

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 112*

**EFFECTIVE March 28, 2016**

WHEREAS, The “nighttime economy” has such a major economic impact, it is being referred to nationally as “The Other Nine to Five,” and cities around the U.S. are recognizing that, oftentimes, more economic activity occurs at night than during the day; and

WHEREAS, The nighttime economy of Providence is a multi-million dollar industry, comprised of the economic activity of restaurants, bars, nightclubs, performing arts venues, including the Dunk, PPAC, and the Trinity Repertory Theater, galleries, nighttime retail shopping, Waterfire, the Providence International Arts Festival, and other evening outdoor events; and

WHEREAS, The nighttime economy is responsible for the creation of many jobs and the sale of substantial goods and services, both direct and indirect, including many locally sourced items and products; and

WHEREAS, Creating safe and vibrant places for people to socialize attracts tourism, outside investment, and customers to Providence, providing an important boost to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Nighttime businesses enrich the quality of life in our community by promoting social, cultural, and artistic experiences for residents and visitors to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, Providence has received many accolades for its nightlife, including being ranked #1 in Travel and Leisure’s 2014 “America’s Favorite Places” survey, being listed as the #2 Downtown in the nation by Livability.com, and being selected as “the Coolest City in America” by GQ in 2015; and

WHEREAS, The highly regarded Knight Foundation recently ranked “sociability” as the number one reason that millennials, entrepreneurs, and employees chose a location to live and work; and

WHEREAS, The City should support and nurture this vital industry while carefully balancing the importance of nighttime businesses to the local economy and the unique set of concerns faced by residents who live in the vicinity of those businesses; and

WHEREAS, In order to encourage the continued growth of the nighttime economy and address the concerns of residents, current regulations should be examined for effectiveness and appropriate improvements should be made where necessary; and

WHEREAS, Creating a task force of residents and stakeholders to research and make recommendations on the issues affecting Providence’s nighttime economy will help ensure that a comprehensive approach is taken, all voices are heard, and effective measures are developed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council does hereby establish the Nighttime Economy Task Force in order to study issues affecting Providence’s entertainment, dining, and arts-related businesses, research best practices from comparable cities around the nation, and make specific recommendations for how the City can expand its economy by creating safe and vibrant places for people to socialize and by supporting existing nighttime economy businesses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Nighttime Economy Task Force shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the City Council, including one (1) downtown neighborhood property owner or resident, the senior director of the Downtown Improvement District or his designee, the president of the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau or her designee, the Chief of Police or his designee, the Director of Economic Development or his designee, one (1) representative for the local colleges and universities, one (1) representative for the restaurant owners, one (1) representative for the nightclub owners, and one (1) representative for performing arts venues.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, as part of its review, the Nighttime Economy Task Force will hold no fewer than nine (9) public meetings and, within two hundred and seventy (270) days, shall present the City Council with a report detailing its findings and recommendations. This report shall include an economic impact study measuring the economic benefits of the Providence's nighttime economy (sales, employment, tax revenue, etc.) and a series of recommendations, including but not limited to legislative changes, regulatory policies, and enforcement measures, based on their findings.

**IN CITY COUNCIL**

**MAR 17 2016**

**READ AND PASSED**

**PRES.**

**CLERK**

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature

*Lori L. Hagen*

**Lori L. Hagen  
City Clerk**