

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 52

Approved January 23, 2023

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Sharpe moved to Providence in 1920 with her husband Henry Dexter Sharpe to pursue her love of gardening, and soon she fell in love with Providence as well.; and

WHEREAS, A native of Syracuse, New York, she helped support family by making and selling candy. She parlayed that into a career, starting her own business, "Mary Elizabeth Ltd of New York." After opening tea rooms in Boston and New York, Mary worked for the U.S. Food Administration and joined the Red Cross during World War I; and

WHEREAS, After closing her business in the 1930s, she came involved with the cultural activities Providence had to offer. She was responsible for bringing the Community Concert Series to Providence and served on many arts councils and boards; and

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Sharpe was an entrepreneur, author, environmentalist, philanthropist, and self-taught landscape architect, whose achievements in the field of landscape design were legendary; and

WHEREAS, Sharpe was instrumental in the beautification of Brown University, assisted in the creation of the Japanese Gardens at Roger Williams Park, and spearheaded the renovation of India Point Park; and

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Sharpe continued to work to make Providence beautiful until just before her death in 1985, shortly after celebrating her 100th birthday. She was survived by her son, Henry Sharpe, Jr; and

WHEREAS, Through her kindness, work ethic, unquestioned integrity and unwavering commitment to the young men and women of Providence, Sharpe has helped to inspire the City's youth, and revitalized the City's neighborhoods.

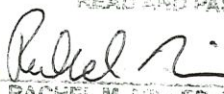

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby honor the life, work, and legacy of Mary Elizabeth Sharpe by establishing a ceremonial designation at the corner and intersection of Hope Street and John Street as "Sharpe Corner".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council requests that the Department of Public Works work to manufacture, install, and maintain one or more honorary signs at prominent and appropriate locations, which shall reflect the "Sharpe Corner" honorary designation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of Providence, the Director of DPW, and the Traffic Engineer.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
JAN 19 2023

READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
TINA L. MASTROSINI, CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Brett P. Smith  
Mayor

Date: 1/23/2023

Leo J. Perrotta  
Director



Jorge O. Elorza  
Mayor

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
*"Building Pride in Providence"*

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**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** TINA MASTROLANI, ACTING CITY CLERK  
**FROM:** NATALE D. URSO, MANAGING ENGINEER TRAFFIC ENGINEERING 11294  
**SUBJECT:** CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION RENAMING THE CORNER OF HOPE STREET  
AND JOHN STREET AS "SHARPE CORNER"  
**DATE:** MAY 23, 2022

The Department of Public Works Traffic Engineering Division has reviewed the Resolution to rename the corner of Hope Street at John St. as "Sharpe Corner." We researched available data and determined there does not currently exist another designation for this intersection. We therefore are in support of the renaming of the intersection. We will make and install the appropriate sign once the resolution is approved.

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