

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 175

Approved April 26, 2024

WHEREAS, Harry Kizirian Elementary School in Ward 12 is set to undergo demolition and reconstruction to enhance its facilities and provide a better learning environment for our students; and

WHEREAS, *Option B* for the rebuilding of Harry Kizirian would result in the demolition of the school's current gymnasium with no plans for the construction of a new one, instead suggesting that the school share an existing gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center; and

WHEREAS, The gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center belongs to the community and not the school and the Council is concerned that turning it into a shared facility would severely limit public access to it, directly harming community members who depend on it for recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, The Council questions the sustainability of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the school district and Roger's Recreational Center, given uncertainties about future funding and the likelihood of the PPSD honoring its commitments; and

WHEREAS, It is acknowledged that *Option A* has also been presented, which advocates for maintaining separate gymnasiums for both the school and the recreational center, and the City Council has reviewed and endorses *Option A*; and

WHEREAS, Maintaining separate gymnasiums as part of the rebuilding plan for Harry Kizirian is essential to ensure that its students as well as community members have access to modern and adequate facilities for physical education and extracurricular activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council opposes *Option B* for rebuilding Harry Kizirian Elementary School which includes the demolition of the school's current gymnasium and does not include the construction of a new gymnasium and instead urges PPSD to move forward with *Option A* which allocates funds and resources for the construction of a new gymnasium for Harry Kizirian as part of the rebuilding project and maintains the separate gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center; and

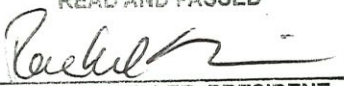

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council calls upon the school district and other stakeholders to prioritize the well-being and educational needs of both Harry Kizirian Elementary School students and Ward 12 community members by maintaining separate gymnasiums that meet modern standards and adequately supports physical education and extracurricular activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Office of Mayor Brett Smiley, the Office of PPSD Superintendent Dr. Javier Montanez, and the members of the Providence Public School Board to emphasize the importance of including a new gymnasium in the rebuilding plan for Harry Kizirian Elementary School.

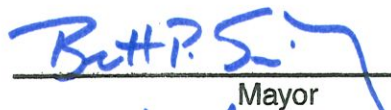
IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 18 2024

READ AND PASSED


RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor
Date: 4/26/2024