

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 85

EFFECTIVE March 14, 2016

WHEREAS, Open and transparent government is essential for citizens to make informed decisions and hold officials accountable for the conduct of the people's business; and

WHEREAS, The policies and practices of the City of Providence should adhere to high standards which instill citizens with trust and confidence in their local government; and

WHEREAS, Advances in communication and information technology have created more opportunities for the public to access information; and

WHEREAS, Government operates best when it is transparent in practice, honest with constituents, data-driven in its management, and ethical in its operations; and

WHEREAS, On November 17th, 2011, the City Council of the City of Providence passed Resolution No. 557, creating the Open Providence Commission for Transparency and Accountability; and

WHEREAS, The Open Providence Commission was charged with studying the current state of transparency in Providence City government and making specific actionable recommendations designed to strengthen city government's accountability to residents; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2013, the Open Providence Commission submitted a report of findings and recommendations to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Among the many recommendations included in that report, the Commission concluded that, "Providence needs continued leadership from its top elected and administrative officials to continually reinforce a culture of openness and accountability to residents."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council does hereby respectfully request that, within sixty (60) days, the Chief Information Officer provide the Council with an update on the City's progress toward the recommendations of the Open Providence Commission for Transparency and Accountability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, within ninety (90) days, the Open Providence Commission for Transparency and Accountability shall reconvene to review the aforementioned progress report and make further recommendations for improving the City of Providence's transparency and accountability to residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the chairman and the eight (8) members of the Open Providence Commission named by the Mayor and the City Council in shall be invited to take part in the reconvened Commission, while the remaining six (6) members shall consist of the following people (or their designees): current City Clerk, the current City Solicitor, the current Chief of Information Technology, the current Webmaster, the current Information Technology Specialist for the City Council, and the Chief Innovation Officer.

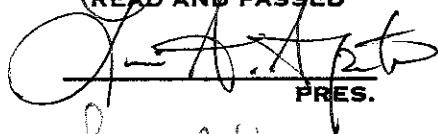

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the reconvened Open Providence Commission shall hold at least three (3) public meetings and shall, no later than October 1st, 2016, submit a report to the City Council including, but not limited to:

- (1) an evaluation of the City's progress toward the recommendations in its 2013 report;
- (2) any amendments to the original recommendations the Commission finds warranted;
- (3) any further recommendations for how the City can improve residents' ability to access information, maximize constituent input through participatory processes, and more effectively make use of information technology to directly engage with residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Mayor, the Chief Information Officer, the Chief Innovation Officer, and the members of the Open Providence Commission for Transparency and Accountability.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 03 2016

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature


 Lori L. Hagen
 City Clerk