

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 365

EFFECTIVE October 26, 2020

WHEREAS, Matters pertaining to land development and economic growth are pertinent to all neighborhoods and neighborhood residents of the City of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Zoning Board of Review is tasked with enforcing the Providence Zoning Code which governs land development in the City through limitations on the types of land uses allowed in a particular district as well as the dimensional requirements that apply to development on a given parcel of land; and

WHEREAS, In the event a developer wishes to deviate in some way from the requirements of the Zoning Code they may request relief from the Zoning Code from the Zoning Board of Review; and

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the City that there is an educated and informed public that knows how to better engage in processes related to zoning, development matters, and land use regulations; and

WHEREAS, There has been, and there will potentially be, contentious zoning matters that draw a great deal of attention from the local community; and

WHEREAS, There can be a lack of clarity among constituents and neighborhood residents surrounding the role of various planning and development committee and commissions, the Zoning Board of Review and the criteria it utilizes in reviewing zoning applications; and

WHEREAS, Zoning matters can create a level of confusion and frustration both for the public as well as members of the council; and

WHEREAS, Hosting periodic or quarterly workshops to better articulate the intricacies of the zoning process, the City's Zoning Ordinance and the Comprehensive Plan would provide a setting where the public would be able to better understand, ask questions and learn more about the authority and, more importantly, the limitations of the Zoning Board of Review in reviewing development applications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Council requests that the Department of Planning and Development and the Zoning Officials coordinate additional periodic public workshops to explain the distinctive roles of the City Plan Commission, Historic District Commission, Downtown Design Review Committee, Capital Center Commission, and the overall zoning process and procedures for development to residents within the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Mayor of Providence, the Director of the Department of Planning and Development, and the members of the Providence Zoning Board of Review.

IN CITY COUNCIL

OCT 15 2020

READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature



Shawn Selleck
City Clerk