

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 158

Approved April 9, 2014

WHEREAS, Public school buildings in Providence are in dire need of immediate repairs and renovations to provide students with educational facilities that are warm, safe, dry, and conducive to learning; and

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island instituted a moratorium on its School Housing Aid program, for fiscal years 2012, 2013 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, The School Housing Aid moratorium sunsets this year, and local school districts once again will be able to submit proposals to the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) for the construction and rehabilitation of school buildings; and

WHEREAS, The State's program will provide the Providence School Department with reimbursement of at least 80 percent of the cost of RIDE-approved plans for school construction and renovation; and

WHEREAS, The Providence School Board approved a resolution in February urging the City to fund capital improvements and technology upgrades through the issuance of school improvement bonds; and

WHEREAS, The immediate, short-term investment in such improvements will have a significant, positive impact on the quality of education that Providence students will receive, ensuring learning environments are healthy and safe; and

WHEREAS, A long-term, multi-phased capital improvement initiative for the city's schools is imperative to build upon these planned, short-term incremental improvements, and to provide a stable foundation of efficient, effective and secure school buildings for the next fifty years; and

WHEREAS, A long-term plan for district-wide capital improvements must be based upon a comprehensive facilities master plan that evaluates student demographic projections, incorporates relevant educational programs and models, assesses the integrity and needs of each school based on structural engineering studies, and engages the community through a public process; and

WHEREAS, The last comprehensive facilities master plan for Providence schools was approved in February 2010 and does not currently reflect current enrollment trends, demographic projections, and the integrity and needs of each school facility.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby request that Providence Schools Superintendent Susan Lusi initiate a request for proposals for the creation of a comprehensive facilities master plan for the next ten (10) years that evaluates student enrollment projections, school facilities condition, educational programming and costs and that includes community engagement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the request for proposals be issued no later than July 1, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, a copy of this resolution be delivered to Superintendent Lusi, and members of the Providence School Board.

IN CITY COUNCIL

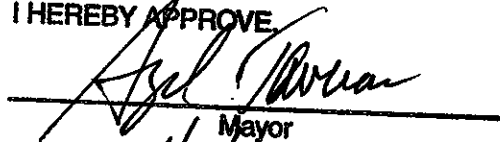
APR 03 2014

READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK
ACTING

I HEREBY APPROVE


Mayor

Date: 4/9/14