

**City of Providence**  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 371

EFFECTIVE October 17, 2016

WHEREAS, Ensuring that roads and sidewalks are safe, easily navigable, and well-maintained is one of the principal duties of local government; and

WHEREAS, Many of Providence's sidewalks are cracked and in need of repairs, creating dangerous obstacles for pedestrians and posing safety concerns for residents; and

WHEREAS, The City Council Office has received numerous complaints from constituents whose sidewalks have been left in a state of disrepair for many years; and

WHEREAS, Twice in the last four years, the City of Providence has sought to borrow millions of dollars, at considerable interest rates, in order to finance road and sidewalk repairs; and

WHEREAS, Allowing property-owners to repair sidewalks adjacent to their properties and then deduct the cost of such repairs from their property tax bills would lead to faster sidewalk repair, would beautify neighborhoods by removing eyesores, and would help the City's financial situation by avoiding the costs of interest; and

WHEREAS, As the elected representatives of the people of Providence, the Providence City Council has a moral obligation to explore all options for improving governmental services and quality of life for residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby request that the Director of Public Works, the Tax Assessor, and the Tax Collector evaluate the feasibility of a program allowing property-owners to repair sidewalks adjacent to their properties and then deduct the cost of such repairs from their property tax bill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Director of Public Works, the Tax Assessor, and the Tax Collector.

IN CITY COUNCIL

OCT 06 2016

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature

  
Lori L. Hagen  
City Clerk