

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 2014-7

No. 132 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 23, STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND PUBLIC PLACES," ARTICLE I, "IN GENERAL," SECTION 23-24, "OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY."**

EFFECTIVE March 31, 2014

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

WHEREAS, The City of Providence seeks to provide for safe travel along public streets, sidewalks, and highways; and

WHEREAS, Objects placed upon public streets, sidewalks, and highways may impede safe travel, causing injury or accidents; and

WHEREAS, Makeshift roadside memorials placed to commemorate people killed on a public street, sidewalk, or highway have become a common expression of mourning by friends and family of the deceased, and have therefore proliferated throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Roadside memorials often contain materials such as glass, candles, and flammable items which, unattended, can be hazardous and cause accidents or injury; and:

WHEREAS, Such roadside memorials may block traffic, obscure views, or create distractions for motorists; and

WHEREAS, These types of memorials may be placed in a location which is dangerous for pedestrians or others visiting such a memorial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE that:

SECTION 1. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Chapter 23, entitled, "Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places," Article I, "In General," Section 23-24, "Obstruction of Public Right-of-Way," is hereby amended as follows:

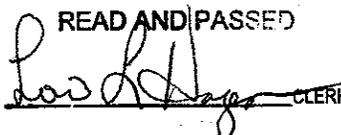
Sec. 23-24. - Obstruction of Public Right-of-Way.

No person shall in any manner obstruct the public right-of-way, except for legally parked or standing motor vehicles or upon the filing of a petition and a finding by the director of public works that the proposed obstruction does not unduly hinder the free-flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The director is authorized to order the removal of any obstructions, including roadside memorials. "Roadside memorials" are defined as materials placed as a tribute to

commemorate a person who died in a tragic event on a public street, sidewalk, or right-of-way. The department of police may at any time, or upon request, remove any roadside memorial that partially or wholly obstructs a public right-of-way, encroaches on private property, and/or creates a public safety concern.

The director is authorized to promulgate regulations to effect the intent hereof.

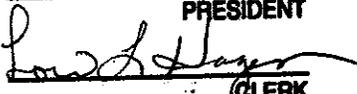
SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAR 06 2014
 FIRST READING
 READ AND PASSED

 CLERK
 ACTING

Effective without the
 Mayor's Signature

 Lori L. Hagen
 Second Deputy City Clerk

IN CITY
 COUNCIL
MAR 20 2014
 FINAL READING
 READ AND PASSED

 PRESIDENT

 CLERK
 ACTING