learn more about this proposal and then participate in upcoming public hearings. The City will be exploring our options on how to respond to DEEP’s tentative determination in the coming days.

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