

**City of Providence**  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 119

EFFECTIVE March 28, 2016

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library provides free, accessible library services to improve and enrich the lives of the people of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library network of nine branches serve as vibrant hubs within the neighborhoods of Providence, providing programs and services that respond to the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library offers a unique combination of resources, knowledge and opportunities under nine roofs dispersed throughout the neighborhoods of the City; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library network provides a vital learning center for children and adults, and a convenient gathering place for citizens and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The City's budgetary contribution to the Providence Community Library system during the current fiscal year is \$3.545 million, or less than 0.6% of the City's budget. In contrast, according to data assembled by the Providence Community Library, peer cities such as Boston, Bridgeport, Hartford and Stamford allocate more than twice as much, on a percentage basis, than does Providence; and

WHEREAS, The City's budgetary contribution to public libraries is less than \$20 per Providence resident. In contrast, according to data assembled by the Providence Community Library, peer cities such as Boston, Bridgeport, Hartford and Stamford allocate between \$47.69 and \$65.95 per resident; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library has engaged in extensive private fund raising and grant writing; however, the current level of municipal funding complicates and perhaps compromises its ability to maintain quality programming; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library has requested a funding increase this year of \$250,000 to maintain its program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council requests that the administration submit a budget that adequately addresses the Providence Community Library's request for \$250,000 in additional City funding in the coming year.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 17 2016

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature



Lori L. Hagen  
City Clerk