

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 357

Approved September 15, 2023

WHEREAS, The City of Providence desires to forge a Friendship City relationship steeped in goodwill and solidarity with Stepanakert the capital of the Republic of Artsakh; and

WHEREAS, The Democratic Republic of Artsakh has been an integral part of the Armenian homeland for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, Since December 12, 2022, Azerbaijan is blockading the only road connecting Artsakh to Armenia which has halted all food, medicine, and fuel from entering Artsakh, and periodically cuts off the gas, electricity, water, and lines of communication creating a dire humanitarian crisis; and

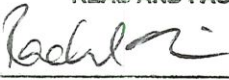

WHEREAS, The City of Providence, in its pledge to form a Friendship City relationship, will join multiple Ocean State municipalities that have recently issued supportive resolutions about Stepanakert, in the Republic of Artsakh, a reputable regional center of culture and education as host of Artsakh University; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of such a relationship aligns with the unique People-to-People program that United States of America President Dwight D. Eisenhower implemented in 1956 specifically to encourage and empower Americans of all ages to "help make the truth of our peaceful goals and of our respect for the rights of others known to more people overseas"; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence welcomes the opportunity to emulate the thirty-fourth President's timeless positive outreach efforts for establishing an enduring friendship, bolstering cultural understanding, and nurturing interpersonal relations between America and its populace with that of foreign lands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of Providence, by and through, the new establishment of a Friendship City relationship with Stepanakert, in the Republic of Artsakh, shall remain steadfast in upholding President Eisenhower's timeless yet insightful vision to create international goodwill and solidarity through, *'people-to-people contacts designed to create understanding among peoples and build a common effort to advance world peace.'*

IN CITY COUNCIL  
SEP 07 2023  
READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Mayor

Date: 9/15/2023