

CITY OF PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND



The Credo of the Providence City Council is to be Industrious, to be Watchful and to Promote Peace. The bee, as a symbol of industry, is derived from the early colonial saying "Busy as a Bee"; the goose, as a symbol of watchfulness, is derived from the story of the goose whose cackling saved Rome; and the lamb, as a symbol of peace, is derived from the biblical use of the lamb as a symbol of peace.



IN CITY COUNCIL .

JUN 05 2025

APPROVED

James J. Mastrosicchi
CLERK

CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 12 City Council Regular Council Meeting, Thursday, May 15, 2025, 6:00 o'clock P.M.

PRESIDING

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT
RACHEL M. MILLER**

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMEN ESPINAL, GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, HARRIS, PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO, ROIAS, COUNCILWOMAN RYAN, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN TAYLOR AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS – 14.

ABSENT: COUNCILMAN VARGAS – 1.

ALSO PRESENT: TINA L. MASTROIANNI, CITY CLERK, SHERI A. PETRONIO, FIRST DEPUTY CITY CLERK, LAUREN GUTIERREZ, ASSISTANT CLERK, NAPOLEON ASKIE, CITY SERGEANT AND JEFFREY DANA, CITY SOLICITOR.

INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by **COUNCILOR JUSTIN M. ROIAS**.

"Colleagues, As we begin tonight's session, I invite each of you to join me in a moment of reflection. However, you find meaning, whether it's through prayer, quiet thought, or the wisdom of those who came before you. Let's take a moment to ground ourselves. As for me, I offer this prayer in the name of Jesus, not the version used to bless power and maintain comfort, but the real one, a brown Palestinian Jew, homeless, unyielding. flipping tables in the temple when the poor were being exploited, because sometimes love looks like righteous disruption. So, Let us pray. Father God, God of the weary and of the worn. We lift up the people of Providence the ones we don't see on ribbon-cutting days, but who carry this city on their backs. The single mother working two jobs and still coming up short. The transgender youth, just trying to exist without fear. The person battling addiction who is more than the sum of their mistakes. The undocumented neighbor who prays not to be seen not because they don't love this place, but because they know this place doesn't always love them back. Jesus would have been with them. He always was. We lift up the unhoused. Those living tents and under bridges in our city, the ones our city calls problems, but you call sacred. May we not just move them out of sight, but move closer to their stories, to their pain, and to their hopes. Father God, we also pray for the innocent civilians caught in conflict. Whether here in our city streets or abroad, on all sides, in all places. Those whose lives are torn apart not by their own doing, but by decisions far beyond their control. May we be the voices for peace, for justice, for the protection of those who cannot protect themselves. May we remember that every life is sacred, and that the loss of one is a heartbreak, no matter which side of a border they stand on. And God, I ask that you bless my fellow colleagues who are in this room tonight. Too often, we wear smiles in public, even when our hearts are heavy. We make decisions in rooms filled with expectations and rarely with grace. Remind us that we, too, are human. That the titles we hold do not make us exempt or immune to pain or doubt or fear. That the weight we carry is real, even when we've been told to hide it. We also lift up our families, the ones who sacrifice alongside us. Father God, bless them for their generosity in sharing us with this city. They make sacrifices so that we can occupy these seats, and in many ways, they are city councilors just as much as we are. May we honor their patience, their love, and their unseen labor that makes our work possible. May we remember that vulnerability is not weakness and that justice is not always polite. Father God, Bless this council with courage to speak truth, even when it's unpopular. To show compassion, even when it's inconvenient. And to lead, not from polished personas, but from honest hearts. Bless this city with the kind of love that sees people not problems, not liabilities, not numbers-but people. And bless us with the audacity to flip tables when it's required. To shake the comfortable for the sake of the oppressed. To remember that Jesus did not die safely, and neither should our conviction. In the name of Jesus, the liberator, the table-flipper, the friend of the Forgotten, Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCILWOMAN JO-ANN RYAN Leads the Members of the City Council and the Assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

“I rise to comment on the raising of the Palestinian flag. I understand the desire to take a stand on behalf of a community that is facing unimaginable violence, but our city government must embrace diverse constituencies with strongly held and often opposing views. Displaying any national symbol other than our own in a moment of political conflict alienates members of our community and draws the council into disputes beyond our local mandate. These concerns are intensified by rising hate, anti-transgender, antisemitism, anti-Arab, anti-Black, and sadly many other forms. In this climate, symbolic actions can make it more difficult for our public body to fulfill our responsibility to promote civic trust. At a minimum this action is insensitive to our Jewish community, and given the response we have seen, we know it is deeply offensive to many. These times offer many challenges to both our conscience and our ability to form a more perfect union. Meanwhile, our residents are counting on us to focus on the extreme fiscal challenges their city faces. I believe we need to focus on our local responsibility and find ways to tell all of our residents that they belong. Thank you.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Journal of Proceedings No. 11 of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held May 1, 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED (WITH VOTE) [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 3 and Move Approval, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

“ Unfortunately, I have to do this. This is the second time I’ve done this in the last three or four months. Madam President, I rise this evening to raise one very important issue that is plaguing this Council. It appears that you and your staff have forgotten the fact that this is the legislative body of the city. The only place where the City Council speaks. Why can I do a point of Personal Expression? The only place where the City Council speaks and makes decisions is in this room. If you and your staff want to stir up controversy, air personal beliefs or get arrested, you are all more than welcome to do so. Unfortunately, I did this last time Majority Leader, and it fell on deaf ears because this council is not run by the legislative branch. It’s run by all fifteen council people here. And then this last thing that just happened, I was not notified, I was not asked if I was to vote for it or against it and unfortunately, this is what I wrote to try to see if we could get through to the body, but please stop portraying your individual actions as the council because that ends up leaving the rest of us to pick up the pieces of the mess. You have been part of this council long enough to know if you want the council's support, you come to the chambers with an ordinance or resolution. If you don’t have the council's support or are too afraid to ask, then maybe your communications are clear that it’s your actions and not those of the legislature. I think I’m speaking for the majority of these council members. It’s unfortunate that we have to get bombarded with emails and phone calls from angry and confused constituents who have been misled into thinking that I’m supporting something that I was never asked to support. I'm going to change my wording here because I don’t want to hurt anybody’s feelings around here. When you do these things, it represents and it comes out in the newspaper that we are all supporting whatever issue. Again, I repeat, there are fifteen council members here, and we all have a voice, and we should be able to make decisions, because it certainly doesn’t appear that we have all been asked, and I am a vocal person, as everybody knows, and I know other people think this way, but this is not right. I have received many emails today from many people that are upset and my stance from the beginning was that I was not asked, I would not support the flying of the Palestine flag and, and as Tip O’Neill the former Secretary of State, said, all politics is local. I was elected a Providence City Councilman not a Congressman. If people want to be a Congressman, then go for a Senate or whatever, but we should be doing the work of the city, not worried about international problems. So, thank you very much and I’m sorry if I hurt anybody’s feelings.”

COUNCILOR PICHARDO Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

"I rise this evening to recognize a young man who has been raised here in the City of Providence. his name is Victor Reynoso, who is here with us. I would like at this time to have the Clerk read a citation please. Thank you, Madam President and members of the City Council and people in the audience. Today I stand filled with pride especially a positive story here in the City of Providence. Victor's humble beginning began in the Dominican Republic as an immigrant and now as a Rhode Islander as a Providence, I call him the PVD Champ because he is from Providence and he grew up here as a young man and went to school and has been really disciplined in his craft, but also in his academics. As he charts his day, charts his life, while graduating from Rhode Island College, while getting his Master's in Education and working at CVS as a manager and at the same time finds time to give back to the community, but also to hone his craft. A craft that not too many of us can take up on. I know there's one member here that actually box and he'll probably speak. But as a Latino, as a Dominican, I feel very proud of Victor Reynoso, his family, the Jimenez family is very proud of you. Just this weekend he had a tremendous boxing match and he became 11 and 0 and now he's seven knockouts, right? And as his trainer said in the Providence Journal, there is tremendous potential the ceiling is for him to break and his determination, his resilience and his drive makes us all proud and wanted to congratulate you and congratulate the City of Providence and that State of Rhode Island for shining a light and such a wonderful young man. Congratulations Victor."

ORDINANCE SECOND READING

The following Ordinance was in City Council May 1, 2025 Read and Passed the First Time and is Returned Passage the Second Time:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS ROIAS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS, COUNCILMAN VARGAS AND COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, "Housing" of the Providence Code of Ordinances to add Article X - "Prohibition of Algorithmic Rent Setting Devices".

WHEREAS, In recent years, several software programs, often referred to as "algorithmic devices," have threatened to destabilize rental housing markets in cities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, More and more landlords in large U.S. cities are now pooling their data and pricing decisions using such software; and

WHEREAS, The use of this software has contributed to double-digit rent increases, higher vacancy rates, and higher rates of eviction. It has distorted markets to the extent that rents and vacancy rates have increased simultaneously; and

WHEREAS, In Providence, the metro area experienced the highest year-over-year rent increase in the United States, with a 16.18% rise from March 2023 to March 2024, highlighting the urgency of addressing the role of algorithmic devices in exacerbating the housing crisis; and

WHEREAS, This ordinance prohibits the use of algorithmic devices for the purpose of setting rents on residential dwelling units in Providence, Rhode Island, to bring immediate relief to tenants and ensure that landlords are adhering to fair standards for setting rental rates.

Now Therefore, Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

Section 1. Chapter 13, “Housing”, is hereby amended to add Article X, “PROHIBITION OF ALGORITHMIC RENT SETTING DEVICES” as follows:

Article X. PROHIBITION OF ALGORITHMIC RENT SETTING DEVICES.

Section 3-69 - Definitions.

Algorithmic device shall mean a product or service involving a system, software, or process using computation that: uses one or more algorithms to perform calculations; uses data concerning historical or contemporaneous prices, price changes, supply levels, occupancy rates, or lease or rental contract termination and renewal dates from:

- (a) two or more real estate lessors;
- (b) Public databases;
- (c) A combination of public databases, or two or more real estate lessors;

that recommends rental prices, fees, rental terms, or occupancy levels to a landlord.

"Algorithmic device" includes a product that incorporates an algorithmic device, but does not include (A) a report that publishes periodically, but not more frequently than monthly, existing rental data in an aggregated and anonymous manner but does not recommend rent prices, fees, or occupancy rates or other rental contract terms for future leases; or (B) a product used for the purpose of establishing rent or income limits in accordance with the affordable housing program guidelines of a local government, the state, the federal government, or other political subdivision.

Price coordination shall mean engaging in both of the following acts: (a) collecting historical or contemporaneous non-public competitor information concerning prices, price changes, supply levels, occupancy rates, or lease or rental contract termination and renewal dates of residential rental units from two or more real estate lessors, whether or not monetary or other valuable consideration is paid to acquire or collect such information, or information concerning such matters from a public database; and (b) recommending or suggesting rental prices, fees, rental terms, or occupancy levels to a real estate lessor based on such information when such recommendation involves the analysis or processing of such information using an algorithmic device. Price coordination does not include (i) providing information for the purpose of establishing rent or income limits in accordance with the affordable housing program guidelines of a governmental entity; or (ii) generation or use of any report, study, or presentation that provides existing rental data in an aggregated manner but does not recommend rent prices, fees,

or occupancy rates or other rental contract terms for future leases; or (iii) providing or using information for the purpose of conducting market research for project financing, for the purpose of conducting an appraisal, or for conducting research, testing, and training for software development.

Real estate lessor shall mean any individual, corporation, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or unincorporated organization that owns or manages real property, or any agent thereof who leases or rents such property or any portion of such property as a residential unit.

Section 13-70 - Prohibited conduct.

- (a) No *real estate lessor* in the city shall engage in *price coordination* for residential rental units in the city, including through the sale, licensure, or provision of any service or product that involves *price coordination* of residential units.
- (b) No *real estate lessor* in the city shall enter an agreement with any other person to not compete with respect to rental pricing, fees, or any other rental term for residential rental units in the city.
- (c) No *real estate lessor* shall use, subscribe to, or contract or pay for, the services of another person if such services involve *price coordination* or otherwise encourage or facilitate an agreement with other persons to not compete with respect to any rental term for residential units in the city.
- (d) No *real estate lessor* shall use, subscribe to, contract or pay for, or otherwise provide anything of value for an *algorithmic device*.

Section 13-71 - Enforcement.

The city, through the city solicitor, may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction against any *real estate lessor* violating subsections (a), (b), or (c) of Section 13-70 of this article.

The city solicitor's office shall work collaboratively with the Rhode Island Office of Attorney General to share information about violations of this section in order to aid the Attorney General's prosecution under the Rhode Island Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

Section 13-72 - Penalties.

- (a) Any *property owner* found to be in violation of the provisions of this section may be subject to a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) per day per violation.
- (b) In the case of any successful action to enforce liability pursuant to this section, costs and attorney fees shall be awarded to the moving party to the extent allowed by law.

Section 13-73 - Severability.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word contained in this article shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this article, which shall remain in full force and effect, and, to this end, the provisions of this article are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 2. The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective upon passage.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 4, substitute and Pass for the Second Time on a Roll Call Vote, As Amended, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	READ/PASSED (AS AMENDED) 2X [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage the Second Time, as Amended, is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND COUNCILMAN ESPINAL

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 “Administration,” and Chapter 21 “Revenue and Finance”, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence”.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 5 and Pass for the First Time on a Roll Call Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	READ/PASSED FOR THE FIRST TIME [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL AND COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS, (By Request):

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence Entitled "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance," Approved November 24, 2014, As Amended, to Change Certain Text in Article 19 Regarding Adjustments of Dimensional Regulations for Land Development Projects.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Ordinances

COUNCILOR ROIAS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMEN ANTHONY, GRAVES, COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND SANCHEZ

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, "Administration" of the Providence Code of Ordinances to add Article XXIX "Leasing City Property to Charter Schools".

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

COUNCILWOMAN RYAN, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN HARRIS, VARGAS, COUNCILMEN VARGAS, TAYLOR, COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence Entitled "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance," Approved November 24, 2014, as Amended, to Change Certain Text in Article 17 Regarding Design Standards.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Ordinances

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of items 6 through 8, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 6 to the Committee on Ordinances, Refers item 7 to the Committee on Finance and Refers item 8 to the Committee on Ordinances.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND ROIAS

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-5634 and Senate Bill 2025 S-0114, An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions - Defending Affordable Prescription Drug Costs Act.

WHEREAS, 340B entities statewide, such as hospitals or clinics, are vulnerable to deliberate underpayment, network restriction or exclusion, and discriminatory terms for reimbursement by or services provided by health insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, and other agents when providing deeply discounted prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, Cherished healthcare institutions serving Providence, including Providence Community Health Centers, CODAC, Women & Infants Hospital, and Rhode Island Hospital, are subject to underpayment and thus to financial shortfalls that jeopardize the quality of care they strive daily to provide; and

WHEREAS, The most vulnerable residents of Providence are deeply impacted by the arbitrary impediments to medical care created by this conduct, with limits to access and quality of care imposed by non-providers for the sake of profit; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, House Bill 5634 and its Senate companion Senate Bill 114 would prohibit discriminatory conduct by health insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, pharmaceutical companies, and other payors and agents in reimbursements to 340B entities for prescription drugs covered in the 340B program, including lower reimbursements than those provided to non-340B entities for the same drug, differential terms for 340B entities that include fees or charges or clawbacks or other adjustments, lower dispensing fees than those for non-340B entities, restrictions on pharmacy network usage, and interference that prevents patients from choosing a 340B entity to dispense drugs; and

WHEREAS, Hospitals and clinics both in Providence and statewide will be able to avoid compromises in patient care born of needless financial difficulty; and

WHEREAS, Residents citywide receiving lifesaving drugs from 340B participants will benefit from more consistent and widespread access to vital medication; and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council wishes to convey its gratitude to the Rhode Island General Assembly for its leadership in this matter of great concern.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council strongly supports H-5634 and its Senate companion S-0114 and urges the General Assembly to pass this legislation necessary for the affordability and efficacy of healthcare in Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to lead sponsors Representative Jon Brien and Senator Bridget Valverde, Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives K. Joseph Shekarchi, President of the Rhode Island Senate Valarie J. Lawson, and the members of the Providence Delegation.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-6046 and Senate Bill 2025 S-0896, An Act Relating to Human Services - Medical Assistance.

WHEREAS, Community health centers (CHCs) are crucial components of healthcare delivery, especially primary care; and

WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, CHCs provide family medicine, vaccinations, chronic disease management, reproductive healthcare, and more to over 200,000 residents, which is about 1 in 5 Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, Designed to serve all patients, regardless of their ability to pay, CHCs have a higher proportion of uninsured or publicly insured patients compared to other healthcare facilities; and

WHEREAS, Several factors contribute to the growing financial crisis experienced by CHCs, such as rising prices of healthcare supplies and increasing patient populations. Yet, low reimbursement rates by Medicaid payers are a significant concern; and

WHEREAS, Because Medicaid often reimburses less than the full cost of services, and given that the majority of CHC patients are Medicaid beneficiaries, CHCs face substantial revenue loss; and

WHEREAS, House Bill-6046 and Senate Bill-0896 aim to address this issue by increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates for medical, behavioral, and dental care, setting the minimum reimbursement at either the full cost of services or 125% of the median rate for all CHCs in Rhode Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Providence City Council supports the passage of these bills, as they would ensure increased Medicaid reimbursements, which would significantly help CHCs statewide, particularly Providence Community Health Centers, the largest primary healthcare provider in the city.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to lead sponsors Representative Serpa and Senator Burke, Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives K. Joseph Shekarchi, President of the Rhode Island Senate Valarie J. Lawson, and the members of the Providence Delegation.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of items 9 and 10 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON,
COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND ROIAS**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-6272, An Act Relating to Taxation - Property Subject to Taxation.

**COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 11, Seconded by
COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 11 to the Committee on Finance.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON AND
COUNCILOR PICHARDO**

Resolution Engaging external groups to conduct a Housing Assessment informing the best future use of the property located at 99 Kenyon Street.

WHEREAS, This resolution is authorizing the City Council President to engage one or more groups, at a cost of no more than fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars total, to conduct an assessment informing the best future use of the property located at 99 Kenyon Street for the City and its residents and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Section 401 (d) of the City’s Home Rule Charter authorizes the City Council “To retain by majority vote of the entire city council and fix the salaries of those consultants it deems necessary for the exercise of its functions, including, but not limited to accountants, engineers, and other experts not regularly employed in any city department or service. The city council shall have the power to appropriate funds to defray the costs thereof; and

WHEREAS, It the obligation of the Providence City Council to make wise financial decisions on behalf of the City, its residents, and for future generations and to do so it is necessary to consult with third parties which have expertise in viability, feasibility, design and rehab of historic buildings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That pursuant to Section 401 (d) of the Providence Home Rule Charter, the City Council of the City of Providence hereby authorizes the City Council President to sign an agreement with one or more external groups, not to exceed fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars total.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 12 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN HARRIS, PETERSON AND VARGAS

Resolution Requesting an easement on behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company, a domestic utility currently doing business as Rhode Island Energy, located at 280 Melrose Avenue in Providence, has requested an easement over, under, and across a portion of land at 438 Hope Street (Assessor’s Plat 8 Lot 464), near the Vincent Brown Recreation Center.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 13, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 13 to the Committee on Public Works.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Public Works

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILWOMEN ANTHONY, GRAVES, PETERSON, COUNCILORS
PICHARDO, ROIAS AND COUNCILWOMAN RYAN**

Resolution Celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month.

WHEREAS, The City of Providence recognizes the rich tapestry of ethnicities that shape the cultural, economic, and social framework of our community, among which Jewish Americans in Providence have played a vital role; and

WHEREAS, Providence is home to significant historical Jewish sites including Temple Emanu-El, established in 1927, Temple Beth-El, built in 1911, Congregation Beth Sholom, founded in 1905, Congregation Mishkon TfiLoh, established in 1962, and Congregation Sha'arei Tefilla, built in 2009, all of which symbolize the longstanding presence and endurance of the Jewish community in the City of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The Jewish community has been instrumental in philanthropy and civic leadership in Providence, notably through contributions to organizations such as the United Way, the Rhode Island Foundation, and the American Civil Liberties Union, and through cultural contributions like the founding of Trinity Repertory Company at the Jewish Community Center; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Rhode Islanders like Daniel Robbins and Irving Fain have left indelible marks on our state's artistic and legislative landscape, through leadership in the arts at the Rhode Island School of Design and advocacy for fair housing laws respectively; and

WHEREAS, Amidst a troubling rise in antisemitism both nationally and globally, celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month not only honors this integral part of our city and national identity but also serves to foster a community of inclusivity and mutual respect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence hereby proclaims May 2025 as Jewish American Heritage Month in Providence and we send our best wishes to all city officials, residents, and institutions who observe this month via programs, activities, and ceremonies that celebrate the history, culture, and contributions of Jewish Americans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proclamation be distributed to the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, Jewish Collaborative Services, Temple Emanu-El, Temple Beth-El, Congregation Beth Sholom, Congregation Mishkon TfiLoh, Congregation Sha'arei Tefilla, Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center, Jewish Community Day School of Rhode Island, Providence Hebrew Day School, Brown/RISD Hillel and the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, wishing local Jewish organizations well as they celebrate the recognition of this significant month.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 14, substitute and Pass on a Voice Vote, As Amended, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO, ROIAS AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS

Recognizing Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month and Celebrating the Opening of the AAPI History Museum in Providence.

WHEREAS, Each May, communities across the country observe Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month in order to honor and celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures and invaluable contributions of individuals of Asian and Pacific Islander descent; and

WHEREAS, The AAPI community encompasses a wide range of cultures, languages and histories from East, Southeast, South and Central Asia, the Pacific Islands and indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence is proud to be home to a vibrant and growing AAPI Community, whose diverse cultures and contributions enrich the city’s identity and vitality through leadership in advocacy, the arts, public service, education, healthcare and entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, Providence’s AAPI residents have played an essential role in shaping the economic, educational, cultural, civic and social landscape of our City, spanning from the thriving small businesses on Broad Street to the vibrant student and academic communities in our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, AAPI Heritage Month also serves as a time to reflect on the historical and ongoing challenges faced by our AAPI communities here in Providence and across the nation, including the rise in anti-Asian hate and xenophobia, and to reaffirm the City’s commitment to the principles of equity, inclusion and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence values the multicultural fabric of all of its neighborhoods and stands in solidarity with its AAPI residents, recognizing their resilience, accomplishments and lasting impact on our neighborhoods and shared community; and

WHEREAS, On March 26, 2025, the City of Providence proudly celebrated the grand opening of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) History Museum at 44 Hospital Street in the Jewelry District, a historic occasion that signified the establishment of the nation’s first museum dedicated exclusively to the AAPI immigrant experience; and

WHEREAS, The AAPI History Museum, founded by Jeannie Salomon and curated in collaboration with Acting Museum Manager Setha Phongsavan, originated as a mobile museum initiative launched in September of 2024 and has since evolved into a permanent institution, made possible through grant funding support from organizations such as the Mellon Foundation; and

WHEREAS, The museum features interactive displays organized into thematic sections of Identity, Migration & Immigration, Solidarity, and Activism, providing educational resources and fostering dialogue about the experiences, histories and impact of AAPI communities in Providence and across the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council formally recognizes the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month in the City of Providence and commends the establishment of the AAPI History Museum, acknowledging its role in preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage of AAPI communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council encourages all residents to immerse themselves in the histories, cultures and achievements of the AAPI community, uplift and create space for AAPI voices and stand united against discrimination and injustice in all forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the AAPI History Museum in Providence, the Alliance of RI Southeast Asians (ARISE) and the Center for Southeast Asians (CSEA) as a token of the City Council's gratitude and solidarity.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 15 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND ROIAS

Resolution Supporting General Assembly Legislation Granting Tax Exempt Status to the Rhode Island Business Development Institute, Inc.

COUNCILOR PICHARDO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON AND COUNCILOR ROIAS

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-6233 and Senate Bill 2025 S-0497, An Act Relating to Taxation - Property Subject to Taxation.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 16 and 17, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers items 16 and 17 to the Committee on Finance.

COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO AND ROIAS

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-5473 and Senate Bill 2025 S-0329, An Act Relating to Taxation - Personal Income Tax.

WHEREAS, Calls for the State of Rhode Island to emulate the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in enacting an equivalent of a surtax, or “millionaire's tax”, on individuals and households earning over \$625,000 are the continuation of prior campaigning to address deficiencies in the rates and thresholds of the personal income tax and resultant tax burdens on lower-income Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island has seen significant decreases in revenues from both the personal and corporate income tax over the past several decades that are partly responsible for the present projected deficit in the proposed budget in Fiscal Year 2026; and

WHEREAS, The cuts proposed to state programs and services would be especially impactful upon Providence, with the City receiving myriad forms of revenue from the state, including but not limited to the majority of public education funding; and

WHEREAS, The experience of Massachusetts in taxing high-income individuals and households has proved instructive, with vanishingly little migration by and an expansion in the number of said individuals and households amid the enactment of the “millionaire’s tax”; and

WHEREAS, If House Bill-5473 and its Senate Companion S-0329 are enacted, Rhode Island would likewise benefit, both through the garnering of revenues useful in the funding of institutions and services and the reduction of the wealth inequality threatening the survival of American democracy; and

WHEREAS, These funds would benefit the City as a recipient of varying forms of state revenue and as a guardian of the interests of the constituents availing themselves of

state-operated services, including public transit, healthcare, housing, education, and workforce training; and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council wishes to thank for their leadership in addressing this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council strongly supports H-5473 and its Senate Companion S-0329 and urges the General Assembly to this legislation crucial to maintaining and improving the services that Rhode Islanders depend upon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to lead sponsors Representative Karen Alzate and Senator Melissa Murray, Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives K. Joseph Shekarchi, President of the Rhode Island Senate Valarie J. Lawson, and the members of the Providence Delegation.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 18 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

REPORT(S) FROM COMMITTEE(S)

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN D. ANTHONY, Chairwoman**

**Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Severally
Approved:**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, (By Request):

Resolution Authorizing Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Jones Moving & Storage \$21,000.00
(Department of Parks)

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Authorize Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Jones Moving & Storage \$21,000.00
(Department of Parks)

Resolution Authorizing Approval of the following Change Order #2 Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(4) of the Code of Ordinances.

Maron Construction \$98,010.00
(Department of Public Property)

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Authorize Approval of the following Change Order #2 Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(4) of the Code of Ordinances.

Maron Construction \$98,010.00
(Department of Public Property)

Resolution Authorizing Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Dimeo Construction Company \$35,558.75
(Department of Public Property)

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Authorize Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Dimeo Construction Company \$35,558.75
(Department of Public Property)

Resolution Authorizing Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Studio Jaed \$378,527.25
(Department of Public Property)

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Authorize Approval of the following Contract Award by the Board of Contract and Supply, in accordance with Section 21-26(b)(2) of the Code of Ordinances.

Studio Jaed \$378,527.25
(Department of Public Property)

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of items 19 through 22, Pass on a Voice Vote and Refer Back to the Board of Contract and Supply, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES,
COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON AND COUNCILOR ROIAS, (By
Request):**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2025 H-5699 and Senate Bill 2025 S-0799, An Act Relating to Taxation - Property Subject to Taxation.

WHEREAS, House Bill H-5699 and Senate Bill S-0799 would exempt from taxation the real and tangible personal property of Codac, Inc, a Rhode Island nonprofit domestic corporation, located at 45 Royal Little Drive in Providence, Rhode Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby supports and urges passage of House Bill H-5699, and Senate Bill-0799, An Act Relating to Taxation - Property Subject to Taxation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House, the Senate President and the Providence Delegation.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 23 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COMMITTEE ON URBAN REDEVELOPMENT,
RENEWAL AND PLANNING
COUNCILWOMAN MARY KAY HARRIS, Chairwoman**

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Adopted As Amended:

COUCILWOMAN HARRIS, COUNCILOR PICHARDO, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, VARGAS, PETERSON AND COUNCILOR ROIAS

An Ordinance Adopting the Community Development Block Grant Budget for Program Year 2025-2026 and Authorizing the Department of Housing & Human Services to submit the CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA Budget and Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER RELINQUISHES THE CHAIR

COUNCILOR PICHARDO IN CHAIR

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 24 and Pass for the First Time on a Roll Call Vote , Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	READ/PASSED FOR THE FIRST TIME [13 TO 0]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 13.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.
RECUSED:	Council President Miller – 1.

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER IN THE CHAIR

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Severally Approved:

COUNCILOR PICHARDO, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILORS SANCHEZ, ANDERBOIS, COUNCILMAN ESPINAL, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON AND RYAN

Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Algonquin House as a Center of Resilience and Community and Calling for the Honorary Renaming of Laura Street to "Algonquin Way".

WHEREAS, In 1995, after years of dedicated advocacy led by the Rhode Island Native community, along with significant support from nearby tribes, the City of Providence, and the Steere family, the historic Steere House was donated to the Rhode Island Indian Council; and

WHEREAS, Renamed *The Algonquin House*, the property was envisioned as a community where Native Americans could preserve and share their cultural heritage while engaging with the modern skills and knowledge necessary for contemporary life, fulfilling the vision laid out by early leaders William Wilcox BigToe (Narragansett) and Garrison Parker Cornplanter (Rappahannock); and

WHEREAS, For nearly 30 years, The Algonquin House has served as an essential hub of economic, social, and cultural support for both Native American and South Providence communities, offering space for community workshops, cultural gatherings, and collaborative partnerships; and

WHEREAS, The name *Algonquin* is understood to mean "people under the big house," a term that reflects a tradition of community, shelter, and mutual support-principles that The Algonquin House has embodied through its decades of service to Native and South Providence communities; and

WHEREAS, The Algonquin House continues to fulfill its mission by promoting economic opportunity, fostering community connections, and providing a trusted space for learning and cultural expression, as guided by the leadership of Executive Director Darrell Waldron and the generations who have sustained its vision; and

WHEREAS, This historic site, which once served Providence's aging residents, now stands as a place of belonging, growth, and community resilience-a setting where heritage and progress are thoughtfully balanced; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence seeks to formally recognize the cultural significance and longstanding contributions of The Algonquin House by designating Laura Street as "Algonquin Way," an honorary name that will stand as a lasting symbol of the respect and appreciation this community holds for The Algonquin House and its legacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby honors The Algonquin House for its invaluable contributions to our city and recognizes its lasting impact by establishing an honorary designation along Laura Street as "Algonquin Way," in appreciation of the community and history it represents; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Department of Public Works so that they may work to manufacture, install, and maintain one or more honorary signs at prominent and appropriate locations along Laura Street, which shall reflect the "Algonquin Way" honorary designation and that a copy be sent to the Rhode Island Indian Council.

**COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILMEN
ESPINAL, GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON,
COUNCILORS ROIAS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS,
COUNCILOR PICHARDO AND COUNCILWOMAN RYAN**

Resolution Honoring the Life of Former Councilman Donald J. “Danny” Lopes, Sr. and
Establishing an Honorary Renaming of Parts of Camp Street to Donald “Danny” Lopes
Way.

WHEREAS, Donald J. “Danny” Lopes, Sr., a lifelong resident of Providence, Rhode
Island, passed away on April 8, 2019, at the age of 83, leaving behind a strong legacy of service
to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lopes served as a Providence City Councilman for Ward 3, where he
worked hard to improve the lives of the people in his neighborhood and beyond; and

WHEREAS, In addition to serving on the City Council, Mr. Lopes was a delegate to the
Rhode Island Constitutional Convention, a board member of the Providence Civic Center, and
the founding President of S.W.A.P. (Stop Wasting Abandoned Property), where he made
important contributions to housing and community development; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lopes also helped working people as President of the Two Man Union
at the 148 Bar & Lounge, worked as a Supervisor for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority,
and was President of the Rhode Island Seniors Association, showing his dedication to workers
and seniors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lopes was committed to mentoring young people, coaching teams such
as the Woodlawn Cowboys and Easton Wildcats, and making a positive impact on youth in the
community; and

WHEREAS, Camp Street was not just where Mr. Lopes lived, but a central part of his
life and work, making it a fitting place to honor his memory; and

WHEREAS, The City Council wishes to honor Mr. Lopes’s contributions to Providence
by renaming parts of Camp Street in his memory.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby
establishes the honorary renaming of Camp Street, from Cypress St. to Rochambeau Ave., to
Donald “Danny” Lopes Way to celebrate his life, his service, and his dedication to the people of
Ward 3; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this resolution be
transmitted to the Department of Public Works so that they may work to manufacture, install and
maintain one or more honorary signs at the designated, prominent and appropriate locations
along Camp Street, which shall reflect the Donald “Danny” Lopes honorary designation, creating
a lasting tribute to his legacy; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be shared with the family
of Donald J. “Danny” Lopes, Sr. as an expression of the City Council’s condolences and
appreciation for his life and work.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
COUNCILMAN OSCAR VARGAS, Chairman

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Approved:

Resolution Requesting an easement related to Integrated Life Sciences Building (ILSB)
Brown University.

RESOLVED, DECREED AND ORDERED:

Petitioner BROWN UNIVERSITY, a Rhode Island nonprofit corporation with an address of 1 Prospect Street, Providence, RI 02912, has requested easements over, under, and across City-owned land as outlined in the petition filed on March 1, 2024. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into the easement attached hereto.

GRANT OF EASEMENTS
CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO BROWN UNIVERSITY

The CITY OF PROVIDENCE, a Rhode Island municipal corporation with an address of 25 Dorrance Street, Providence, RI 02903 (hereinafter “Grantor”), for nominal consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, hereby grants to BROWN UNIVERSITY, a Rhode Island nonprofit corporation with an address of 1 Prospect Street, Providence, RI 02912 (“Grantee”), as the owner of that certain real property located at 233 Richmond Street, Providence, RI (Plat 21, Lot 127) and at 70 Ship Street (Plat 21, Lot 105) (collectively referred to as the “Property”), its successors and assigns, permanent easements as follows:

- (1) A permanent easement for air rights, utilities, and communications over a portion of Elbow Street connecting 70 Ship Street (presently known as Brown’s Laboratories for Molecular Medicine) to the proposed Integrated Life Sciences Building (“ILSB”) at 233 Richmond Street, on the opposite side of Elbow Street. Such easements will enable a bridge between these two buildings to provide for safe pedestrian access and facilitate research collaborations. The proposed easement area contains roughly 441 square feet and is depicted on the attached Street Line Section attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and depicted on renderings attached as **Exhibit 1.2**. This proposed easement is referred to as the ‘Bridge Easement.’
- (2) A permanent underground easement for utilities and communications under a portion of Richmond Street, to service the ILSB. The proposed easement area contains roughly 321 square feet and is depicted on the attached Street Line Section attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**. This proposed easement is referred to as the ‘Richmond Street Easement.’
- (3) A permanent underground easement for utilities and communications under a portion of Elbow Street, to service the ILSB. The proposed easement area contains roughly 462 square feet and is depicted on the attached Street Line Section attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**. This proposed easement is referred to as the ‘Elbow Street Easement.’

Further details regarding the Richmond Street Easement and the Elbow Street Easement are depicted on the plan entitled 'Easement Cross Section Exhibit,' attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**. The easement areas comprising the Bridge Easement, the Richmond Street Easement, and the Elbow Street Easement are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Easement Area."

To effectuate the purposes of this Grant of Easement, Grantee may from time to time grant temporary or permanent easement rights, for the Easement Area or any portion thereof, to applicable utility companies. However, Grantee does not have the power to, and may not, grant any easement rights to such utility companies that are greater than the easement rights granted by Grantor to Grantee hereunder. Further, any such grant of easements to utility companies shall not relieve Grantee of its obligations under this Grant of Easement, which obligations shall continue to be binding upon Grantee and its successors and assigns, and inure to the benefit of Grantor, and its successors and assigns.

Grantor, for itself and its heirs, successors, and assigns, hereby covenants and agrees with Grantee as follows:

- (i) The easements granted hereunder shall constitute covenants and easements running with, and appurtenant to, the Property. All terms, covenants, and easements of this Grant of Easement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of each of Grantor and Grantee and their respective successors and assigns. This Grant of Easement shall be recorded by Grantee in the Land Evidence Records for the City of Providence.
- (ii) Grantee shall indemnify and hold Grantor harmless for liabilities and losses arising from injury, loss or damage to any person or property arising from Grantee's (and its agents' and employees') negligence or willful misconduct in the exercise of Grantee's easement rights hereunder, except to the extent such claims result from the joint or sole negligence or willful misconduct of Grantor and its agents and employees.
- (iii) Grantee's use of the Easement Area shall be in compliance with all applicable ordinances and regulations.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above granted rights and easements, with all the privileges and conditions agreed to, unto and to the use of the Grantee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, has caused this document to be signed by its proper officer for that purpose duly authorized this ____ day _____, 2025.

GRANTOR:

CITY OF PROVIDENCE

By: _____
Name: Brett P. Smiley
Title: Mayor

Witness: _____
(Signature)

(Printed Name)

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE

On this ____ day of _____, 2025, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Mayor Brett P. Smiley, Authorized Signatory of the City of Providence, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding document, and acknowledged to be that he signed it voluntarily for its stated purpose in his/her capacity as the Authorized Signatory of the City of Providence, and he/she acknowledged said instrument and the executive thereof to be his free act and deed in said capacity and the free act and deed of said City of Providence.

Notary Public
Printed Name: _____
Commission Expires: _____
[Affix Stamp Below]

Approved as to form and correctness:

Jeffrey Dana, City Solicitor

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of items 25 through 27 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

"I was waiting until all of the URRP business. So, I just want to express my gratitude for Councilwoman Harris and all of the URRP members. I never get to be part of the CDBG process because of my employer. We talk a lot about this building and all of our committees being the people's buildings and that's true. I think in all of our committees, you know, we had a great four hour hearing the other night, but there is a way that URRP brings you know, resources, recognition, really brings people to this building to participate and it's under your leadership. I'm very grateful. Thank you."

COUNCILOR SANCHEZ Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

"I wish we had multiple because I have a lot to say today. I saved my personal expression for a very important person and that's my dad. Today he's celebrating 25 years of sobriety. I'm going to have to send him this because there's no way that he's watching. I say that because in my day job, you know, I work with a lot of people that have challenges with substance disorders and I use my dad's experience, as you know, something that I keep at the forefront of all these encounters. We all know there's a huge history in all of our lives. You know, the face-to-face interactions, conversations, only show a very little part of our environment growing up, of our circumstances, of our finances, but my dad has had so many people there to support him time over time. My grandma, God bless her for everything that my dad and my uncles put her through. I just want to shed light on that to share those sentiments with every interaction that we have here in the City of Providence and throughout our lifetime. So, thank you Madam President."

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Petition from Mark Perrotti, MP General Contractors, requesting the abandonment of Hillcrest Avenue beginning at Woodside Road and extending to Plat 95, Lot 215 for the development of two duplex homes.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Public Works

Certificates from City Assessor (No. 74X), recommending the same be cancelled pursuant to the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Title 44, Chapter 7 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, As Amended.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Claims and Pending Suits

Petitions for Compensation for Injuries and Damages, viz:

Progressive Direct Insurance Company
a/s/o Michelle Chasse (25-128)
Kabirat T. Jimoh (25-129)
Jephte Montervil and Eduardo J. Pires
(Frank L. Orabona, Jr., Esquire) (25-130)
Maria T. Frey Galvarro (25-131)
John L. Sherman (25-132)
Francis Cimerol (25-133)
Katre Rich (25-134)
James Converse
(Vasil Palo, Esquire) (25-135)
Kiara McClain
(Mike R. Bottaro, Esquire) (25-136)

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Claims and Pending Suits

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Communication from Mayor Brett P. Smiley, dated May 5, 2025 submitting the tentative agreement by and between the City of Providence, Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Laborers' District Council on behalf of Public Employees' Local Union 1033 of the Laborers' International Union of North America, AFL-CIO for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of items 28 through 31, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 28 to the Committee on Public Works, Refers items 29 to the Committee on Claims and Pending Suits, Refers item 30 the Committee on Claims and Pending Suits and Refers item 31 to the Committee on Finance.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS "IN CONGRATULATIONS"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Congratulations.

RESOLVED, that the Members of the City Council hereby extend their Sincere

Congratulations to the following:

Shenita Perry, in recognition of your outstanding achievement in graduating from Roger Williams Law School. Your dedication, service, and positive impact on our community are truly inspiring. We celebrate your success and the example you set for future generations through your leadership and perseverance.

Secretary of State Greg Amore, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Solidarity Award.

Lindsay Paiva, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Solidarity Award.

Steve Ahlquist, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Solidarity Award.

Lisa DiMartino, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Intersectionality Award.

Senator Tiara Mack, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Intersectionality Award.

Elliot Rivera, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Justice Award.

Economic Policy Institute, in recognition of being the recipient of ARISE 2025 Justice Award.

Anna Nicolas Marquez, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Alexandra O'Sullivan, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Abigail Rymer, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Azure Tabares, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Vivien Wienert, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Neko Wienert, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Amayah Brooks, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Sadie Enright, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Kate Howlett, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Fiona Hughes, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Stella Loucks, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Madeline Mcgrane, Classical High School, in recognition of being honored for winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Joe Murray, Head Coach, Classical High School, in recognition of your commitment and dedication leading the Girls Swim Team in winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Peter Bullock, Assistant Coach, Classical High School, in recognition of your commitment and dedication leading the Girls Swim Team in winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Matt D'Ella, Athletic Trainer, Classical High School, in recognition of your commitment and dedication leading the Girls Swim Team in winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Scott Barr, Principal, Classical High School, in recognition of your commitment and dedication to the Girls Swim Team and their achievement of winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Robert "Bob" Pallazzo, Athletic Director, Classical High School, in recognition of your commitment and dedication to the Girls Swim Team and their achievement of winning the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Girls Swimming Division I State Championship for the first time in history and also winning the Sportsmanship Award!

Jarexsy J. Medrano Osorio, en reconocimiento de la celebracion de su graduacion. Celebramos sus logros, felicidades!

El Boli Cafeteria, in recognition of the celebration of your Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 890 Allens Avenue on Saturday, May 3, 2025!

Rosie Schultz, in recognition of our newly crowned Miss Providence. Your poise, passion, and dedication to community uplift are an inspiration. You represent the very best of our city - beauty, brains, and bold purpose. We are proud to celebrate you and look forward to all you will accomplish.

John Rocchio Corporation, in recognition of your exceptional work on the India Point Park improvement project. Your team's craftsmanship, care, and commitment helped transform one of Providence's most cherished public spaces. Thank you for building not just pathways and swings but lasting community pride and access for generations to come.

Friends of India Point Park, in recognition of our deep appreciation of your decades-long stewardship of India Point Park. Through tireless advocacy and vision, you have preserved a treasured waterfront and ensured it remains a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming space for all. Providence is better because of your unwavering commitment to public parks and community life.

The Honorable Andrew Annaldo, Jr., in recognition of being instrumental in reopening the Wanskuck Library, without your efforts this may have not happened. Thank you!

Rony E. Duarte, Custodian, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Manuel Torres, Custodian, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Gilma Palma, Custodian, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Mayra Claudio, Food Service, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Dawn Rawhill, Food Service, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Louisa Ortiz, Food Service, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Yajaira Nicasio, Food Service, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Dimitri Thompson, Food Service, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Lori Barkett-Farhat, Assistant Principal, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Kerry Furtado, Teacher, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

Jimmy Peters, Teacher, George J. West Elementary School, in recognition of your hard work, commitment and dedication in helping with the Rhode Island School Recycling Project.

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 32 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS
"IN MEMORIAM"**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Sympathy.

RESOLVED, That the Members of the City Council hereby extend their Sincere Sympathy to the families of the following:

Michael J. Santurri

COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 33 and Pass on a Unanimous Rising Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Espinal
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Graves
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilmen Taylor and Councilwoman Vargas – 14.
ABSENT:	Councilman Vargas – 1.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND RULE 16(B) OF THE RULES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO TAKE A MATTER NOT
APPEARING ON THE PRINTED DOCKET**

**COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Suspend Rule 16(b) of the Rules of the City Council
in order to take a Matter Not Appearing on the Printed Docket, Seconded by
COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.**

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS, (By Request):

Resolution Requesting an easement on behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company, a domestic utility currently doing business as Rhode Island Energy, located at 280 Melrose Avenue in Providence, has requested an easement over, under, and across a portion of land at 675 Plainfield Street (Assessor's Plat 111, Lot 92). The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into the easement attached as Exhibit A.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Public Works

**COUNCILMAN ESPINAL Moves to Waive the Reading of item 34, Seconded by
COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 34 to the Committee on Public Works.

CONVENTION

There being no further business, on Motion of **COUNCILMAN ESPINAL**, Seconded by **COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS**, it is voted to adjourn in memory of Addis Holguin and Melba Arias at 7:18 o'clock P.M., to meet again **THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.**



TINA L. MASTROIANNI
CITY CLERK

*This meeting was live streamed and the recording is available on our
YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Mv-MzMhPRo&t=4458s>*

The City of Providence is committed to providing individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate and benefit from the City's programs, activities and services. If you have a disability and require accommodations in order to fully participate in this activity, contact Leonela Felix, Esq., Ethics Education and ADA Coordinator at 401-680-5333 or LFelix@ProvidenceRI.gov. Providing at least 72 hours' notice will help to ensure availability.

