

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 408

Approved July 10, 1986

WHEREAS, The need for ample, adequate and affordable housing for the urban Native American population of Providence and for the area designated for development by the Rhode Island Indian Council is reflected in statistics concerning both groups supplied by 1980 census data and a 1979-1980 Rhode Island Indian Needs assessment conducted by the Narragansett Tribe, the Rhode Island Indian Council and the Rhode Island Indian Affairs Commission. The data relating to Upper South Providence does not reflect the decline in population because of destruction of living units through arson and abandonment, and

WHEREAS, Of a total population of 3,648, 1,388 Upper South Providence residents live below the poverty threshold of \$7,156.00 for a family of four with the median family income being \$9,928.00. Census data shows 783 families in Upper South Providence with 389 of those families (45.8%) having a female head of household - no husband present. This compares to a city-wide average of 25.7%. Of these 389 female headed families, 70% were below the poverty level, and

WHEREAS, Statewide, the Indian population was 3,204 with 1,076 (34.6%) living below poverty level and 60% of the total 726 families having a female head of household - no husband present, and

WHEREAS, In 1980, 1,404 out of 1,718 occupied housing units in Upper South Providence were renter occupied, with 972 units renting for less than 200 a month. The rental amounts have increased significantly since 1980 because of real estate speculations, the expansion of Rhode Island Hospital into the neighborhood and the decline in housing status, and

WHEREAS, The severe cutbacks in federal housing subsidies have exacerbated the problems in Upper South Providence as it has in inner cities throughout the country. With the extinction of new construction and substantial rehabilitation Section 8 subsidies for multi-family housing, the only available subsidy is through Section 8 certificates. Providence has approximately 700 certificates with a turn-over of about 70 a year. The waiting list for these certificates is approximately 3,000 at this time, and

WHEREAS, Statewide, in 1980, only five percent of the Indian population were living in subsidized housing although approximately 40% were living at or below the poverty level, and

WHEREAS, The need for adequate and affordable housing is obvious both in the Upper South Providence neighborhood and in the Rhode Island Indian population. The area to the northeast of the present headquarters of the Rhode Island Indian Council is presently a scene of desperate desolation. With the development of the proposed project, it could become a vibrant key to neighborhood revitalization,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the City of Providence that the City Council of the City of Providence, State of Rhode Island hereby authorizes the Honorable Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., Mayor of the City of Providence to apply for a Housing Opportunity Development grant on behalf of the City of Providence from the United State Government for the purpose of providing assistance to the Rhode Island Indian Council, Inc. and the Housing Opportunities Corporation (a subsidiary of Women's Development Corporation) for the development of low income housing. The proposed low income housing shall be known as the Indian Village Development Plan consisting of 36 townhouse units to be constructed on land currently owned by the Providence Redevelopment Agency located at Pine, Friendship, Myrtle and Somerset Streets in Upper South Providence.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUL 3 1986

READ AND PASSED

*Joseph R. Paolino, Jr.* PRES.

*Michael R. Chirba* CLERK  
*James E. Murphy* 1st Deputy City

APPROVED

JUL 10 1986

*John A. Kelly*

Councilman O'Connor, by Request

CITY OF PROVIDENCE

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

WHEREAS:

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