

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 403

Approved August 10, 1988

WHEREAS, Last fall voters of Rhode Island overwhelmingly approved an Open Space Bond Issue showing their support of green, beautiful, open space; and

WHEREAS, Community gardening converts public and private lands into places where people grow vegetables, fruits, flowers, and herbs that they otherwise could not grow; and

WHEREAS, Community gardens maintain and beautify vacant lots previously littered with debris, blighting neighborhoods and posing a threat to public health; and

WHEREAS, Community gardens assist city residents in improving the quality of city life by revitalizing neighborhoods, stimulating social interaction, conserving and recycling resources, reducing family food budgets and creating opportunities for recreation, therapy, and exercise; and

WHEREAS, There are currently over 350 families participating in nine community gardens throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Existing community gardens have extensive waiting lists of potential gardeners who cannot be accommodated in the existing gardens; and

WHEREAS, Several of these existing community gardens are threatened with dissolution and dislocation by development,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, It shall be the policy of the City Council to support the creation and preservation of community gardens in the city of Providence and encourage a minimum of 25 community gardens by 1992; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, The preservation of community gardens already active on city-owned land shall be considered a top priority in any planning, development, and disposition decisions regarding such land; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, The City Council urges the Mayor to urge the Director of the Department of Planning and Development, or his/her designee, the Director of the Department of Public Works, or his/her designee, the Superintendent of Parks, or his/her designee, the Director of the Housing Authority, or his/her designee, and a representative of the Mayor's Office to participate in an Ad Hoc Task Force to develop a comprehensive community gardens policy for the city of Providence; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Representatives from the Southside Community Land Trust and other community gardens shall be included in such an ad hoc committee; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Said Ad Hoc Task Force shall evaluate the existing land use arrangements for community gardens, design a Community Gardens Master Plan for Providence, identify which parcels of vacant city-owned land are suitable for community gardens, and suggest methods of program funding, including both public and private resources.

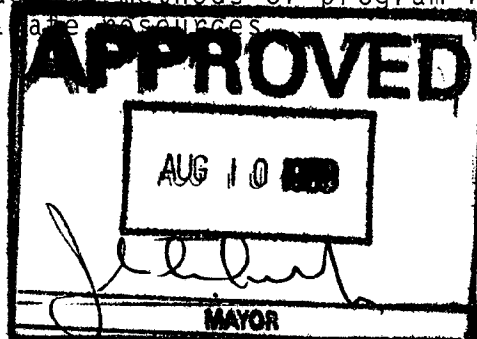
IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 4 1988

READ AND PASSED

Richard W. Evans
PRES.

Robert M. Mendenhall
CLERK



IN CITY COUNCIL
JUL 7 1988

FIRST READING
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT
RENEWAL & PLANNING

John M. McNamee CLERK

Councilman O'Connor (By Request)