

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 258

Approved May 21, 2025

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

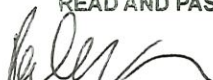

WHEREAS, The Algonquin House continues to fulfill its mission by promoting economic opportunity, fostering community connections, and providing a trusted space for learning and cultural expression, as guided by the leadership of Executive Director Darrell Waldron and the generations who have sustained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

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAY 15 2025
READ AND PASSED

RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor
Date: 5/21/25