

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 20

Approved January 2, 2007

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND TO REQUEST THAT THE FOLLOWING UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS TRACTS BE NOMINATED BY THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE TO THE ENTERPRISE ZONE COUNCIL FOR RE-DESIGNATION AS ENTERPRISE ZONE PORT OF PROVIDENCE: CENSUS TRACTS 1, 2, 5, 6 AND 15. SHOULD SAID TRACTS BE DESIGNATED, THE CITY WILL USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO ENSURE FEDERAL AND MUNICIPAL RESOURCES ARE TARGETED AND ALLOCATED TO THE ENTERPRISE ZONE.

WHEREAS, the neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood, Elmwood, Lower South Providence, Upper South Providence and Reservoir have lost their competitive edge in attracting business investment; and



WHEREAS, the City of Providence is interested in fostering economic growth and development within the aforementioned neighborhoods; and

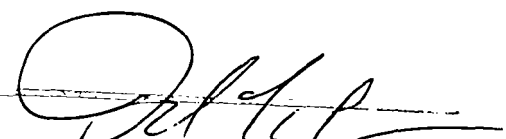
WHEREAS, the economic and demographic conditions existing within these neighborhoods qualify them for re-nomination as an Enterprise Zone pursuant to Chapter 64.3, Title 42 of the General Laws of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, within the above stated neighborhoods lies the United States Bureau of the census tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor as the chief signatory of the City of Providence must be authorized to submit the nomination application to the Enterprise Zone Council of the State of Rhode Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council of the City of Providence, State of Rhode Island, hereby authorizes the City of Providence, through its representative, the Mayor, to re-nominate United States Census tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15, as more specifically described in "Map 1", attached hereto and made a part hereof, to the Enterprise Zone Council of the State of Rhode Island, for re-designation as an enterprise zone, and, if such nomination is favorably accepted, to request the Mayor to allocate Federal and municipal resources to the betterment of the economic and social conditions within said zone. These resources shall include, but not limited to: 1) the establishment and implementation of a program of police protection within the enterprise zone; 2) use of federal funds available for the purposes of job training, housing or economic development; 3) the amendment, when necessary, applicable and reasonable, of local zoning ordinances or regulations; 4) the granting of tax incentives when prudently appropriate as determined by the Providence City Council; 5) the cooperation of municipal offices in the administration of the Enterprise Zone.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
DEC 21 2006  
READ AND PASSED  
  
PRES.  
  
CLERK

  
1/2/07

IN CITY COUNCIL  
OCT 5 2006  
FIRST READING  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON  
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT  
RENEWAL & PLANNING  
Ann M. Stebbins CLERK

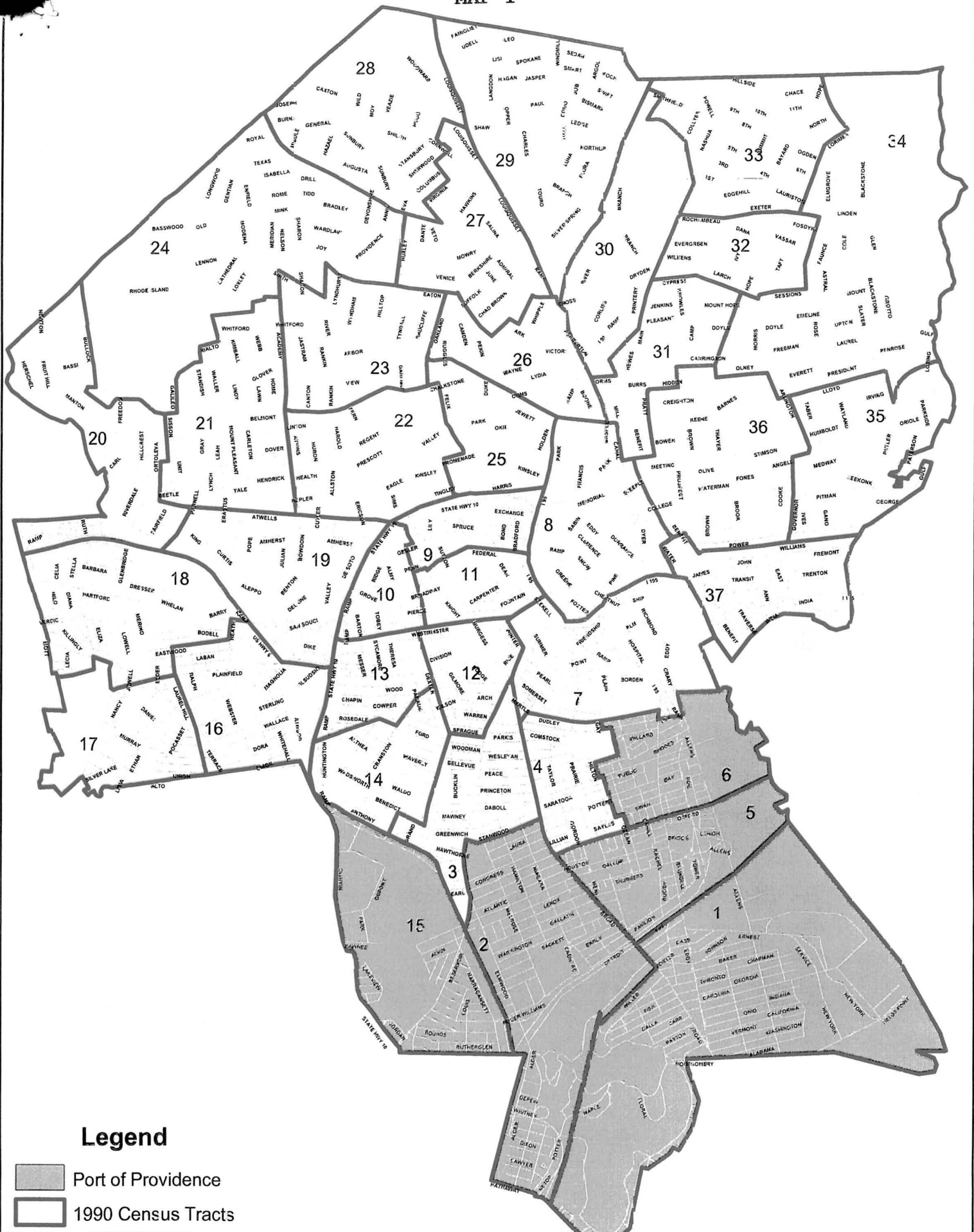
THE COMMITTEE ON  
URRP  
Recommends Continue  
Lori L. Heger  
CLERK  
10-26-06

THE COMMITTEE ON  
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT  
RENEWAL & PLANNING  
Approves Passage of  
The Within Resolution  
Lori L. Heger  
12-5-06 Clerk



*Councilman Aponte, By Request*



# "MAP 1"



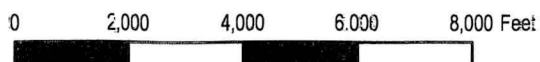
## Legend

-  Port of Providence
-  1990 Census Tracts



City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone





## Department of Planning and Development

DAVID N. CICILLINE

Mayor

### ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM

#### **PURPOSE:**

The Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Program and enabling legislation was created due to the existence certain distressed areas in the state which are characterized by substantial and persistent levels of unemployment; blighted areas; obsolete, dilapidated, and abandoned industrial and commercial structures; and, as a consequence, continually shrinking tax bases which threaten their very existence. The Enterprise Zone Program was established to stimulate economic revitalization, promote employment opportunities, and encourage business development and expansion in distressed areas.

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZONE:**

The City of Providence has two (2) state enterprise zones: Port of Providence and Providence II. The Port of Providence zone designation was received upon the creation of the program in January 1992. The zones are designated for a period of five (5) years by the Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council (RIEZC). The City of Providence, through the Department of Planning and Development, has applied for and received the re-designation of this zone upon each of its expiration dates (1996 and 2001). The current re-designation is for the period of January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2011. During the past five (5) years, 40 new businesses located in the Port of Providence zone were admitted to the program and 63 businesses were certified to be eligible for the tax credits, which resulted in 733 jobs being retained and 662 new jobs being created.

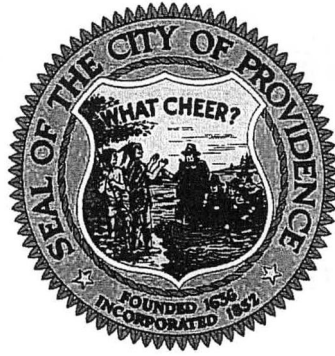
#### **BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE:**

The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone is comprised of U.S. Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. These census tracts are located primarily in the neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood, Elmwood, Lower South Providence, Upper South Providence and Reservoir.

#### **TAX INCENTIVES:**

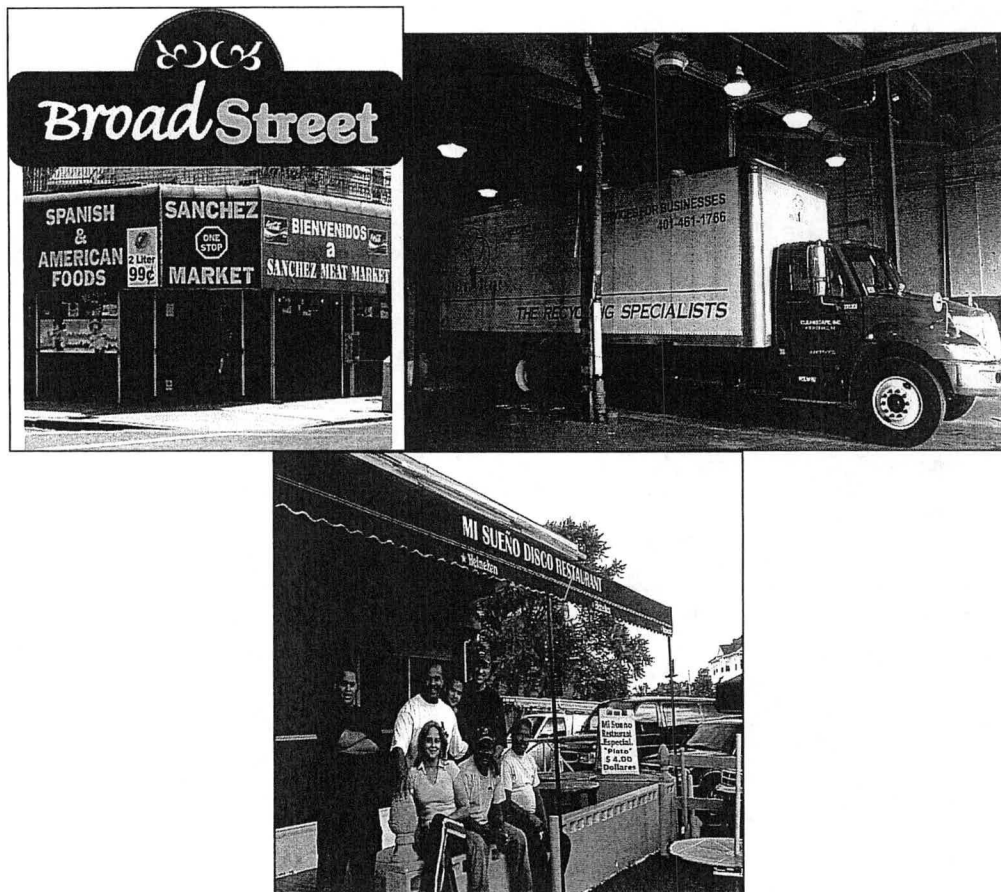
Any business located in a state enterprise zone that has been certified by the Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council and that grows its employment base by five percent (5%) with full-time RIEZC may be eligible for the Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Business Tax Credit. A certified business is allowed a credit against chapters 44-11, 44-14, 44-17 and 44-30 of the Rhode Island General Laws. The tax credit is equal to fifty percent (50%) of the annual wages paid to new employees to a maximum of \$2,500.00 per employee. Beginning in the 1999 certification year, if the new employees reside in an enterprise zone, then the tax credit is equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the annual wages paid to those new employees to a maximum credit of \$5,000.00 employee. Earned but unused enterprise zone tax credits may be carried-forward for up to three (3) years. In order to continue to be eligible for the Enterprise Zone Business Tax Credit, each year the certified company must increase employment levels by five percent (5%). In addition, the new employees hired during the application year must be a RI resident; must be employed full-time (a minimum of 30 hours per week); must begin and end each work day in the zone; and must be employed on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the application year.

If a business is eligible for an Enterprise Zone tax credit, the owner(s) may elect to take the Enterprise Zone Resident Business Owner Modification in place of the Enterprise Zone Business Tax Credit. The modification is available only to business owners who reside within the same Enterprise Zone as their business. The credit is a three (3) year, \$50,000.00 modification of the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income tax liability. During the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year the modification decreases to \$25,000.00. As with the Enterprise Zone Business Tax Credit, in order to continue to be eligible for the tax modification, each year the certified company must meet the five percent (5%) growth requirements.



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form



September 15, 2006



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

### **2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**

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**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**  
**City of Providence, Rhode Island**  
**Port of Providence**

**DAVID N. CICILLINE**  
**Mayor**



**Part 1: Distress Criteria**

1. The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone originally encompassed 1990 Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. Due to changes from the 2000 Census the enterprise zone now encompasses Census Tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3 (partially), 5, 6 (partially), and 15. While the Census Tracts have changed, the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone itself have not. The changes to the census tracts which comprise the enterprise zone are as follows: Tract 1 has been split into Tract 1.01 and Tract 1.02 splitting the population between them. Tracts 2 and 5 have been made smaller, which accounts for the population decline within the tracts. Tract 6 has been made larger, accounting for its population increase. The boundaries of Tract 15 have not changed, but its population has declined by 500. Tract 3 now contains a portion of the enterprise zone which it did not originally.

These changes to the census tracts make it difficult to accurately compare the demographic changes to the area between the 1990 and 2000 census. For example, Tract 3, which was not originally part of the enterprise zone, now contains a small portion of the enterprise zone in the southern part of the tract, however the poverty level numbers do not indicate how many of the households below the poverty level are located within that small area of the tract. Likewise with Tract 6, it has been made significantly larger which accounts for the increase in the number of households below the poverty level. It however cannot be assumed that this increase mean that these are new households below the poverty level, all that can be inferred is that Tract 6 has now picked up households below the poverty level that were previously counted in other tracts.

Additionally, data on overcrowding in households and unemployment is available only by neighborhood, not by census tract. The neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood and Reservoir are entirely within the enterprise zone. However, the neighborhoods of Elmwood, Lower South Providence, and Upper South Providence only contain portions of the enterprise zone. This also makes it difficult to compare the numbers for these neighborhoods from 1990 to 2000 as we cannot determine what percentage of the overcrowded housing in each neighborhood lay within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 or 2000, neither can we determine what percentage of unemployed persons in those neighborhoods lived within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 and the percentage which lived within the enterprise zone in 2000. That being said, unemployment declined in all but one of the neighborhoods which encompass the enterprise zone.

## 2. Demographic Changes

**Poverty Level:** The number of households below the poverty level has increased dramatically:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tract 1	417	
Tract 1.01		738
Tract 1.02		933
Tract 2	841	2,191
Tract 3	675	2,101
Tract 5	262	1,006
Tract 6	72	533
Tract 15	70	400

**Overcrowded Housing (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	16.8% of housing units are overcrowded
Lower South Providence:	13.7% of housing units are overcrowded
Reservoir:	8.8% of housing units are overcrowded
South Elmwood:	6.6% of housing units are overcrowded
Upper South Providence:	8.5% of housing units are overcrowded
Washington Park:	8.4% of housing units are overcrowded

**Unemployment (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	12% unemployed Declined 29% between 1990-2000
Lower South Providence:	15% unemployed Declined 28% between 1990-2000
Reservoir:	7% unemployed Increased 48% between 1990-2000
Upper South Providence:	17% unemployed Declined 8% between 1990-2000
Washington Park:	12% unemployed Declined 13% between 1990-2000

## PART II. Accomplishments

1. During the period of 2002-2006, to date, the City of Providence has processed a total of 169 Enterprise Zone applications, which were approved for admission to the program. Of those applications, 40 were from businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. As a result, those businesses have retained 733 jobs and have created 450 new jobs to date in the Port of Providence Zone (2006 job creation data not available until 2007).

During that same period, to date, 228 businesses located in a Providence Enterprise Zone were certified to be eligible for tax credits during that calendar year, whereby each business met the criteria of both increasing their workforce by five percent (5%) and also increasing their total RI wages paid from the previous calendar year. Of these businesses, 63 were located within the Port of Providence Zone. As a result, to date, these businesses created 662 new jobs in the Port

of Providence Zone, of which a minimum of 110 of those jobs were filled by Enterprise Zone residents (2006 certification and new hire information not available until 2007).

In addition, during the 2002-2006 period, to date, 20 businesses city-wide were authorized to carry-forward an unused portion of a prior year's Enterprise Zone tax credit or to continue their membership in the program if they did not have an unused prior year Enterprise Zone tax credit to carry-forward. Of these businesses, 3 were located within the Port of Providence Zone, to date (2006 carry-forward authorization information not available until 2007).

The City of Providence's Enterprise Zone business participation and job creation is summarized in the table below.

### PORT OF PROVIDENCE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUSINESSES

Year	Total EZ Apps	Port Prov Apps	# Existing Jobs	# Jobs Created	# Businesses Certified	New Hires	EZ Residents	Carry Forwards		
	all zones	Port	Port of Prov '02-'06 applicants only		all zones	Port	Port of Prov EZ only	all zones	Port Prov	
2002	61	12	59	112	57	17	155	unavail.	1	0
2003	43	10	241	91	59	15	115	35	5	0
2004	31	8	367	45	61	18	143	44	8	2
2005	24	7	42	202	51	13	249	31+	6	1
2006	10	3	24	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
	169	40	733	450	228	63	662	110+	20	3

**For a list of businesses approved to the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone Program by application year, please see exhibits.**

2. The Providence Economic Development Partnership has invested \$1.5 million in the last five years in the Zone, mostly to capital projects. Two leading examples are:

#### Cleanscape, Inc.

Cleanscape is a recycling and industrial landscaping firm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the South Providence Development Corporation (SPDC), which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community development corporation. Cleanscape provides employment for many individuals that are considered hard to employ and actively offers employment to ex-offenders. The company's workforce is drawn from six different countries of origin. In 2006, PEDP funded Cleanscape with \$410,000 of a \$760,000 project to purchase and renovate its headquarters building at 150 Colfax Street. This project will stabilize Cleanscape's facility needs and bolster the company's continuation as a growing positive economic presence and employer in South Providence.



The City has also supported Cleanscape's mission by providing \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding to purchase a brand new recycling truck in 2003 and the



Providence Redevelopment Agency is entering into its fourth contract for vacant lot cleaning in the amount of \$200,000.



### Ada's Creations

Ada's Creation is a restaurant and banquet facility on lower broad Street in South Providence. PEDP provided \$341,000 of a \$760,000 project to allow the business to renovate a long vacant building into a full services restaurant and then complete a second phase which added a second floor banquet facility. The business specializes in the food of Dominican Republic and Latin America and provides much need event space for the local community.

### 3. Enterprise Zone Related Private or Public Sector Redevelopment Projects.

Interstate 1-195 Relocation:	525 million
Narragansett Bay Commission CSO Project:	576 million
Bomes Theater:	2 million
1040 Broad St:	2.3 million
Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex:	11 million
Meeting Street School:	20 million
Providence Community Health Center:	4 million
Salvation Army Daycare:	4 million
Williams Woods:	14 million
Firefighter's Museum:	1 million
YMCA:	10 million
Roger Williams Park Botanical Center:	6.5 million
Roger Williams Park Japanese Garden:	0.5 million
Roger Williams Park Elephant Exhibit:	5.5 million
Rhode Island Hospital:	81.5 million
Johnson and Wales University Harborside Campus:	7.5 million
Save the Bay Headquarters:	7 million
Total: \$1,277,800,000	

*Please see exhibits for details on each of the above projects*

### Amount of investment by census tract:

Tract 1.01:	14.5 million (plus a portion of the 576 million Narragansett Bay Commission CSO project)
Tract 1.02:	12.5 million
Tract 2:	2 million
Tract 3:	Not originally part of enterprise zone
Tract 5:	55.3 million (plus a portion of the 525 million I-195 relocation project)
Tract 6:	81.5 million (not located entirely within enterprise zone)
Tract 15:	11 million

## **RIEDC Brownfield Revolving Loan Funds Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone.**

Save the Bay Headquarters, \$700,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.  
YMCA of Providence, \$650,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.

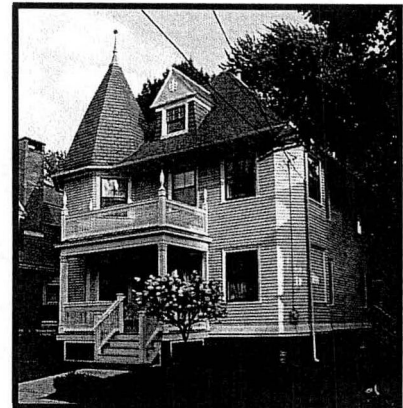
Total: \$1,350,000

### **4. Other noteworthy Accomplishments**

There have been several major initiatives in the City that have positively impacted the ProvPort EZ. In 2004 Community Policing was introduced citywide and Districts 2 and 3 were established in the EZ. Crime has decreased in these districts, and indeed, citywide, as business owners and residents have embraced the community policing model and police have made their presence and assistance visible and available.

The ProvPort EZ has also been the site of affordable housing development and investment that is detailed following in the exhibits. This investment is significant for the EZ and is a part of the City's effort to provide affordable workforce housing across the city. Currently 14% of the City's housing stock is considered "affordable" but that does not begin to meet the needs of the people who call Providence home. In the ProvPort EZ the following housing investment has been made since 2003:

Address	Homeownership	Rental	Investment
358 Potters Ave	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
101 Mitchell	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
32 Sumter St	1		\$ 205,000.00
89 Adelaide Ave	6	5	\$ 2,200,000.00
119 Adelaide Ave		38	\$ 3,900,000.00
Potter's Ave I		37	\$ 7,300,000.00
Williams Woods		65	\$ 14,000,000.00
1040 Broad	3		\$ 2,300,000.00
Total	12	147	\$ 30,465,000.00



As illustrated in Question 3, the I-95 relocation, even in its construction phase is having and will continue to have a substantial impact on the land use and business opportunities in the ProvPort EZ. Transportation, economic development opportunities and housing development are all being impacted by this massive public works project that is scheduled for completion in 2012.

### **Part III. Course of Action**

#### **1. Federal Funds Targeted for the Zone over the Next Designation Period.**

The City of Providence is an entitlement community for the Us Dept. of Housing and Urban Development consolidated programs- Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant and the Housing for Persons with AIDS program. Over the next the next five years the City expects to receive a minimum of \$25,000,000 in CDBG funding for the entire City of which it is estimated that 20% - \$5,000,000 – will be allocated to new or ongoing projects in the ProvPort EZ. The same can be said for the HOME dollars that the

City receives. Over the next five year the City expect to receive \$14,000,000 in funds and up to 20% (\$2,800,000) may be invested in future projects in the ProvPort EZ if current trends continue.

As the intent of the funds is to improve the lives and provide opportunities for persons under 80% of median income the ProvPort EZ is clearly eligible. (In 2000 according to the US Census the median income for the City was \$26,867, while the State of Rhode Island median income was \$42,090.) For the ProvPort EZ Census Tracts the median income numbers are:

Tract	Median Income in 2000
1.01	31,130
1.02	36,199
2	28,427
3	23,833
5	18,865
6	21,692
15	38,295

The employment opportunities afforded residents of the ProvPort EZ have yielded positive results as median income has risen for the census tracts that comprise the EZ from 1990 levels.

The census tracts identified have had substantial investments made in them as evidenced by the materials provided in the exhibits. The housing projects identified have used the Low Income Housing Tax Credit investment program, city consumer housing programs such as down payment and closing cost assistance, housing repair and leads hazard reduction grant/loans. State funding for the housing project identified have also come from Rhode Island Housing's federal HOME allocation and the Housing Resource Commission's Building Better Communities fund.

**Federal Brownfield Grants Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone:**

2006: Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 9, Plat 56, Lot 315, \$200,000  
Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 10, Plat 56, Lot 74, \$200,000

2005: Johnson & Wales University, Clean up, Parcel 7, Plat 56, Lot 291, 250 Shipyard Street, \$200,000.

2004: Meeting Street School and City of Providence, Clean Up, Meeting Street National Center of Excellence Site, \$200,000.

Total: \$800,000

Although these brownfield grants were awarded in the previous designation period, the funds will be spent during the next designation period.

**State of Rhode Island Transportation Improvement Program 2006-2011**

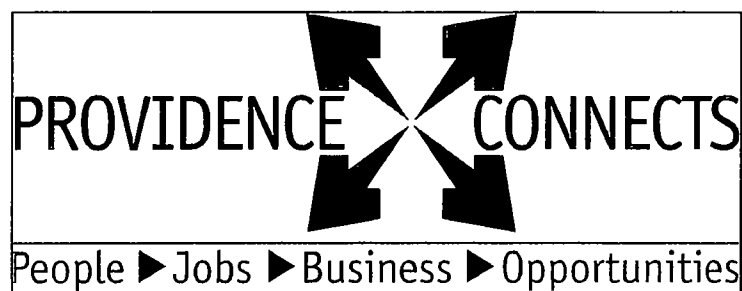
**Transportation Enhancements**

Broad Street Bridge and Banner Trail:	\$200,000 FY06
Fields Point Dock	\$150,000 FY06
Roger Williams Bike Trail/F.C. Green Blvd Res.	\$400,000 FY09
Southside Pedestrian Safety	\$100,000 FY06
Total:	\$850,000

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Open Space and Recreation Bond Fund Large Grant Program**

Recreation Grant: Meeting Street Athletic Facility: \$300,000 FY07

**2. What public services will be available to residents in the zone related to employment?**



An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, working in close partnership with government, business, labor, education and community-based organizations, oversees workforce development services for incumbent workers, the unemployed job seeker and the emerging workers of the cities of Providence and Cranston. From the Providence Office of the netWORKri One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston is the source for labor market information, hiring incentives and training resources designed to help employers address their workforce needs and to connect dislocated and unemployed individuals to the work force. Workforce Solution has been successful in engaging ProvPort EZ residents in programs that have resulted in full time productive work.

To accomplish these goals, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston received more than \$3.2 million of federal funds. Five hundred fifty-six (556) adults and dislocated workers, and 97 youth ages 14-21 received and continued to receive services with these funds.

Of those served Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston trained 292 adults and dislocated workers for high demand occupations.

Working with our business partners and the RIEDC and the Community College of Rhode Island, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston developed training in steel fabrication for a local employer. Ninety-six (96) individuals were tested and assessed at our one-stop center to standards set by the employer. Eighteen adults, including some of the hardest to serve ex-felons, completed the training and all were offered jobs at the employer. This model provided to successful that another module is being planned for early fall 2006. This model can be replicated for other employers, thus creating a truly demand driven workforce system.

In response to new certification guidelines mandated by No Child Left Behind legislation, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston partnered with Laborers Local 1033 and the Providence School Department to assess 339 Teacher Aide candidates. One hundred twelve completed the training developed by the Community College of Rhode Island for this demand. Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston leveraged funds from Local 1033 to fund the cost of the training. The Providence School Department has employed fifty-one graduates as Teachers Aids and another 19 as substitute teachers. The one-stop continues to work with other cities and towns to place the remaining candidates.

### **3. Expediting Local and State Regulations**

The City engaged a consultant (Alan Teare Associates) in 2005 to review the City's various permitting structures and systems and make a recommendation on ways to pursue a "one-stop" permitting system that would alleviate the current multileveled system in place. A streamlined system has been introduced at Inspection and Standards that brings building, code, zoning and fire together for a comprehensive review under one building official instead of multiple persons from each division. Personnel changes at the department head level have slowed implementation of further recommendations from the study but the City intends to continue with this path as a new Director of Inspection and Standards is hired.

The City continues to investigate additional ways to streamline permitting in all city departments.

### **4. Non-Governmental Agencies that support Business Growth and Residents Seeking Employment**

There are a number of nongovernmental agencies on the Southside that provide the support and training to residents in the ProvPort EZ.

*Cathedral of Life – Literacy training/ESL*  
*The Center – Job Development and Training*  
*Dorcus Place – Literary training/ESL*

*Family Life Center* – Re-entry services for former inmates including job and housing placement  
*South Providence Development Corporation* – Job Development and Training  
*South Providence Neighborhood Ministries* – Literacy training/ESL  
*South Providence Tutorial* – Literary training/ESL  
*Urban League* – Literacy training/ESL

All of these agencies have outreach programs that are neighborhood based and designed to prepare people for job readiness as they hone and develop literary skills, ESL programs and prepare for and complete GED programs.

5. Yes. The following organizations assist start-up, minority and women-owned and income disadvantaged businesses:

Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the City of Providence, 400 Westminster Street Providence RI 02003, Tel: 401-351-4300

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the State of Rhode Island. One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903, Tel: 401-222-2601 [www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA). Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment under the SBA 504 program. 155 South Main St., Providence RI 02903 (401) 454-4560

Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island. The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business. SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561 [www.sba.gov/ri/](http://www.sba.gov/ri/)

Rhode Island Small Business Development Center. This federal Small Business Administration-backed organization provides guidance, finance and consulting services for small businesses. 270 Weybossett St., 4th flr Providence RI Tel: 401-598-2704.

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. 39 Exchange Terrace, Providence RI 02903. Tel: 401-521-5000 [www.providencechamber.com](http://www.providencechamber.com)

The Center for Women & Enterprise. Provides women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership. 132 George M. Cohan Blvd, Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122 [www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

Minority Investment Development Corporation (MIDC) & the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment (RICMI). MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that can assist disadvantaged business enterprises with financial and consulting tools. 216 Weybosset Street, Providence RI 02903  
Tel: (401) 351-2999 Fax: (401) 351-0990 [www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)

The Center for Design & Business. This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a small business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence. 169 Weybosset Street Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 454-6108.  
[www.centerdesignbusiness.org](http://www.centerdesignbusiness.org)

Since 1992, Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) f/k/a Providence Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) has provided financial assistance to 382 businesses throughout the City of Providence. During this period, these loans, in the aggregate amount of \$44 million, provided the incentive for private investment of \$104 million. As a result of these loans, approximately 3,300 jobs were created, with 2,500 jobs being retained. Of the 382 businesses assisted, 116 were women-owned (30%) and 69 were minority-owned (18%).

Since 1992, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 36 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$17 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$4 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 4.25:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 226 jobs were created, with 284 jobs being retained. Of the 36 businesses assisted, 15 were women-owned businesses (41%) and 25 were minority-owned businesses (69%).

Over the past five (5) years, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 8 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$1.4 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$1.5 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 1:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 49 jobs were created, with 40 jobs being retained. Of the 8 businesses assisted, 6 were women-owned businesses (75%) and 6 were minority-owned businesses (75%).

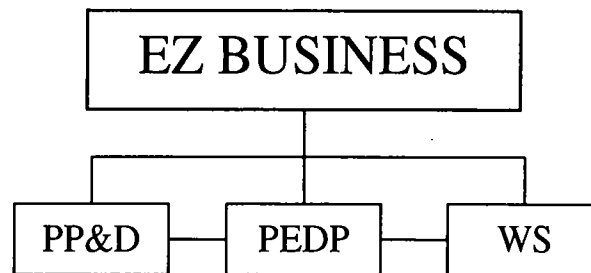
6. The Department coordinates with many agencies within the city and the region to insure assistance to all enterprise business. This close coordination of efforts allows for flow of information between organizations and then to enterprise zone businesses and when available, information on potential funding. Because of the small size of Rhode Island, this informal organization allows for support and the use of resources for the businesses and job growth.

#### **Part IV. The Management Plan and Initiatives**

1. Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director of the City of Providence Department of Planning and Development (DPD), has charged Ms. Kathy Cosentino, Assistant Director for Business Development of DPD, to currently administer all Enterprise Zone related activities. Ms. Cosentino's duties include but are not limited to: acting as the local point of contact for the program and providing program information, address verifications, and program materials to

potential business applicants and/or their accountants; verifying and processing all Enterprise Zone Program applications for admission and for annual year-end certifications; assisting member businesses to obtain their municipal Certificate of Good Standing for completion of the yearly certification process; providing state-wide member businesses with local address verifications for employees who reside in Providence in order for the business to qualify for the increased Enterprise Zone resident tax credit; attending all Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council meetings; maintaining all data relating to applications processed; businesses certified, jobs created and outstanding documentation in connection with year-end certification submissions; monitoring the status of existing zone designation terms; apprising executive level city management of any and all zone related issues.

2.



Three local organizations provide direct service to the business. There is also some cross-referral and information exchange between agencies.

DPD: Providence Department of Planning and Development – maintains maps and databases.

PEDP: Providence Economic Development Partnership – provides information to businesses regarding benefits of the EZ; technical and financial assistance to EZ businesses

WS: Workforce Solutions of Providence & Cranston – provides assistance with locating and training employees

3. PEDP tracks business name, address type of business and job creation for all businesses in the zone that enroll in the Enterprise Zone Program. The data is collected as the business register and re-qualify for the program. The total number of businesses in the zone, and the local tax revenue derived therefrom, are tracked by the Providence Tax Assessor's Office.

4. The zone is promoted one-on-one through meetings with businesses, business organizations and among professionals such as attorneys and accountants. Future plans to bolster the marketing effort include prominent placement on the DPD website, the PEDP website and the City of Providence website, and inclusion of zone information in business resource publications disseminated by PEDP.

5. The city has a series of tax stabilization programs that have been on the books for a number of years. The mayor has come to recognize that these programs are somewhat out dated and the availability of the programs is not advertised. As a result, the mayor is establishing a tax policy committee. The purpose of this committee is to create a clear and defined statement of the types of tax programs that exist, how one can take advantage of the program and what benefit the city



must receive in order to take advantage of the tax program. It is hoped that this policy can be presented to the city council in early 2007 for adoption. The program will include all aspects of the city's tax policy. This initiative is achievable as a result of amendments in state law in the 2006 legislative session that the city pursued.

## 6. Local Initiatives to Support Businesses

**Neighborhood Markets (NM)**, a *Main Street* based program, was developed by Mayor Cicilline to revitalize neighborhood commercial centers in partnership with local merchant associations. The program is designed to assist local merchants (typically with gross sales of under \$1 M) by providing access to lending capital, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements.

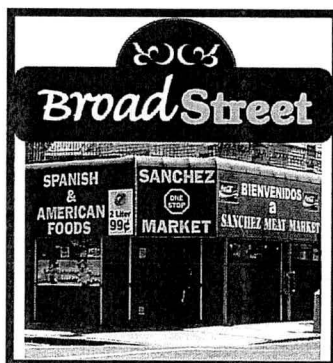
Using the *Main Street* four point approach - design, economic restructuring, promotion and organization - the City is work with existing and emerging merchant associations to identify projects and businesses most in need of assistance.



The *Main Street* initiative is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Eight neighborhoods were identified to participate as part of a concentrated 36-month phased program. (Because CDBG funding is being used all areas are low/mod eligible) It is understood that each of these neighborhoods have unique challenges and different levels of need. They are:

Upper Broad Street  
Lower Broad Street  
Olneyville Square  
Wickenden Street/Fox Point  
Chalkstone Avenue  
Atwells Avenue  
Charles Street/Hopkins Square  
Cranston Street



The first round of NM grants totaled \$150,000 for the program. The Upper/Lower Broad Street Neighborhood Market is a vibrant, thriving area that has been awarded a \$30,000 first round grant for tree guards, benches and trash receptacles that are being designed by the Greater Broad Street Merchants Association in conjunction with the Steelyard. In addition to the award of grant funds for street furniture, the City has planted 40 new trees on Broad Street and will bringing in trainers from the National Trust to conduct a *Main Street 101* seminar for all NM

participants. The NM website is slated to be rolled out in the fall of '06 with a specific home for each market which will highlight it's history, festivals, promotions and the merchant associations. A Mayor's ***Taste of the Neighborhood*** is scheduled for the Broad Street NM for the holiday season. (Taste of the Neighborhood is a promotion that highlights NM restaurants by inclusion on the city website and a mention in the enewsletter *City News* and a visit by the Mayor and staff for lunch or dinner.)

#### Financial Tools Available - Citywide

PEDP Micro Loan Program - small loans up to \$10,000

PEDP Revolving Loan Fund - commercial loans that average \$125,000

PEDP façade program - \$1,800 match grant for eligible improvements

#### Future Plans

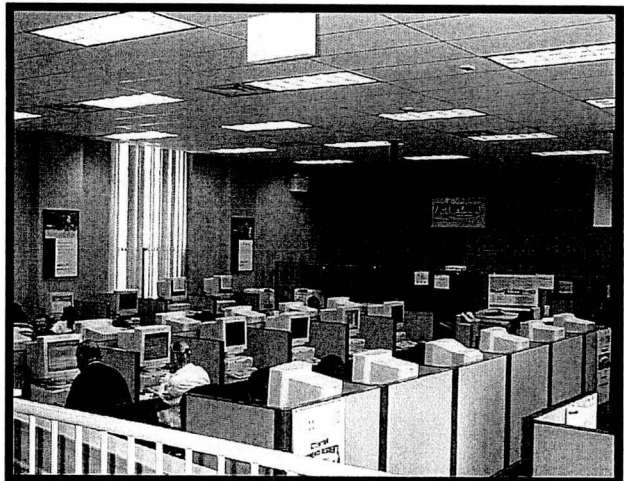
Because this is a concentrated investment strategy it is estimated that investment in the streetscape in the eight areas take place for a minimum of up to 36 months while simultaneously assisting the merchants to develop their organizations around the Main Street Four Point approach.

Currently the program is staffed by DPD, PEDP and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

### **7. Workforce Development and Readiness**

#### **Please see Part III Question 3**

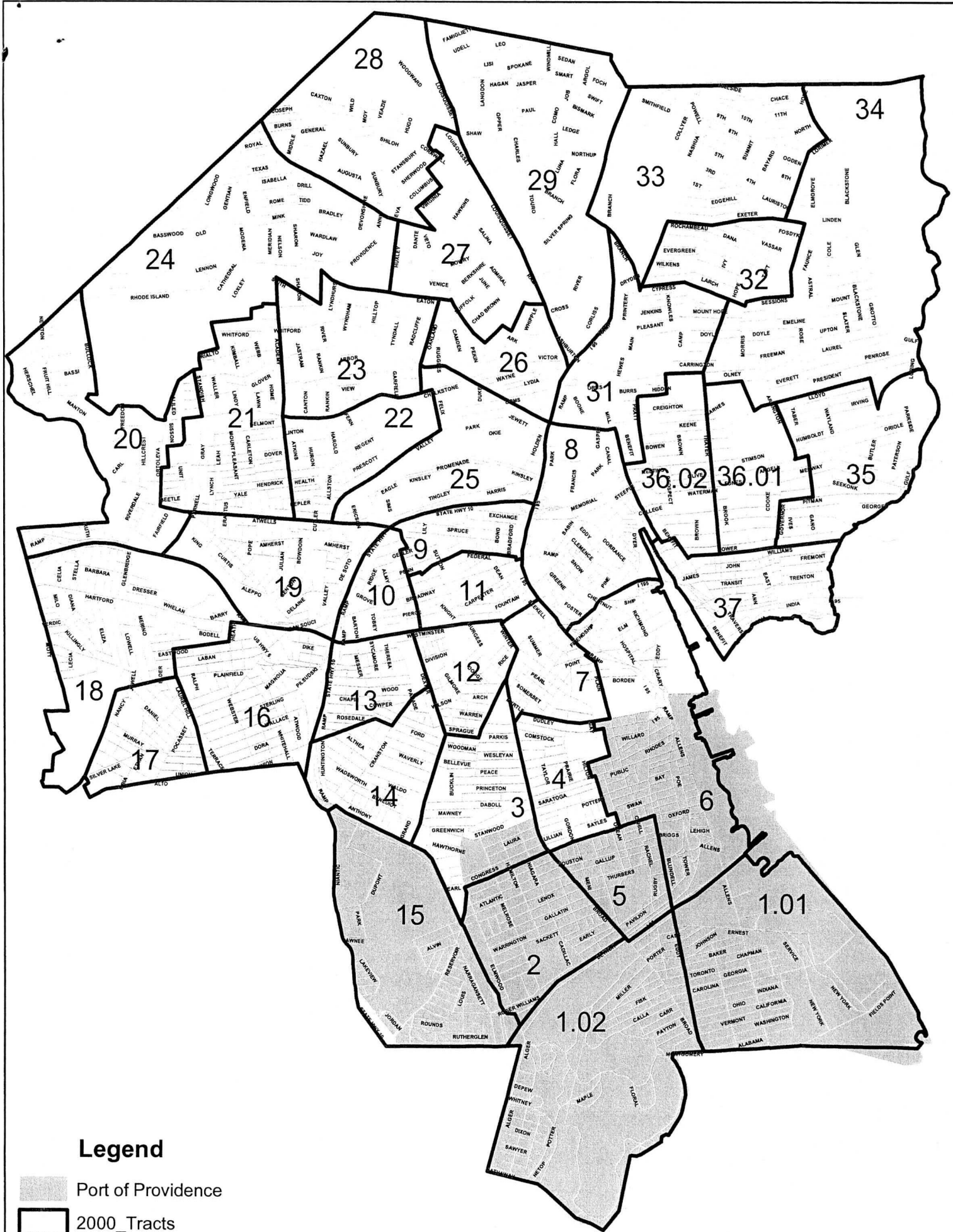
An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.



Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston's netWORKri one-stop center offers programs and services designed to train the current workforce and prepare the workforce of the future by providing a full range of workforce development services to job seekers including vocational testing, comprehensive assessment, case management, occupational skills training, job placement, labor market and labor exchange information and post employment services. Services to employers include tax credit assistance, wage subsidizes for On- The-Job-Training and training customized for the employer. All of these services are available and have been used by ProvPort EZ business.

Exhibit 1

Maps

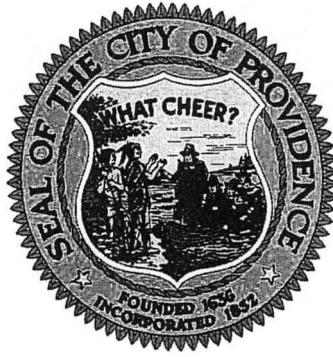


City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone

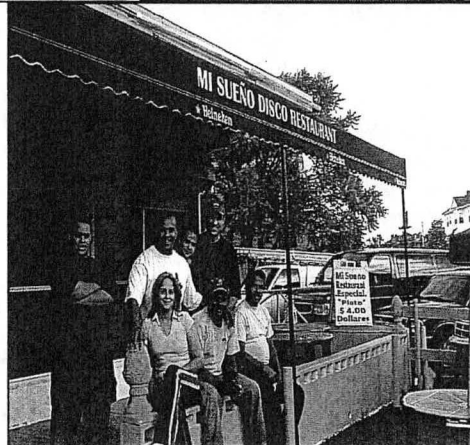
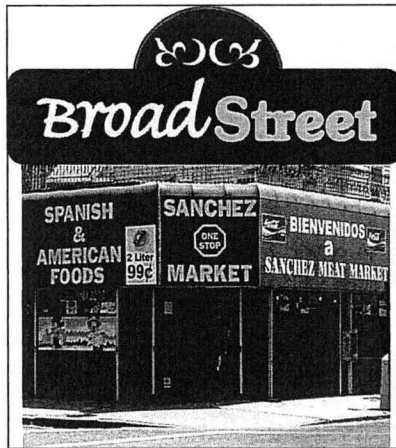
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City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form



September 15, 2006



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**

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**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**  
**City of Providence, Rhode Island**  
**Port of Providence**

**DAVID N. CICILLINE**  
**Mayor**



**Part 1: Distress Criteria**

1. The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone originally encompassed 1990 Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. Due to changes from the 2000 Census the enterprise zone now encompasses Census Tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3 (partially), 5, 6 (partially), and 15. While the Census Tracts have changed, the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone itself have not. The changes to the census tracts which comprise the enterprise zone are as follows: Tract 1 has been split into Tract 1.01 and Tract 1.02 splitting the population between them. Tracts 2 and 5 have been made smaller, which accounts for the population decline within the tracts. Tract 6 has been made larger, accounting for its population increase. The boundaries of Tract 15 have not changed, but its population has declined by 500. Tract 3 now contains a portion of the enterprise zone which it did not originally.

These changes to the census tracts make it difficult to accurately compare the demographic changes to the area between the 1990 and 2000 census. For example, Tract 3, which was not originally part of the enterprise zone, now contains a small portion of the enterprise zone in the southern part of the tract, however the poverty level numbers do not indicate how many of the households below the poverty level are located within that small area of the tract. Likewise with Tract 6, it has been made significantly larger which accounts for the increase in the number of households below the poverty level. It however cannot be assumed that this increase mean that these are new households below the poverty level, all that can be inferred is that Tract 6 has now picked up households below the poverty level that were previously counted in other tracts.

Additionally, data on overcrowding in households and unemployment is available only by neighborhood, not by census tract. The neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood and Reservoir are entirely within the enterprise zone. However, the neighborhoods of Elmwood, Lower South Providence, and Upper South Providence only contain portions of the enterprise zone. This also makes it difficult to compare the numbers for these neighborhoods from 1990 to 2000 as we cannot determine what percentage of the overcrowded housing in each neighborhood lay within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 or 2000, neither can we determine what percentage of unemployed persons in those neighborhoods lived within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 and the percentage which lived within the enterprise zone in 2000. That being said, unemployment declined in all but one of the neighborhoods which encompass the enterprise zone.

## 2. Demographic Changes

**Poverty Level:** The number of households below the poverty level has increased dramatically:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tract 1	417	
Tract 1.01		738
Tract 1.02		933
Tract 2	841	2,191
Tract 3	675	2,101
Tract 5	262	1,006
Tract 6	72	533
Tract 15	70	400

**Overcrowded Housing (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	16.8% of housing units are overcrowded
Lower South Providence:	13.7% of housing units are overcrowded
Reservoir:	8.8% of housing units are overcrowded
South Elmwood:	6.6% of housing units are overcrowded
Upper South Providence:	8.5% of housing units are overcrowded
Washington Park:	8.4% of housing units are overcrowded

**Unemployment (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	12% unemployed Declined 29% between 1990-2000
Lower South Providence:	15% unemployed Declined 28% between 1990-2000
Reservoir:	7% unemployed Increased 48% between 1990-2000
Upper South Providence:	17% unemployed Declined 8% between 1990-2000
Washington Park:	12% unemployed Declined 13% between 1990-2000

## PART II. Accomplishments

1. During the period of 2002-2006, to date, the City of Providence has processed a total of 169 Enterprise Zone applications, which were approved for admission to the program. Of those applications, 40 were from businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. As a result, those businesses have retained 733 jobs and have created 450 new jobs to date in the Port of Providence Zone (2006 job creation data not available until 2007).

During that same period, to date, 228 businesses located in a Providence Enterprise Zone were certified to be eligible for tax credits during that calendar year, whereby each business met the criteria of both increasing their workforce by five percent (5%) and also increasing their total RI wages paid from the previous calendar year. Of these businesses, 63 were located within the Port of Providence Zone. As a result, to date, these businesses created 662 new jobs in the Port

of Providence Zone, of which a minimum of 110 of those jobs were filled by Enterprise Zone residents (2006 certification and new hire information not available until 2007).

In addition, during the 2002-2006 period, to date, 20 businesses city-wide were authorized to carry-forward an unused portion of a prior year's Enterprise Zone tax credit or to continue their membership in the program if they did not have an unused prior year Enterprise Zone tax credit to carry-forward. Of these businesses, 3 were located within the Port of Providence Zone, to date (2006 carry-forward authorization information not available until 2007).

The City of Providence's Enterprise Zone business participation and job creation is summarized in the table below.

### PORT OF PROVIDENCE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUSINESSES

Year	Total EZ Apps	Port Prov Apps	# Existing Jobs	# Jobs Created	# Businesses Certified	New Hires	EZ Residents	Carry Forwards	
	all zones	Port	Port of Prov '02-'06 applicants only		all zones	Port	Port of Prov EZ only	all zones	Port Prov
2002	61	12	59	112	57	17	155 unavail.	1	0
2003	43	10	241	91	59	15	115 35	5	0
2004	31	8	367	45	61	18	143 44	8	2
2005	24	7	42	202	51	13	249 31+	6	1
2006	10	3	24	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
	169	40	733	450	228	63	662 110+	20	3

**For a list of businesses approved to the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone Program by application year, please see exhibits.**

2. The Providence Economic Development Partnership has invested \$1.5 million in the last five years in the Zone, mostly to capital projects. Two leading examples are:

#### **Cleanscape, Inc.**

Cleanscape is a recycling and industrial landscaping firm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the South Providence Development Corporation (SPDC), which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community development corporation. Cleanscape provides employment for many individuals that are considered hard to employ and actively offers employment to ex-offenders. The company's workforce is drawn from six different countries of origin. In 2006, PEDP funded Cleanscape with \$410,000 of a \$760,000 project to purchase and renovate its headquarters building at 150 Colfax Street. This project will stabilize Cleanscape's facility needs and bolster the company's continuation as a growing positive economic presence and employer in South Providence.



The City has also supported Cleanscape's mission by providing \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding to purchase a brand new recycling truck in 2003 and the

Providence Redevelopment Agency is entering into its fourth contract for vacant lot cleaning in the amount of \$200,000.



### Ada's Creations

Ada's Creation is a restaurant and banquet facility on lower broad Street in South Providence. PEDP provided \$341,000 of a \$760,000 project to allow the business to renovate a long vacant building into a full services restaurant and then complete a second phase which added a second floor banquet facility. The business specializes in the food of Dominican Republic and Latin America and provides much need event space for the local community.

### 3. Enterprise Zone Related Private or Public Sector Redevelopment Projects.

Interstate 1-195 Relocation:	525 million
Narragansett Bay Commission CSO Project:	576 million
Bomes Theater:	2 million
1040 Broad St:	2.3 million
Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex:	11 million
Meeting Street School:	20 million
Providence Community Health Center:	4 million
Salvation Army Daycare:	4 million
Williams Woods:	14 million
Firefighter's Museum:	1 million
YMCA:	10 million
Roger Williams Park Botanical Center:	6.5 million
Roger Williams Park Japanese Garden:	0.5 million
Roger Williams Park Elephant Exhibit:	5.5 million
Rhode Island Hospital:	81.5 million
Johnson and Wales University Harborside Campus:	7.5 million
Save the Bay Headquarters:	7 million
Total: \$1,277,800,000	

*Please see exhibits for details on each of the above projects*

### Amount of investment by census tract:

Tract 1.01:	14.5 million (plus a portion of the 576 million Narragansett Bay Commission CSO project)
Tract 1.02:	12.5 million
Tract 2:	2 million
Tract 3:	Not originally part of enterprise zone
Tract 5:	55.3 million (plus a portion of the 525 million I-195 relocation project)
Tract 6:	81.5 million (not located entirely within enterprise zone)
Tract 15:	11 million

## **RIEDC Brownfield Revolving Loan Funds Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone.**

Save the Bay Headquarters, \$700,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.  
YMCA of Providence, \$650,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.

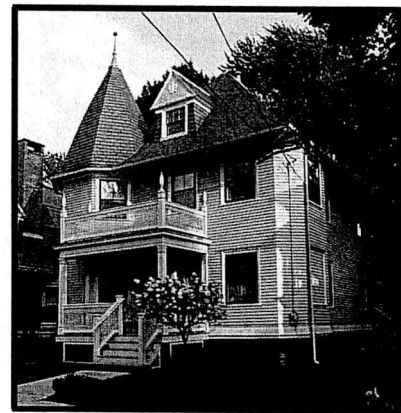
Total: \$1,350,000

### **4. Other noteworthy Accomplishments**

There have been several major initiatives in the City that have positively impacted the ProvPort EZ. In 2004 Community Policing was introduced citywide and Districts 2 and 3 were established in the EZ. Crime has decreased in these districts, and indeed, citywide, as business owners and residents have embraced the community policing model and police have made their presence and assistance visible and available.

The ProvPort EZ has also been the site of affordable housing development and investment that is detailed following in the exhibits. This investment is significant for the EZ and is a part of the City's effort to provide affordable workforce housing across the city. Currently 14% of the City's housing stock is considered "affordable" but that does not begin to meet the needs of the people who call Providence home. In the ProvPort EZ the following housing investment has been made since 2003:

Address	Homeownership	Rental	Investment
358 Potters Ave	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
101 Mitchell	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
32 Sumter St	1		\$ 205,000.00
89 Adelaide Ave	6	5	\$ 2,200,000.00
119 Adelaide Ave		38	\$ 3,900,000.00
Potter's Ave I		37	\$ 7,300,000.00
Williams Woods		65	\$ 14,000,000.00
1040 Broad	3		\$ 2,300,000.00
Total	12	147	\$ 30,465,000.00



As illustrated in Question 3, the I-95 relocation, even in its construction phase is having and will continue to have a substantial impact on the land use and business opportunities in the ProvPort EZ. Transportation, economic development opportunities and housing development are all being impacted by this massive public works project that is scheduled for completion in 2012.

### **Part III. Course of Action**

#### **1. Federal Funds Targeted for the Zone over the Next Designation Period.**

The City of Providence is an entitlement community for the Us Dept. of Housing and Urban Development consolidated programs- Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant and the Housing for Persons with AIDS program. Over the next the next five years the City expects to receive a minimum of \$25,000,000 in CDBG funding for the entire City of which it is estimated that 20% - \$5,000,000 – will be allocated to new or ongoing projects in the ProvPort EZ. The same can be said for the HOME dollars that the

City receives. Over the next five year the City expect to receive \$14,000,000 in funds and up to 20% (\$2,800,000) may be invested in future projects in the ProvPort EZ if current trends continue.

As the intent of the funds is to improve the lives and provide opportunities for persons under 80% of median income the ProvPort EZ is clearly eligible. (In 2000 according to the US Census the median income for the City was \$26,867, while the State of Rhode Island median income was \$42,090.) For the ProvPort EZ Census Tracts the median income numbers are:

Tract	Median Income in 2000
1.01	31,130
1.02	36,199
2	28,427
3	23,833
5	18,865
6	21,692
15	38,295

The employment opportunities afforded residents of the ProvPort EZ have yielded positive results as median income has risen for the census tracts that comprise the EZ from 1990 levels.

The census tracts identified have had substantial investments made in them as evidenced by the materials provided in the exhibits. The housing projects identified have used the Low Income Housing Tax Credit investment program, city consumer housing programs such as down payment and closing cost assistance, housing repair and leads hazard reduction grant/loans. State funding for the housing project identified have also come from Rhode Island Housing's federal HOME allocation and the Housing Resource Commission's Building Better Communities fund.

**Federal Brownfield Grants Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone:**

2006: Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 9, Plat 56, Lot 315, \$200,000  
Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 10, Plat 56, Lot 74, \$200,000

2005: Johnson & Wales University, Clean up, Parcel 7, Plat 56, Lot 291, 250 Shipyard Street, \$200,000.

2004: Meeting Street School and City of Providence, Clean Up, Meeting Street National Center of Excellence Site, \$200,000.

Total: \$800,000

Although these brownfield grants were awarded in the previous designation period, the funds will be spent during the next designation period.

**State of Rhode Island Transportation Improvement Program 2006-2011**

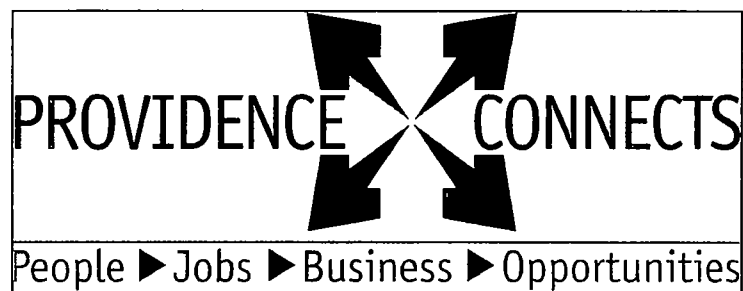
Transportation Enhancements

Broad Street Bridge and Banner Trail:	\$200,000 FY06
Fields Point Dock	\$150,000 FY06
Roger Williams Bike Trail/F.C. Green Blvd Res.	\$400,000 FY09
Southside Pedestrian Safety	\$100,000 FY06
Total:	\$850,000

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Open Space and Recreation Bond Fund Large Grant Program**

Recreation Grant: Meeting Street Athletic Facility: \$300,000 FY07

**2. What public services will be available to residents in the zone related to employment?**



An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, working in close partnership with government, business, labor, education and community-based organizations, oversees workforce development services for incumbent workers, the unemployed job seeker and the emerging workers of the cities of Providence and Cranston. From the Providence Office of the netWORKri One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston is the source for labor market information, hiring incentives and training resources designed to help employers address their workforce needs and to connect dislocated and unemployed individuals to the work force. Workforce Solution has been successful in engaging ProvPort EZ residents in programs that have resulted in full time productive work.

To accomplish these goals, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston received more than \$3.2 million of federal funds. Five hundred fifty-six (556) adults and dislocated workers, and 97 youth ages 14-21 received and continued to receive services with these funds.

Of those served Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston trained 292 adults and dislocated workers for high demand occupations.

Working with our business partners and the RIEDC and the Community College of Rhode Island, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston developed training in steel fabrication for a local employer. Ninety-six (96) individuals were tested and assessed at our one-stop center to standards set by the employer. Eighteen adults, including some of the hardest to serve ex-felons, completed the training and all were offered jobs at the employer. This model provided to successful that another module is being planned for early fall 2006. This model can be replicated for other employers, thus creating a truly demand driven workforce system.

In response to new certification guidelines mandated by No Child Left Behind legislation, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston partnered with Laborers Local 1033 and the Providence School Department to assess 339 Teacher Aide candidates. One hundred twelve completed the training developed by the Community College of Rhode Island for this demand. Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston leveraged funds from Local 1033 to fund the cost of the training. The Providence School Department has employed fifty-one graduates as Teachers Aids and another 19 as substitute teachers. The one-stop continues to work with other cities and towns to place the remaining candidates.

### **3. Expediting Local and State Regulations**

The City engaged a consultant (Alan Teare Associates) in 2005 to review the City's various permitting structures and systems and make a recommendation on ways to pursue a "one-stop" permitting system that would alleviate the current multileveled system in place. A streamlined system has been introduced at Inspection and Standards that brings building, code, zoning and fire together for a comprehensive review under one building official instead of multiple persons from each division. Personnel changes at the department head level have slowed implementation of further recommendations from the study but the City intends to continue with this path as a new Director of Inspection and Standards is hired.

The City continues to investigate additional ways to streamline permitting in all city departments.

### **4. Non-Governmental Agencies that support Business Growth and Residents Seeking Employment**

There are a number of nongovernmental agencies on the Southside that provide the support and training to residents in the ProvPort EZ.

*Cathedral of Life – Literacy training/ESL*  
*The Center – Job Development and Training*  
*Dorcus Place – Literary training/ESL*



*Family Life Center* – Re-entry services for former inmates including job and housing placement  
*South Providence Development Corporation* – Job Development and Training  
*South Providence Neighborhood Ministries* – Literacy training/ESL  
*South Providence Tutorial* – Literary training/ESL  
*Urban League* – Literacy training/ESL

All of these agencies have outreach programs that are neighborhood based and designed to prepare people for job readiness as they hone and develop literary skills, ESL programs and prepare for and complete GED programs.

5. Yes. The following organizations assist start-up, minority and women-owned and income disadvantaged businesses:

Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the City of Providence, 400 Westminster Street Providence RI 02003, Tel: 401-351-4300

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the State of Rhode Island. One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903, Tel: 401-222-2601 [www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA). Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment under the SBA 504 program. 155 South Main St., Providence RI 02903 (401) 454-4560

Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island. The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business. SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561 [www.sba.gov/ri/](http://www.sba.gov/ri/)

Rhode Island Small Business Development Center. This federal Small Business Administration-backed organization provides guidance, finance and consulting services for small businesses. 270 Weybossett St., 4th flr Providence RI Tel: 401-598-2704.

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. 39 Exchange Terrace, Providence RI 02903. Tel: 401-521-5000 [www.providencechamber.com](http://www.providencechamber.com)

The Center for Women & Enterprise. Provides women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership. 132 George M. Cohan Blvd, Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122 [www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

Minority Investment Development Corporation (MIDC) & the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment (RICMI). MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that can assist disadvantaged business enterprises with financial and consulting tools. 216 Weybosset Street, Providence RI 02903 Tel: (401) 351-2999 Fax: (401) 351-0990 [www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)

The Center for Design & Business. This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a small business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence. 169 Weybosset Street Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 454-6108. [www.centerdesignbusiness.org](http://www.centerdesignbusiness.org)

Since 1992, Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) f/k/a Providence Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) has provided financial assistance to 382 businesses throughout the City of Providence. During this period, these loans, in the aggregate amount of \$44 million, provided the incentive for private investment of \$104 million. As a result of these loans, approximately 3,300 jobs were created, with 2,500 jobs being retained. Of the 382 businesses assisted, 116 were women-owned (30%) and 69 were minority-owned (18%).

Since 1992, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 36 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$17 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$4 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 4.25:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 226 jobs were created, with 284 jobs being retained. Of the 36 businesses assisted, 15 were women-owned businesses (41%) and 25 were minority-owned businesses (69%).

Over the past five (5) years, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 8 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$1.4 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$1.5 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 1:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 49 jobs were created, with 40 jobs being retained. Of the 8 businesses assisted, 6 were women-owned businesses (75%) and 6 were minority-owned businesses (75%).

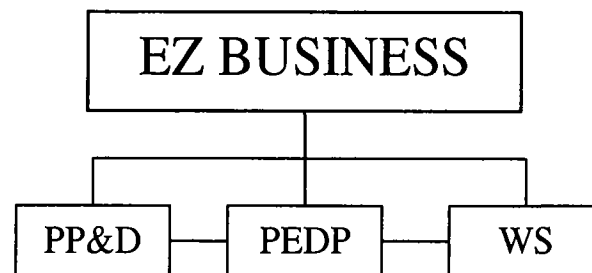
6. The Department coordinates with many agencies within the city and the region to insure assistance to all enterprise business. This close coordination of efforts allows for flow of information between organizations and then to enterprise zone businesses and when available, information on potential funding. Because of the small size of Rhode Island, this informal organization allows for support and the use of resources for the businesses and job growth.

#### **Part IV. The Management Plan and Initiatives**

1. Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director of the City of Providence Department of Planning and Development (DPD), has charged Ms. Kathy Cosentino, Assistant Director for Business Development of DPD, to currently administer all Enterprise Zone related activities. Ms. Cosentino's duties include but are not limited to: acting as the local point of contact for the program and providing program information, address verifications, and program materials to

potential business applicants and/or their accountants; verifying and processing all Enterprise Zone Program applications for admission and for annual year-end certifications; assisting member businesses to obtain their municipal Certificate of Good Standing for completion of the yearly certification process; providing state-wide member businesses with local address verifications for employees who reside in Providence in order for the business to qualify for the increased Enterprise Zone resident tax credit; attending all Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council meetings; maintaining all data relating to applications processed; businesses certified, jobs created and outstanding documentation in connection with year-end certification submissions; monitoring the status of existing zone designation terms; apprising executive level city management of any and all zone related issues.

2.



Three local organizations provide direct service to the business. There is also some cross-referral and information exchange between agencies.

DPD: Providence Department of Planning and Development – maintains maps and databases.

PEDP: Providence Economic Development Partnership – provides information to businesses regarding benefits of the EZ; technical and financial assistance to EZ businesses

WS: Workforce Solutions of Providence & Cranston – provides assistance with locating and training employees

3. PEDP tracks business name, address type of business and job creation for all businesses in the zone that enroll in the Enterprise Zone Program. The data is collected as the business register and re-qualify for the program. The total number of businesses in the zone, and the local tax revenue derived therefrom, are tracked by the Providence Tax Assessor's Office.

4. The zone is promoted one-on-one through meetings with businesses, business organizations and among professionals such as attorneys and accountants. Future plans to bolster the marketing effort include prominent placement on the DPD website, the PEDP website and the City of Providence website, and inclusion of zone information in business resource publications disseminated by PEDP.

5. The city has a series of tax stabilization programs that have been on the books for a number of years. The mayor has come to recognize that these programs are somewhat out dated and the availability of the programs is not advertised. As a result, the mayor is establishing a tax policy committee. The purpose of this committee is to create a clear and defined statement of the types of tax programs that exist, how one can take advantage of the program and what benefit the city

must receive in order to take advantage of the tax program. It is hoped that this policy can be presented to the city council in early 2007 for adoption. The program will include all aspects of the city's tax policy. This initiative is achievable as a result of amendments in state law in the 2006 legislative session that the city pursued.

## 6. Local Initiatives to Support Businesses

**Neighborhood Markets (NM)**, a *Main Street* based program, was developed by Mayor Cicilline to revitalize neighborhood commercial centers in partnership with local merchant associations. The program is designed to assist local merchants (typically with gross sales of under \$1 M) by providing access to lending capital, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements.

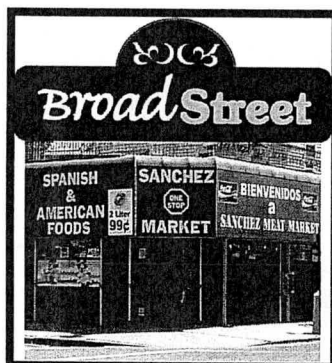
Using the *Main Street* four point approach - design, economic restructuring, promotion and organization - the City is work with existing and emerging merchant associations to identify projects and businesses most in need of assistance.



The *Main Street* initiative is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Eight neighborhoods were identified to participate as part of a concentrated 36-month phased program. (Because CDBG funding is being used all areas are low/mod eligible) It is understood that each of these neighborhoods have unique challenges and different levels of need. They are:

Upper Broad Street  
Lower Broad Street  
Olneyville Square  
Wickenden Street/Fox Point  
Chalkstone Avenue  
Atwells Avenue  
Charles Street/Hopkins Square  
Cranston Street



The first round of NM grants totaled \$150,000 for the program. The Upper/Lower Broad Street Neighborhood Market is a vibrant, thriving area that has been awarded a \$30,000 first round grant for tree guards, benches and trash receptacles that are being designed by the Greater Broad Street Merchants Association in conjunction with the Steelyard. In addition to the award of grant funds for street furniture, the City has planted 40 new trees on Broad Street and will bringing in trainers from the National Trust to conduct a *Main Street 101* seminar for all NM

participants. The NM website is slated to be rolled out in the fall of '06 with a specific home for each market which will highlight it's history, festivals, promotions and the merchant associations. A Mayor's ***Taste of the Neighborhood*** is scheduled for the Broad Street NM for the holiday season. (Taste of the Neighborhood is a promotion that highlights NM restaurants by inclusion on the city website and a mention in the enewsletter *City News* and a visit by the Mayor and staff for lunch or dinner.)

#### Financial Tools Available - Citywide

PEDP Micro Loan Program - small loans up to \$10,000

PEDP Revolving Loan Fund - commercial loans that average \$125,000

PEDP façade program - \$1,800 match grant for eligible improvements

#### Future Plans

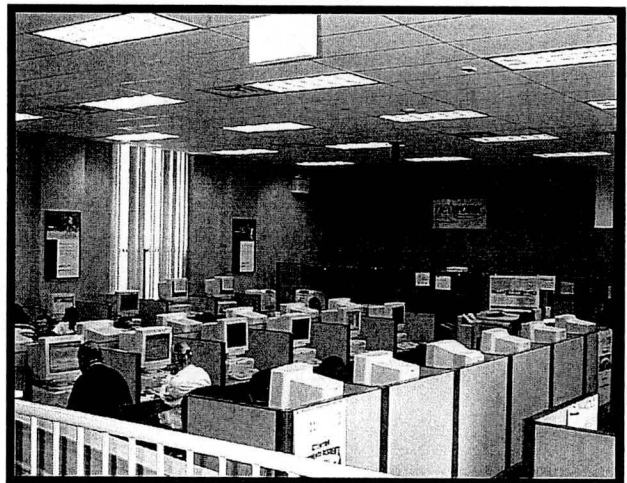
Because this is a concentrated investment strategy it is estimated that investment in the streetscape in the eight areas take place for a minimum of up to 36 months while simultaneously assisting the merchants to develop their organizations around the Main Street Four Point approach.

Currently the program is staffed by DPD, PEDP and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

### **7. Workforce Development and Readiness**

#### **Please see Part III Question 3**

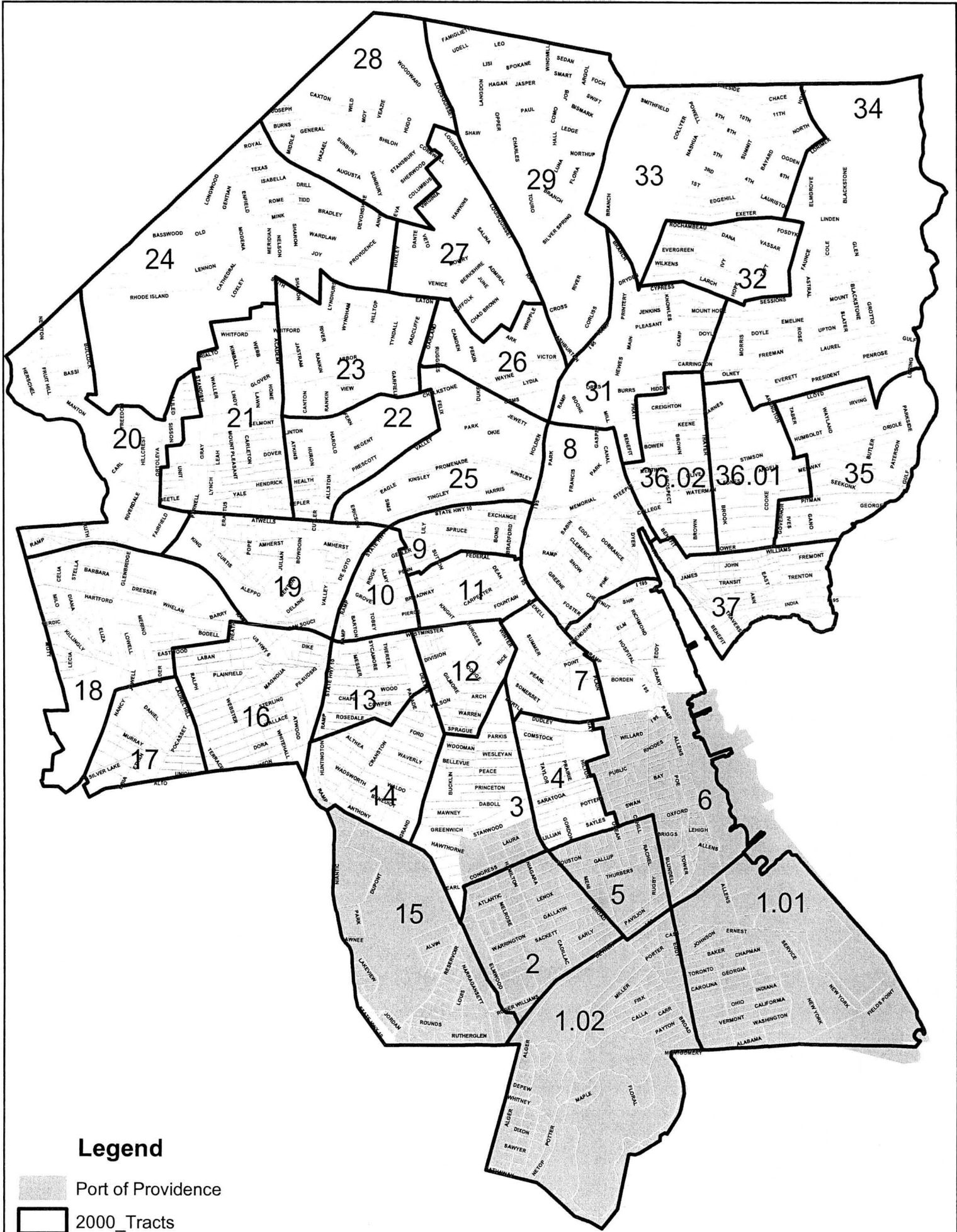
An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.



Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston's netWORKri one-stop center offers programs and services designed to train the current workforce and prepare the workforce of the future by providing a full range of workforce development services to job seekers including vocational testing, comprehensive assessment, case management, occupational skills training, job placement, labor market and labor exchange information and post employment services. Services to employers include tax credit assistance, wage subsidizes for On- The-Job-Training and training customized for the employer. All of these services are available and have been used by ProvPort EZ business.

Exhibit 1

Maps



City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 Feet

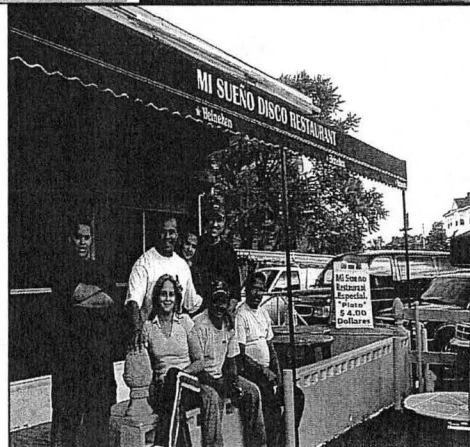
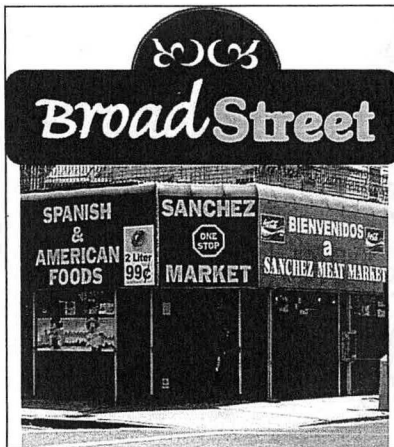






City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form



September 15, 2006



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**

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**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**  
**City of Providence, Rhode Island**  
**Port of Providence**

**DAVID N. CICILLINE**  
**Mayor**



**Part 1: Distress Criteria**

1. The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone originally encompassed 1990 Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. Due to changes from the 2000 Census the enterprise zone now encompasses Census Tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3 (partially), 5, 6 (partially), and 15. While the Census Tracts have changed, the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone itself have not. The changes to the census tracts which comprise the enterprise zone are as follows: Tract 1 has been split into Tract 1.01 and Tract 1.02 splitting the population between them. Tracts 2 and 5 have been made smaller, which accounts for the population decline within the tracts. Tract 6 has been made larger, accounting for its population increase. The boundaries of Tract 15 have not changed, but its population has declined by 500. Tract 3 now contains a portion of the enterprise zone which it did not originally.

These changes to the census tracts make it difficult to accurately compare the demographic changes to the area between the 1990 and 2000 census. For example, Tract 3, which was not originally part of the enterprise zone, now contains a small portion of the enterprise zone in the southern part of the tract, however the poverty level numbers do not indicate how many of the households below the poverty level are located within that small area of the tract. Likewise with Tract 6, it has been made significantly larger which accounts for the increase in the number of households below the poverty level. It however cannot be assumed that this increase mean that these are new households below the poverty level, all that can be inferred is that Tract 6 has now picked up households below the poverty level that were previously counted in other tracts.

Additionally, data on overcrowding in households and unemployment is available only by neighborhood, not by census tract. The neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood and Reservoir are entirely within the enterprise zone. However, the neighborhoods of Elmwood, Lower South Providence, and Upper South Providence only contain portions of the enterprise zone. This also makes it difficult to compare the numbers for these neighborhoods from 1990 to 2000 as we cannot determine what percentage of the overcrowded housing in each neighborhood lay within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 or 2000, neither can we determine what percentage of unemployed persons in those neighborhoods lived within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 and the percentage which lived within the enterprise zone in 2000. That being said, unemployment declined in all but one of the neighborhoods which encompass the enterprise zone.

## 2. Demographic Changes

**Poverty Level:** The number of households below the poverty level has increased dramatically:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tract 1	417	
Tract 1.01		738
Tract 1.02		933
Tract 2	841	2,191
Tract 3	675	2,101
Tract 5	262	1,006
Tract 6	72	533
Tract 15	70	400

**Overcrowded Housing (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	16.8% of housing units are overcrowded
Lower South Providence:	13.7% of housing units are overcrowded
Reservoir:	8.8% of housing units are overcrowded
South Elmwood:	6.6% of housing units are overcrowded
Upper South Providence:	8.5% of housing units are overcrowded
Washington Park:	8.4% of housing units are overcrowded

**Unemployment (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	12% unemployed Declined 29% between 1990-2000
Lower South Providence:	15% unemployed Declined 28% between 1990-2000
Reservoir:	7% unemployed Increased 48% between 1990-2000
Upper South Providence:	17% unemployed Declined 8% between 1990-2000
Washington Park:	12% unemployed Declined 13% between 1990-2000

## PART II. Accomplishments

1. During the period of 2002-2006, to date, the City of Providence has processed a total of 169 Enterprise Zone applications, which were approved for admission to the program. Of those applications, 40 were from businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. As a result, those businesses have retained 733 jobs and have created 450 new jobs to date in the Port of Providence Zone (2006 job creation data not available until 2007).

During that same period, to date, 228 businesses located in a Providence Enterprise Zone were certified to be eligible for tax credits during that calendar year, whereby each business met the criteria of both increasing their workforce by five percent (5%) and also increasing their total RI wages paid from the previous calendar year. Of these businesses, 63 were located within the Port of Providence Zone. As a result, to date, these businesses created 662 new jobs in the Port

of Providence Zone, of which a minimum of 110 of those jobs were filled by Enterprise Zone residents (2006 certification and new hire information not available until 2007).

In addition, during the 2002-2006 period, to date, 20 businesses city-wide were authorized to carry-forward an unused portion of a prior year's Enterprise Zone tax credit or to continue their membership in the program if they did not have an unused prior year Enterprise Zone tax credit to carry-forward. Of these businesses, 3 were located within the Port of Providence Zone, to date (2006 carry-forward authorization information not available until 2007).

The City of Providence's Enterprise Zone business participation and job creation is summarized in the table below.

### PORT OF PROVIDENCE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUSINESSES

Year	Total EZ Apps	Port Prov Apps	# Existing Jobs	# Jobs Created	# Businesses Certified	New Hires	EZ Residents	Carry Forwards	
	all zones	Port	Port of Prov '02-'06 applicants only		all zones	Port	Port of Prov EZ only	all zones	Port Prov
2002	61	12	59	112	57	17	155 unavail.	1	0
2003	43	10	241	91	59	15	115 35	5	0
2004	31	8	367	45	61	18	143 44	8	2
2005	24	7	42	202	51	13	249 31+	6	1
2006	10	3	24	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
	169	40	733	450	228	63	662 110+	20	3

**For a list of businesses approved to the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone Program by application year, please see exhibits.**

2. The Providence Economic Development Partnership has invested \$1.5 million in the last five years in the Zone, mostly to capital projects. Two leading examples are:

#### **Cleanscape, Inc.**

Cleanscape is a recycling and industrial landscaping firm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the South Providence Development Corporation (SPDC), which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community development corporation. Cleanscape provides employment for many individuals that are considered hard to employ and actively offers employment to ex-offenders. The company's workforce is drawn from six different countries of origin. In 2006, PEDP funded Cleanscape with \$410,000 of a \$760,000 project to purchase and renovate its headquarters building at 150 Colfax Street. This project will stabilize Cleanscape's facility needs and bolster the company's continuation as a growing positive economic presence and employer in South Providence.



The City has also supported Cleanscape's mission by providing \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding to purchase a brand new recycling truck in 2003 and the

Providence Redevelopment Agency is entering into its fourth contract for vacant lot cleaning in the amount of \$200,000.



### **Ada's Creations**

Ada's Creation is a restaurant and banquet facility on lower broad Street in South Providence. PEDP provided \$341,000 of a \$760,000 project to allow the business to renovate a long vacant building into a full services restaurant and then complete a second phase which added a second floor banquet facility. The business specializes in the food of Dominican Republic and Latin America and provides much need event space for the local community.

### **3. Enterprise Zone Related Private or Public Sector Redevelopment Projects.**

Interstate 1-195 Relocation:	525 million
Narragansett Bay Commission CSO Project:	576 million
Bomes Theater:	2 million
1040 Broad St:	2.3 million
Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex:	11 million
Meeting Street School:	20 million
Providence Community Health Center:	4 million
Salvation Army Daycare:	4 million
Williams Woods:	14 million
Firefighter's Museum:	1 million
YMCA:	10 million
Roger Williams Park Botanical Center:	6.5 million
Roger Williams Park Japanese Garden:	0.5 million
Roger Williams Park Elephant Exhibit:	5.5 million
Rhode Island Hospital:	81.5 million
Johnson and Wales University Harborside Campus:	7.5 million
Save the Bay Headquarters:	7 million
	Total: \$1,277,800,000

*Please see exhibits for details on each of the above projects*

### **Amount of investment by census tract:**

Tract 1.01:	14.5 million (plus a portion of the 576 million Narragansett Bay Commission CSO project)
Tract 1.02:	12.5 million
Tract 2:	2 million
Tract 3:	Not originally part of enterprise zone
Tract 5:	55.3 million (plus a portion of the 525 million I-195 relocation project)
Tract 6:	81.5 million (not located entirely within enterprise zone)
Tract 15:	11 million

## **RIEDC Brownfield Revolving Loan Funds Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone.**

Save the Bay Headquarters, \$700,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.  
YMCA of Providence, \$650,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.

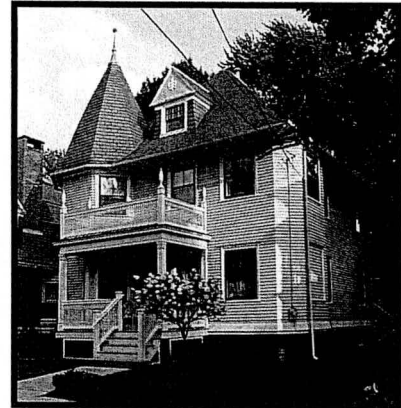
Total: \$1,350,000

### **4. Other noteworthy Accomplishments**

There have been several major initiatives in the City that have positively impacted the ProvPort EZ. In 2004 Community Policing was introduced citywide and Districts 2 and 3 were established in the EZ. Crime has decreased in these districts, and indeed, citywide, as business owners and residents have embraced the community policing model and police have made their presence and assistance visible and available.

The ProvPort EZ has also been the site of affordable housing development and investment that is detailed following in the exhibits. This investment is significant for the EZ and is a part of the City's effort to provide affordable workforce housing across the city. Currently 14% of the City's housing stock is considered "affordable" but that does not begin to meet the needs of the people who call Providence home. In the ProvPort EZ the following housing investment has been made since 2003:

Address	Homeownership	Rental	Investment
358 Potters Ave	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
101 Mitchell	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
32 Sumter St	1		\$ 205,000.00
89 Adelaide Ave	6	5	\$ 2,200,000.00
119 Adelaide Ave		38	\$ 3,900,000.00
Potter's Ave I		37	\$ 7,300,000.00
Williams Woods		65	\$ 14,000,000.00
1040 Broad	3		\$ 2,300,000.00
Total	12	147	\$ 30,465,000.00



As illustrated in Question 3, the I-95 relocation, even in its construction phase is having and will continue to have a substantial impact on the land use and business opportunities in the ProvPort EZ. Transportation, economic development opportunities and housing development are all being impacted by this massive public works project that is scheduled for completion in 2012.

### **Part III. Course of Action**

#### **1. Federal Funds Targeted for the Zone over the Next Designation Period.**

The City of Providence is an entitlement community for the Us Dept. of Housing and Urban Development consolidated programs- Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant and the Housing for Persons with AIDS program. Over the next the next five years the City expects to receive a minimum of \$25,000,000 in CDBG funding for the entire City of which it is estimated that 20% - \$5,000,000 - will be allocated to new or ongoing projects in the ProvPort EZ. The same can be said for the HOME dollars that the



City receives. Over the next five year the City expect to receive \$14,000,000 in funds and up to 20% (\$2,800,000) may be invested in future projects in the ProvPort EZ if current trends continue.

As the intent of the funds is to improve the lives and provide opportunities for persons under 80% of median income the ProvPort EZ is clearly eligible. (In 2000 according to the US Census the median income for the City was \$26,867, while the State of Rhode Island median income was \$42,090.) For the ProvPort EZ Census Tracts the median income numbers are:

Tract	Median
	Income in 2000
1.01	31,130
1.02	36,199
2	28,427
3	23,833
5	18,865
6	21,692
15	38,295

The employment opportunities afforded residents of the ProvPort EZ have yielded positive results as median income has risen for the census tracts that comprise the EZ from 1990 levels.

The census tracts identified have had substantial investments made in them as evidenced by the materials provided in the exhibits. The housing projects identified have used the Low Income Housing Tax Credit investment program, city consumer housing programs such as down payment and closing cost assistance, housing repair and leads hazard reduction grant/loans. State funding for the housing project identified have also come from Rhode Island Housing's federal HOME allocation and the Housing Resource Commission's Building Better Communities fund.

**Federal Brownfield Grants Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone:**

2006: Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 9, Plat 56, Lot 315, \$200,000  
Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 10, Plat 56, Lot 74, \$200,000

2005: Johnson & Wales University, Clean up, Parcel 7, Plat 56, Lot 291, 250 Shipyard Street, \$200,000.

2004: Meeting Street School and City of Providence, Clean Up, Meeting Street National Center of Excellence Site, \$200,000.

Total: \$800,000

Although these brownfield grants were awarded in the previous designation period, the funds will be spent during the next designation period.

**State of Rhode Island Transportation Improvement Program 2006-2011**

Transportation Enhancements

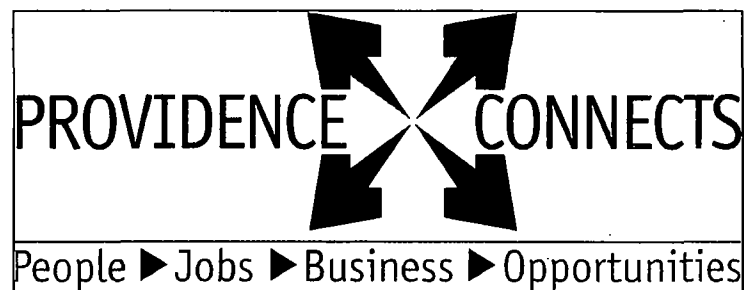
Broad Street Bridge and Banner Trail:	\$200,000 FY06
Fields Point Dock	\$150,000 FY06
Roger Williams Bike Trail/F.C. Green Blvd Res.	\$400,000 FY09
Southside Pedestrian Safety	\$100,000 FY06

Total: \$850,000

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Open Space and Recreation Bond Fund Large Grant Program**

Recreation Grant: Meeting Street Athletic Facility: \$300,000 FY07

**2. What public services will be available to residents in the zone related to employment?**



An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, working in close partnership with government, business, labor, education and community-based organizations, oversees workforce development services for incumbent workers, the unemployed job seeker and the emerging workers of the cities of Providence and Cranston. From the Providence Office of the netWORKri One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston is the source for labor market information, hiring incentives and training resources designed to help employers address their workforce needs and to connect dislocated and unemployed individuals to the work force. Workforce Solution has been successful in engaging ProvPort EZ residents in programs that have resulted in full time productive work.

To accomplish these goals, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston received more than \$3.2 million of federal funds. Five hundred fifty-six (556) adults and dislocated workers, and 97 youth ages 14-21 received and continued to receive services with these funds.

Of those served Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston trained 292 adults and dislocated workers for high demand occupations.

Working with our business partners and the RIEDC and the Community College of Rhode Island, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston developed training in steel fabrication for a local employer. Ninety-six (96) individuals were tested and assessed at our one-stop center to standards set by the employer. Eighteen adults, including some of the hardest to serve ex-felons, completed the training and all were offered jobs at the employer. This model provided to successful that another module is being planned for early fall 2006. This model can be replicated for other employers, thus creating a truly demand driven workforce system.

In response to new certification guidelines mandated by No Child Left Behind legislation, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston partnered with Laborers Local 1033 and the Providence School Department to assess 339 Teacher Aide candidates. One hundred twelve completed the training developed by the Community College of Rhode Island for this demand. Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston leveraged funds from Local 1033 to fund the cost of the training. The Providence School Department has employed fifty-one graduates as Teachers Aids and another 19 as substitute teachers. The one-stop continues to work with other cities and towns to place the remaining candidates.

### **3. Expediting Local and State Regulations**

The City engaged a consultant (Alan Teare Associates) in 2005 to review the City's various permitting structures and systems and make a recommendation on ways to pursue a "one-stop" permitting system that would alleviate the current multileveled system in place. A streamlined system has been introduced at Inspection and Standards that brings building, code, zoning and fire together for a comprehensive review under one building official instead of multiple persons from each division. Personnel changes at the department head level have slowed implementation of further recommendations from the study but the City intends to continue with this path as a new Director of Inspection and Standards is hired.

The City continues to investigate additional ways to streamline permitting in all city departments.

### **4. Non-Governmental Agencies that support Business Growth and Residents Seeking Employment**

There are a number of nongovernmental agencies on the Southside that provide the support and training to residents in the ProvPort EZ.

*Cathedral of Life – Literacy training/ESL*  
*The Center – Job Development and Training*  
*Dorcus Place – Literary training/ESL*

*Family Life Center* – Re-entry services for former inmates including job and housing placement  
*South Providence Development Corporation* – Job Development and Training  
*South Providence Neighborhood Ministries* – Literacy training/ESL  
*South Providence Tutorial* – Literary training/ESL  
*Urban League* – Literacy training/ESL

All of these agencies have outreach programs that are neighborhood based and designed to prepare people for job readiness as they hone and develop literary skills, ESL programs and prepare for and complete GED programs.

5. Yes. The following organizations assist start-up, minority and women-owned and income disadvantaged businesses:

Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the City of Providence, 400 Westminster Street Providence RI 02003, Tel: 401-351-4300

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the State of Rhode Island. One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903, Tel: 401-222-2601 [www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA). Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment under the SBA 504 program. 155 South Main St., Providence RI 02903 (401) 454-4560

Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island. The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business. SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561 [www.sba.gov/ri/](http://www.sba.gov/ri/)

Rhode Island Small Business Development Center. This federal Small Business Administration-backed organization provides guidance, finance and consulting services for small businesses. 270 Weybossett St., 4th flr Providence RI Tel: 401-598-2704.

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. 39 Exchange Terrace, Providence RI 02903. Tel: 401-521-5000 [www.providencechamber.com](http://www.providencechamber.com)

The Center for Women & Enterprise. Provides women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership. 132 George M. Cohan Blvd, Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122 [www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

Minority Investment Development Corporation (MIDC) & the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment (RICMI). MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that can assist disadvantaged business enterprises with financial and consulting tools. 216 Weybosset Street, Providence RI 02903 Tel: (401) 351-2999 Fax: (401) 351-0990 [www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)

The Center for Design & Business. This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a small business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence. 169 Weybosset Street Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 454-6108. [www.centerdesignbusiness.org](http://www.centerdesignbusiness.org)

Since 1992, Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) f/k/a Providence Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) has provided financial assistance to 382 businesses throughout the City of Providence. During this period, these loans, in the aggregate amount of \$44 million, provided the incentive for private investment of \$104 million. As a result of these loans, approximately 3,300 jobs were created, with 2,500 jobs being retained. Of the 382 businesses assisted, 116 were women-owned (30%) and 69 were minority-owned (18%).

Since 1992, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 36 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$17 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$4 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 4.25:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 226 jobs were created, with 284 jobs being retained. Of the 36 businesses assisted, 15 were women-owned businesses (41%) and 25 were minority-owned businesses (69%).

Over the past five (5) years, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 8 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$1.4 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$1.5 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 1:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 49 jobs were created, with 40 jobs being retained. Of the 8 businesses assisted, 6 were women-owned businesses (75%) and 6 were minority-owned businesses (75%).

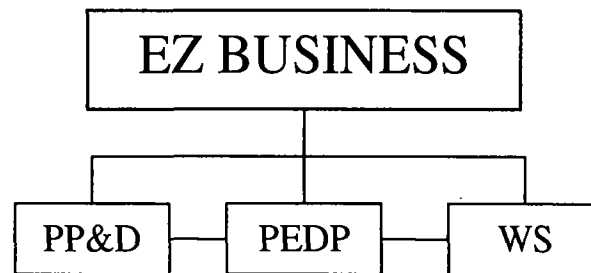
6. The Department coordinates with many agencies within the city and the region to insure assistance to all enterprise business. This close coordination of efforts allows for flow of information between organizations and then to enterprise zone businesses and when available, information on potential funding. Because of the small size of Rhode Island, this informal organization allows for support and the use of resources for the businesses and job growth.

#### **Part IV. The Management Plan and Initiatives**

1. Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director of the City of Providence Department of Planning and Development (DPD), has charged Ms. Kathy Cosentino, Assistant Director for Business Development of DPD, to currently administer all Enterprise Zone related activities. Ms. Cosentino's duties include but are not limited to: acting as the local point of contact for the program and providing program information, address verifications, and program materials to

potential business applicants and/or their accountants; verifying and processing all Enterprise Zone Program applications for admission and for annual year-end certifications; assisting member businesses to obtain their municipal Certificate of Good Standing for completion of the yearly certification process; providing state-wide member businesses with local address verifications for employees who reside in Providence in order for the business to qualify for the increased Enterprise Zone resident tax credit; attending all Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council meetings; maintaining all data relating to applications processed; businesses certified, jobs created and outstanding documentation in connection with year-end certification submissions; monitoring the status of existing zone designation terms; apprising executive level city management of any and all zone related issues.

2.



Three local organizations provide direct service to the business. There is also some cross-referral and information exchange between agencies.

DPD: Providence Department of Planning and Development – maintains maps and databases.

PEDP: Providence Economic Development Partnership – provides information to businesses regarding benefits of the EZ; technical and financial assistance to EZ businesses

WS: Workforce Solutions of Providence & Cranston – provides assistance with locating and training employees

3. PEDP tracks business name, address type of business and job creation for all businesses in the zone that enroll in the Enterprise Zone Program. The data is collected as the business register and re-qualify for the program. The total number of businesses in the zone, and the local tax revenue derived therefrom, are tracked by the Providence Tax Assessor's Office.

4. The zone is promoted one-on-one through meetings with businesses, business organizations and among professionals such as attorneys and accountants. Future plans to bolster the marketing effort include prominent placement on the DPD website, the PEDP website and the City of Providence website, and inclusion of zone information in business resource publications disseminated by PEDP.

5. The city has a series of tax stabilization programs that have been on the books for a number of years. The mayor has come to recognize that these programs are somewhat out dated and the availability of the programs is not advertised. As a result, the mayor is establishing a tax policy committee. The purpose of this committee is to create a clear and defined statement of the types of tax programs that exist, how one can take advantage of the program and what benefit the city

must receive in order to take advantage of the tax program. It is hoped that this policy can be presented to the city council in early 2007 for adoption. The program will include all aspects of the city's tax policy. This initiative is achievable as a result of amendments in state law in the 2006 legislative session that the city pursued.

## 6. Local Initiatives to Support Businesses

**Neighborhood Markets (NM)**, a *Main Street* based program, was developed by Mayor Cicilline to revitalize neighborhood commercial centers in partnership with local merchant associations. The program is designed to assist local merchants (typically with gross sales of under \$1 M) by providing access to lending capital, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements.

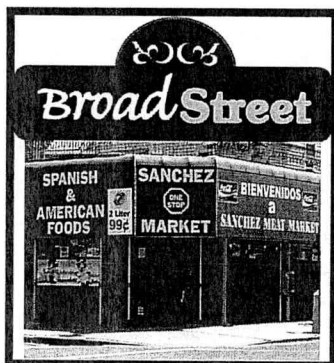
Using the *Main Street* four point approach - design, economic restructuring, promotion and organization - the City is work with existing and emerging merchant associations to identify projects and businesses most in need of assistance.



The *Main Street* initiative is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Eight neighborhoods were identified to participate as part of a concentrated 36-month phased program. (Because CDBG funding is being used all areas are low/mod eligible) It is understood that each of these neighborhoods have unique challenges and different levels of need. They are:

Upper Broad Street  
Lower Broad Street  
Olneyville Square  
Wickenden Street/Fox Point  
Chalkstone Avenue  
Atwells Avenue  
Charles Street/Hopkins Square  
Cranston Street



The first round of NM grants totaled \$150,000 for the program. The Upper/Lower Broad Street Neighborhood Market is a vibrant, thriving area that has been awarded a \$30,000 first round grant for tree guards, benches and trash receptacles that are being designed by the Greater Broad Street Merchants Association in conjunction with the Steelyard. In addition to the award of grant funds for street furniture, the City has planted 40 new trees on Broad Street and will bringing in trainers from the National Trust to conduct a *Main Street 101* seminar for all NM

participants. The NM website is slated to be rolled out in the fall of '06 with a specific home for each market which will highlight it's history, festivals, promotions and the merchant associations. A Mayor's ***Taste of the Neighborhood*** is scheduled for the Broad Street NM for the holiday season. (Taste of the Neighborhood is a promotion that highlights NM restaurants by inclusion on the city website and a mention in the enewsletter *City News* and a visit by the Mayor and staff for lunch or dinner.)

#### Financial Tools Available - Citywide

PEDP Micro Loan Program - small loans up to \$10,000

PEDP Revolving Loan Fund - commercial loans that average \$125,000

PEDP façade program - \$1,800 match grant for eligible improvements

#### Future Plans

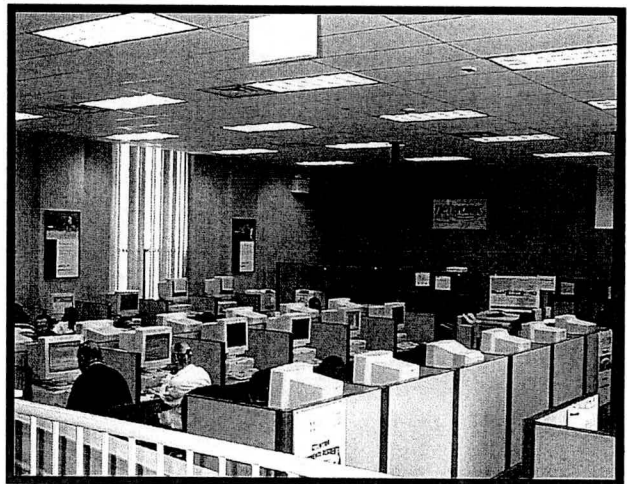
Because this is a concentrated investment strategy it is estimated that investment in the streetscape in the eight areas take place for a minimum of up to 36 months while simultaneously assisting the merchants to develop their organizations around the Main Street Four Point approach.

Currently the program is staffed by DPD, PEDP and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

### **7. Workforce Development and Readiness**

#### **Please see Part III Question 3**

An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

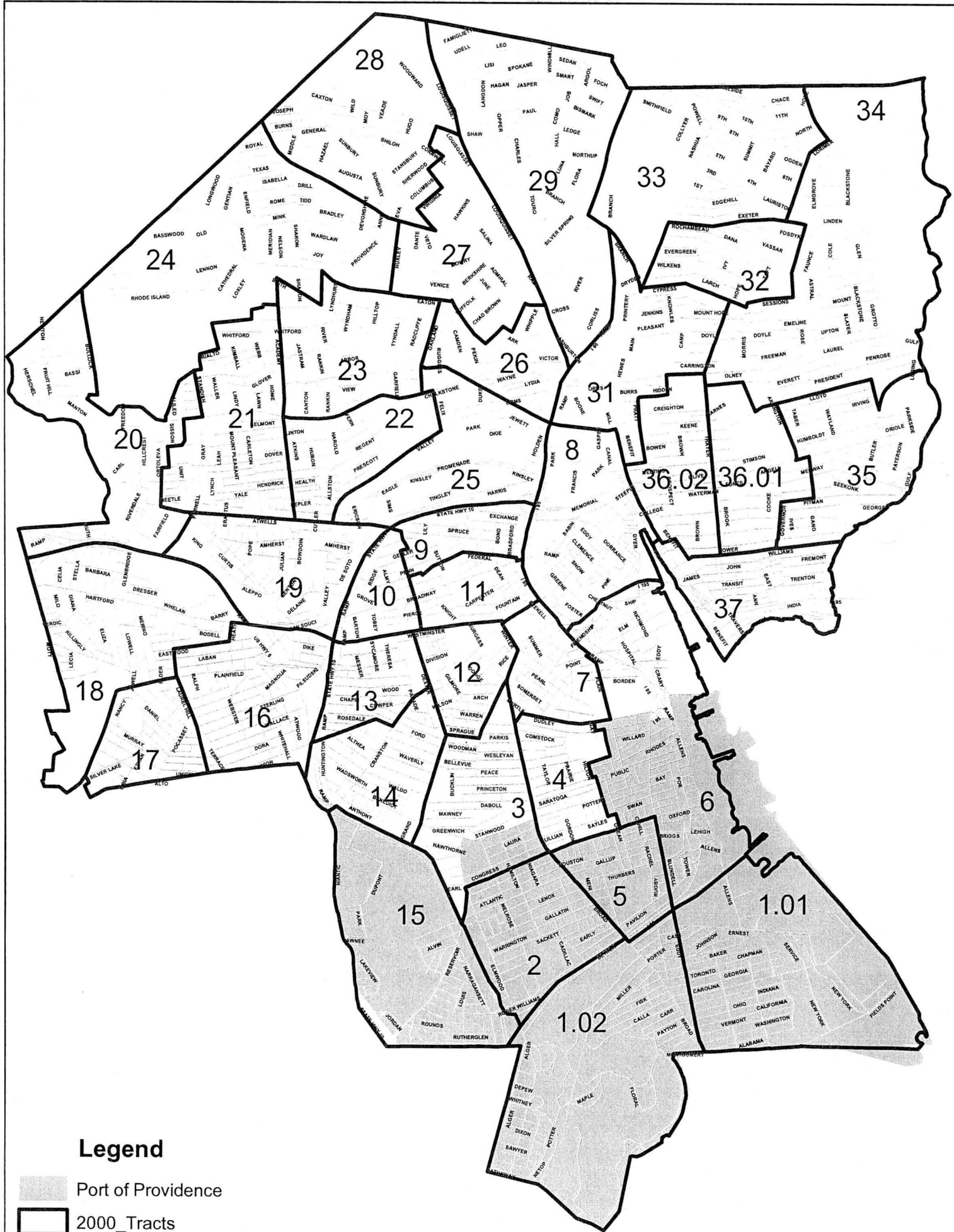




Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston's netWORKri one-stop center offers programs and services designed to train the current workforce and prepare the workforce of the future by providing a full range of workforce development services to job seekers including vocational testing, comprehensive assessment, case management, occupational skills training, job placement, labor market and labor exchange information and post employment services. Services to employers include tax credit assistance, wage subsidizes for On- The-Job-Training and training customized for the employer. All of these services are available and have been used by ProvPort EZ business.

## Exhibit 1

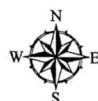
### Maps

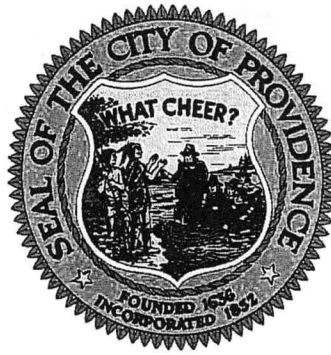


City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone

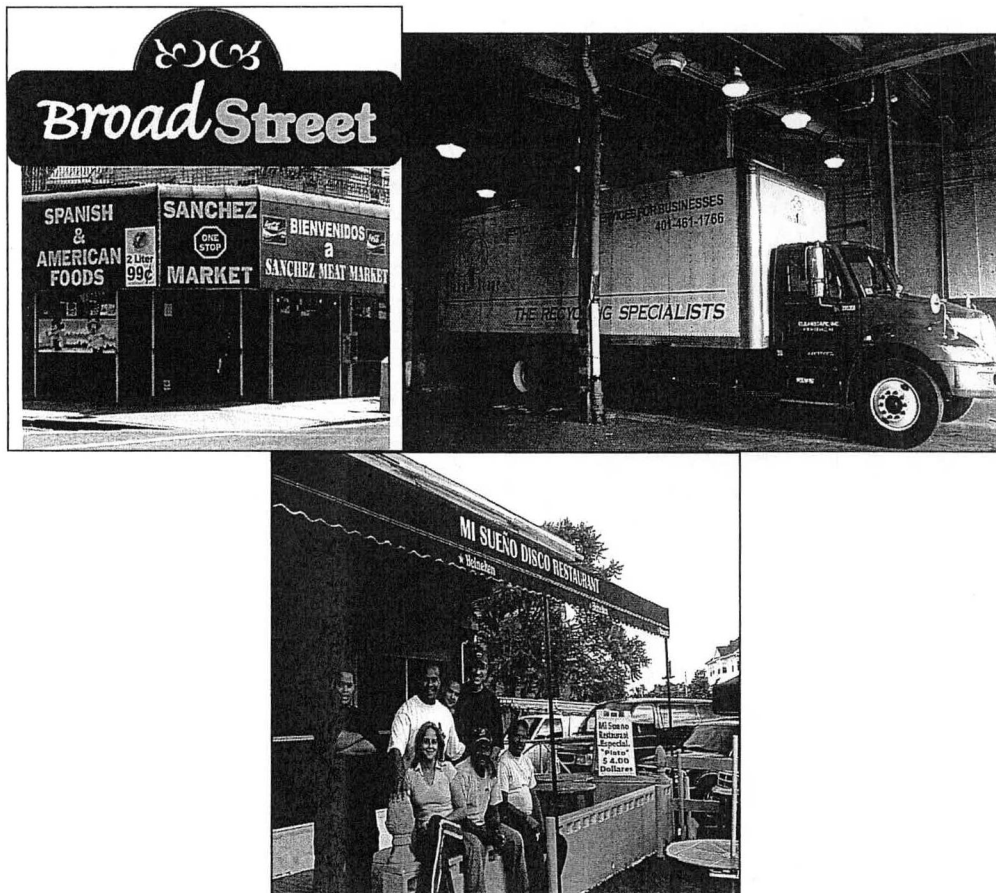
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City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form



September 15, 2006



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

### **2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**

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#### **Exhibits**

- Exhibit 1 – Maps
- Exhibit 2 – List of Business Approved to PPEZ by Application Year
- Exhibit 3 - Projects in the ProvPort EZ
- Exhibit 4 - Housing Development in the EZ
- Exhibit 5 - Websites – City of Providence, PEDP and DPD

**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**  
**City of Providence, Rhode Island**  
**Port of Providence**

**DAVID N. CICILLINE**  
**Mayor**



**Part 1: Distress Criteria**

1. The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone originally encompassed 1990 Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. Due to changes from the 2000 Census the enterprise zone now encompasses Census Tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3 (partially), 5, 6 (partially), and 15. While the Census Tracts have changed, the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone itself have not. The changes to the census tracts which comprise the enterprise zone are as follows: Tract 1 has been split into Tract 1.01 and Tract 1.02 splitting the population between them. Tracts 2 and 5 have been made smaller, which accounts for the population decline within the tracts. Tract 6 has been made larger, accounting for its population increase. The boundaries of Tract 15 have not changed, but its population has declined by 500. Tract 3 now contains a portion of the enterprise zone which it did not originally.

These changes to the census tracts make it difficult to accurately compare the demographic changes to the area between the 1990 and 2000 census. For example, Tract 3, which was not originally part of the enterprise zone, now contains a small portion of the enterprise zone in the southern part of the tract, however the poverty level numbers do not indicate how many of the households below the poverty level are located within that small area of the tract. Likewise with Tract 6, it has been made significantly larger which accounts for the increase in the number of households below the poverty level. It however cannot be assumed that this increase mean that these are new households below the poverty level, all that can be inferred is that Tract 6 has now picked up households below the poverty level that were previously counted in other tracts.

Additionally, data on overcrowding in households and unemployment is available only by neighborhood, not by census tract. The neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood and Reservoir are entirely within the enterprise zone. However, the neighborhoods of Elmwood, Lower South Providence, and Upper South Providence only contain portions of the enterprise zone. This also makes it difficult to compare the numbers for these neighborhoods from 1990 to 2000 as we cannot determine what percentage of the overcrowded housing in each neighborhood lay within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 or 2000, neither can we determine what percentage of unemployed persons in those neighborhoods lived within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 and the percentage which lived within the enterprise zone in 2000. That being said, unemployment declined in all but one of the neighborhoods which encompass the enterprise zone.

## 2. Demographic Changes

**Poverty Level:** The number of households below the poverty level has increased dramatically:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tract 1	417	
Tract 1.01		738
Tract 1.02		933
Tract 2	841	2,191
Tract 3	675	2,101
Tract 5	262	1,006
Tract 6	72	533
Tract 15	70	400

**Overcrowded Housing (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	16.8% of housing units are overcrowded
Lower South Providence:	13.7% of housing units are overcrowded
Reservoir:	8.8% of housing units are overcrowded
South Elmwood:	6.6% of housing units are overcrowded
Upper South Providence:	8.5% of housing units are overcrowded
Washington Park:	8.4% of housing units are overcrowded

**Unemployment (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	12% unemployed Declined 29% between 1990-2000
Lower South Providence:	15% unemployed Declined 28% between 1990-2000
Reservoir:	7% unemployed Increased 48% between 1990-2000
Upper South Providence:	17% unemployed Declined 8% between 1990-2000
Washington Park:	12% unemployed Declined 13% between 1990-2000

## PART II. Accomplishments

1. During the period of 2002-2006, to date, the City of Providence has processed a total of 169 Enterprise Zone applications, which were approved for admission to the program. Of those applications, 40 were from businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. As a result, those businesses have retained 733 jobs and have created 450 new jobs to date in the Port of Providence Zone (2006 job creation data not available until 2007).

During that same period, to date, 228 businesses located in a Providence Enterprise Zone were certified to be eligible for tax credits during that calendar year, whereby each business met the criteria of both increasing their workforce by five percent (5%) and also increasing their total RI wages paid from the previous calendar year. Of these businesses, 63 were located within the Port of Providence Zone. As a result, to date, these businesses created 662 new jobs in the Port



of Providence Zone, of which a minimum of 110 of those jobs were filled by Enterprise Zone residents (2006 certification and new hire information not available until 2007).

In addition, during the 2002-2006 period, to date, 20 businesses city-wide were authorized to carry-forward an unused portion of a prior year's Enterprise Zone tax credit or to continue their membership in the program if they did not have an unused prior year Enterprise Zone tax credit to carry-forward. Of these businesses, 3 were located within the Port of Providence Zone, to date (2006 carry-forward authorization information not available until 2007).

The City of Providence's Enterprise Zone business participation and job creation is summarized in the table below.

### PORT OF PROVIDENCE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUSINESSES

Year	Total EZ Apps	Port Prov Apps	# Existing Jobs	# Jobs Created	# Businesses Certified	New Hires	EZ Residents	Carry Forwards	
	all zones	Port	Port of Prov '02-'06 applicants only		all zones	Port	Port of Prov EZ only	all zones	Port Prov
2002	61	12	59	112	57	17	155 unavail.	1	0
2003	43	10	241	91	59	15	115 35	5	0
2004	31	8	367	45	61	18	143 44	8	2
2005	24	7	42	202	51	13	249 31+	6	1
2006	10	3	24	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
	169	40	733	450	228	63	662 110+	20	3

**For a list of businesses approved to the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone Program by application year, please see exhibits.**

2. The Providence Economic Development Partnership has invested \$1.5 million in the last five years in the Zone, mostly to capital projects. Two leading examples are:

#### Cleanscape, Inc.

Cleanscape is a recycling and industrial landscaping firm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the South Providence Development Corporation (SPDC), which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community development corporation. Cleanscape provides employment for many individuals that are considered hard to employ and actively offers employment to ex-offenders. The company's workforce is drawn from six different countries of origin. In 2006, PEDP funded Cleanscape with \$410,000 of a \$760,000 project to purchase and renovate its headquarters building at 150 Colfax Street. This project will stabilize Cleanscape's facility needs and bolster the company's continuation as a growing positive economic presence and employer in South Providence.



The City has also supported Cleanscape's mission by providing \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding to purchase a brand new recycling truck in 2003 and the

Providence Redevelopment Agency is entering into its fourth contract for vacant lot cleaning in the amount of \$200,000.



### Ada's Creations

Ada's Creation is a restaurant and banquet facility on lower broad Street in South Providence. PEDP provided \$341,000 of a \$760,000 project to allow the business to renovate a long vacant building into a full services restaurant and then complete a second phase which added a second floor banquet facility. The business specializes in the food of Dominican Republic and Latin America and provides much need event space for the local community.

### 3. Enterprise Zone Related Private or Public Sector Redevelopment Projects.

Interstate 1-195 Relocation:	525 million
Narragansett Bay Commission CSO Project:	576 million
Bomes Theater:	2 million
1040 Broad St:	2.3 million
Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex:	11 million
Meeting Street School:	20 million
Providence Community Health Center:	4 million
Salvation Army Daycare:	4 million
Williams Woods:	14 million
Firefighter's Museum:	1 million
YMCA:	10 million
Roger Williams Park Botanical Center:	6.5 million
Roger Williams Park Japanese Garden:	0.5 million
Roger Williams Park Elephant Exhibit:	5.5 million
Rhode Island Hospital:	81.5 million
Johnson and Wales University Harborside Campus:	7.5 million
Save the Bay Headquarters:	7 million
Total: \$1,277,800,000	

*Please see exhibits for details on each of the above projects*

### Amount of investment by census tract:

Tract 1.01:	14.5 million (plus a portion of the 576 million Narragansett Bay Commission CSO project)
Tract 1.02:	12.5 million
Tract 2:	2 million
Tract 3:	Not originally part of enterprise zone
Tract 5:	55.3 million (plus a portion of the 525 million I-195 relocation project)
Tract 6:	81.5 million (not located entirely within enterprise zone)
Tract 15:	11 million

## **RIEDC Brownfield Revolving Loan Funds Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone.**

Save the Bay Headquarters, \$700,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.  
YMCA of Providence, \$650,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.

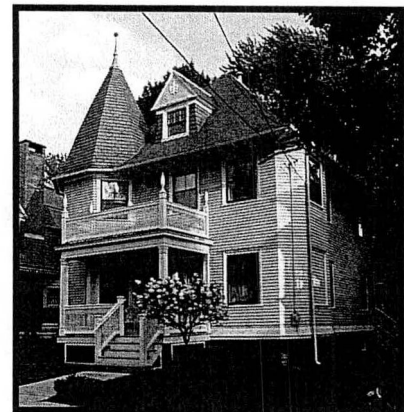
Total: \$1,350,000

### **4. Other noteworthy Accomplishments**

There have been several major initiatives in the City that have positively impacted the ProvPort EZ. In 2004 Community Policing was introduced citywide and Districts 2 and 3 were established in the EZ. Crime has decreased in these districts, and indeed, citywide, as business owners and residents have embraced the community policing model and police have made their presence and assistance visible and available.

The ProvPort EZ has also been the site of affordable housing development and investment that is detailed following in the exhibits. This investment is significant for the EZ and is a part of the City's effort to provide affordable workforce housing across the city. Currently 14% of the City's housing stock is considered "affordable" but that does not begin to meet the needs of the people who call Providence home. In the ProvPort EZ the following housing investment has been made since 2003:

Address	Homeownership	Rental	Investment
358 Potters Ave	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
101 Mitchell	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
32 Sumter St	1		\$ 205,000.00
89 Adelaide Ave	6	5	\$ 2,200,000.00
119 Adelaide Ave		38	\$ 3,900,000.00
Potter's Ave I		37	\$ 7,300,000.00
Williams Woods		65	\$ 14,000,000.00
1040 Broad	3		\$ 2,300,000.00
Total	12	147	\$ 30,465,000.00



As illustrated in Question 3, the I-95 relocation, even in its construction phase is having and will continue to have a substantial impact on the land use and business opportunities in the ProvPort EZ. Transportation, economic development opportunities and housing development are all being impacted by this massive public works project that is scheduled for completion in 2012.

### **Part III. Course of Action**

#### **1. Federal Funds Targeted for the Zone over the Next Designation Period.**

The City of Providence is an entitlement community for the Us Dept. of Housing and Urban Development consolidated programs- Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant and the Housing for Persons with AIDS program. Over the next the next five years the City expects to receive a minimum of \$25,000,000 in CDBG funding for the entire City of which it is estimated that 20% - \$5,000,000 – will be allocated to new or ongoing projects in the ProvPort EZ. The same can be said for the HOME dollars that the

City receives. Over the next five year the City expect to receive \$14,000,000 in funds and up to 20% (\$2,800,000) may be invested in future projects in the ProvPort EZ if current trends continue.

As the intent of the funds is to improve the lives and provide opportunities for persons under 80% of median income the ProvPort EZ is clearly eligible. (In 2000 according to the US Census the median income for the City was \$26,867, while the State of Rhode Island median income was \$42,090.) For the ProvPort EZ Census Tracts the median income numbers are:

Tract	Median
	Income in 2000
1.01	31,130
1.02	36,199
2	28,427
3	23,833
5	18,865
6	21,692
15	38,295

The employment opportunities afforded residents of the ProvPort EZ have yielded positive results as median income has risen for the census tracts that comprise the EZ from 1990 levels.

The census tracts identified have had substantial investments made in them as evidenced by the materials provided in the exhibits. The housing projects identified have used the Low Income Housing Tax Credit investment program, city consumer housing programs such as down payment and closing cost assistance, housing repair and leads hazard reduction grant/loans. State funding for the housing project identified have also come from Rhode Island Housing's federal HOME allocation and the Housing Resource Commission's Building Better Communities fund.

**Federal Brownfield Grants Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone:**

2006: Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 9, Plat 56, Lot 315, \$200,000  
Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 10, Plat 56, Lot 74, \$200,000

2005: Johnson & Wales University, Clean up, Parcel 7, Plat 56, Lot 291, 250 Shipyard Street, \$200,000.

2004: Meeting Street School and City of Providence, Clean Up, Meeting Street National Center of Excellence Site, \$200,000.

Total: \$800,000

Although these brownfield grants were awarded in the previous designation period, the funds will be spent during the next designation period.

**State of Rhode Island Transportation Improvement Program 2006-2011**

Transportation Enhancements

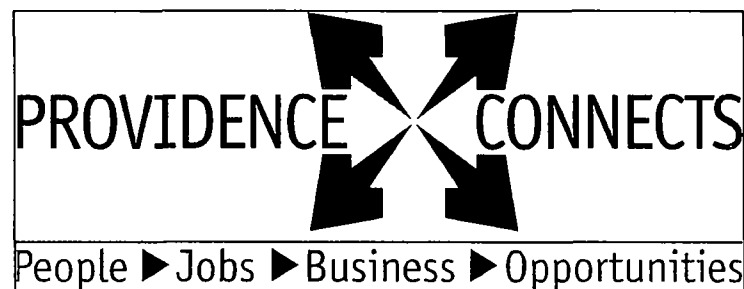
Broad Street Bridge and Banner Trail:	\$200,000 FY06
Fields Point Dock	\$150,000 FY06
Roger Williams Bike Trail/F.C. Green Blvd Res.	\$400,000 FY09
Southside Pedestrian Safety	\$100,000 FY06

Total: \$850,000

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Open Space and Recreation Bond Fund Large Grant Program**

Recreation Grant: Meeting Street Athletic Facility: \$300,000 FY07

**2. What public services will be available to residents in the zone related to employment?**



An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, working in close partnership with government, business, labor, education and community-based organizations, oversees workforce development services for incumbent workers, the unemployed job seeker and the emerging workers of the cities of Providence and Cranston. From the Providence Office of the netWORKri One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston is the source for labor market information, hiring incentives and training resources designed to help employers address their workforce needs and to connect dislocated and unemployed individuals to the work force. Workforce Solution has been successful in engaging ProvPort EZ residents in programs that have resulted in full time productive work.

To accomplish these goals, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston received more than \$3.2 million of federal funds. Five hundred fifty-six (556) adults and dislocated workers, and 97 youth ages 14-21 received and continued to receive services with these funds.

Of those served Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston trained 292 adults and dislocated workers for high demand occupations.

Working with our business partners and the RIEDC and the Community College of Rhode Island, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston developed training in steel fabrication for a local employer. Ninety-six (96) individuals were tested and assessed at our one-stop center to standards set by the employer. Eighteen adults, including some of the hardest to serve ex-felons, completed the training and all were offered jobs at the employer. This model provided to successful that another module is being planned for early fall 2006. This model can be replicated for other employers, thus creating a truly demand driven workforce system.

In response to new certification guidelines mandated by No Child Left Behind legislation, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston partnered with Laborers Local 1033 and the Providence School Department to assess 339 Teacher Aide candidates. One hundred twelve completed the training developed by the Community College of Rhode Island for this demand. Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston leveraged funds from Local 1033 to fund the cost of the training. The Providence School Department has employed fifty-one graduates as Teachers Aids and another 19 as substitute teachers. The one-stop continues to work with other cities and towns to place the remaining candidates.

### **3. Expediting Local and State Regulations**

The City engaged a consultant (Alan Teare Associates) in 2005 to review the City's various permitting structures and systems and make a recommendation on ways to pursue a "one-stop" permitting system that would alleviate the current multileveled system in place. A streamlined system has been introduced at Inspection and Standards that brings building, code, zoning and fire together for a comprehensive review under one building official instead of multiple persons from each division. Personnel changes at the department head level have slowed implementation of further recommendations from the study but the City intends to continue with this path as a new Director of Inspection and Standards is hired.

The City continues to investigate additional ways to streamline permitting in all city departments.

### **4. Non-Governmental Agencies that support Business Growth and Residents Seeking Employment**

There are a number of nongovernmental agencies on the Southside that provide the support and training to residents in the ProvPort EZ.

*Cathedral of Life – Literacy training/ESL*  
*The Center – Job Development and Training*  
*Dorcus Place – Literary training/ESL*

*Family Life Center* – Re-entry services for former inmates including job and housing placement  
*South Providence Development Corporation* – Job Development and Training  
*South Providence Neighborhood Ministries* – Literacy training/ESL  
*South Providence Tutorial* – Literary training/ESL  
*Urban League* – Literacy training/ESL

All of these agencies have outreach programs that are neighborhood based and designed to prepare people for job readiness as they hone and develop literary skills, ESL programs and prepare for and complete GED programs.

5. Yes. The following organizations assist start-up, minority and women-owned and income disadvantaged businesses:

Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the City of Providence, 400 Westminster Street Providence RI 02003, Tel: 401-351-4300

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the State of Rhode Island. One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903, Tel: 401-222-2601 [www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA). Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment under the SBA 504 program. 155 South Main St., Providence RI 02903 (401) 454-4560

Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island. The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business. SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561 [www.sba.gov/ri/](http://www.sba.gov/ri/)

Rhode Island Small Business Development Center. This federal Small Business Administration-backed organization provides guidance, finance and consulting services for small businesses. 270 Weybossett St., 4th flr Providence RI Tel: 401-598-2704.

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. 39 Exchange Terrace, Providence RI 02903. Tel: 401-521-5000 [www.providencechamber.com](http://www.providencechamber.com)

The Center for Women & Enterprise. Provides women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership. 132 George M. Cohan Blvd, Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122 [www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

Minority Investment Development Corporation (MIDC) & the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment (RICMI). MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that can assist disadvantaged business enterprises with financial and consulting tools. 216 Weybosset Street, Providence RI 02903 Tel: (401) 351-2999 Fax: (401) 351-0990 [www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)

The Center for Design & Business. This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a small business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence. 169 Weybosset Street Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 454-6108. [www.centerdesignbusiness.org](http://www.centerdesignbusiness.org)

Since 1992, Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) f/k/a Providence Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) has provided financial assistance to 382 businesses throughout the City of Providence. During this period, these loans, in the aggregate amount of \$44 million, provided the incentive for private investment of \$104 million. As a result of these loans, approximately 3,300 jobs were created, with 2,500 jobs being retained. Of the 382 businesses assisted, 116 were women-owned (30%) and 69 were minority-owned (18%).

Since 1992, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 36 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$17 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$4 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 4.25:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 226 jobs were created, with 284 jobs being retained. Of the 36 businesses assisted, 15 were women-owned businesses (41%) and 25 were minority-owned businesses (69%).

Over the past five (5) years, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 8 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$1.4 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$1.5 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 1:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 49 jobs were created, with 40 jobs being retained. Of the 8 businesses assisted, 6 were women-owned businesses (75%) and 6 were minority-owned businesses (75%).

6. The Department coordinates with many agencies within the city and the region to insure assistance to all enterprise business. This close coordination of efforts allows for flow of information between organizations and then to enterprise zone businesses and when available, information on potential funding. Because of the small size of Rhode Island, this informal organization allows for support and the use of resources for the businesses and job growth.

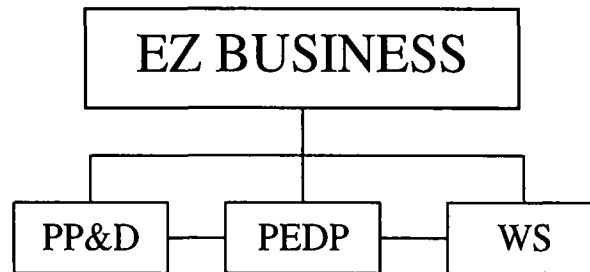
#### **Part IV. The Management Plan and Initiatives**

1. Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director of the City of Providence Department of Planning and Development (DPD), has charged Ms. Kathy Cosentino, Assistant Director for Business Development of DPD, to currently administer all Enterprise Zone related activities. Ms. Cosentino's duties include but are not limited to: acting as the local point of contact for the program and providing program information, address verifications, and program materials to



potential business applicants and/or their accountants; verifying and processing all Enterprise Zone Program applications for admission and for annual year-end certifications; assisting member businesses to obtain their municipal Certificate of Good Standing for completion of the yearly certification process; providing state-wide member businesses with local address verifications for employees who reside in Providence in order for the business to qualify for the increased Enterprise Zone resident tax credit; attending all Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council meetings; maintaining all data relating to applications processed; businesses certified, jobs created and outstanding documentation in connection with year-end certification submissions; monitoring the status of existing zone designation terms; apprising executive level city management of any and all zone related issues.

2.



Three local organizations provide direct service to the business. There is also some cross-referral and information exchange between agencies.

DPD: Providence Department of Planning and Development – maintains maps and databases.

PEDP: Providence Economic Development Partnership – provides information to businesses regarding benefits of the EZ; technical and financial assistance to EZ businesses

WS: Workforce Solutions of Providence & Cranston – provides assistance with locating and training employees

3. PEDP tracks business name, address type of business and job creation for all businesses in the zone that enroll in the Enterprise Zone Program. The data is collected as the business register and re-qualify for the program. The total number of businesses in the zone, and the local tax revenue derived therefrom, are tracked by the Providence Tax Assessor's Office.

4. The zone is promoted one-on-one through meetings with businesses, business organizations and among professionals such as attorneys and accountants. Future plans to bolster the marketing effort include prominent placement on the DPD website, the PEDP website and the City of Providence website, and inclusion of zone information in business resource publications disseminated by PEDP.

5. The city has a series of tax stabilization programs that have been on the books for a number of years. The mayor has come to recognize that these programs are somewhat out dated and the availability of the programs is not advertised. As a result, the mayor is establishing a tax policy committee. The purpose of this committee is to create a clear and defined statement of the types of tax programs that exist, how one can take advantage of the program and what benefit the city

must receive in order to take advantage of the tax program. It is hoped that this policy can be presented to the city council in early 2007 for adoption. The program will include all aspects of the city's tax policy. This initiative is achievable as a result of amendments in state law in the 2006 legislative session that the city pursued.

## 6. Local Initiatives to Support Businesses

**Neighborhood Markets (NM)**, a *Main Street* based program, was developed by Mayor Cicilline to revitalize neighborhood commercial centers in partnership with local merchant associations. The program is designed to assist local merchants (typically with gross sales of under \$1 M) by providing access to lending capital, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements.

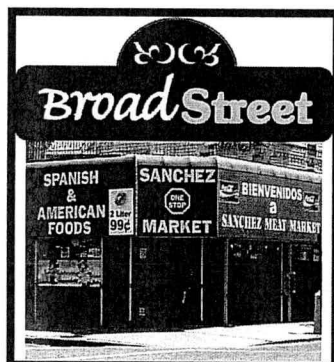
Using the *Main Street* four point approach - design, economic restructuring, promotion and organization - the City is work with existing and emerging merchant associations to identify projects and businesses most in need of assistance.



The *Main Street* initiative is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Eight neighborhoods were identified to participate as part of a concentrated 36-month phased program. (Because CDBG funding is being used all areas are low/mod eligible) It is understood that each of these neighborhoods have unique challenges and different levels of need. They are:

Upper Broad Street  
Lower Broad Street  
Olneyville Square  
Wickenden Street/Fox Point  
Chalkstone Avenue  
Atwells Avenue  
Charles Street/Hopkins Square  
Cranston Street



The first round of NM grants totaled \$150,000 for the program. The Upper/Lower Broad Street Neighborhood Market is a vibrant, thriving area that has been awarded a \$30,000 first round grant for tree guards, benches and trash receptacles that are being designed by the Greater Broad Street Merchants Association in conjunction with the Steelyard. In addition to the award of grant funds for street furniture, the City has planted 40 new trees on Broad Street and will bringing in trainers from the National Trust to conduct a *Main Street 101* seminar for all NM

participants. The NM website is slated to be rolled out in the fall of '06 with a specific home for each market which will highlight it's history, festivals, promotions and the merchant associations. A Mayor's ***Taste of the Neighborhood*** is scheduled for the Broad Street NM for the holiday season. (Taste of the Neighborhood is a promotion that highlights NM restaurants by inclusion on the city website and a mention in the enewsletter *City News* and a visit by the Mayor and staff for lunch or dinner.)

#### Financial Tools Available - Citywide

PEDP Micro Loan Program - small loans up to \$10,000

PEDP Revolving Loan Fund - commercial loans that average \$125,000

PEDP façade program - \$1,800 match grant for eligible improvements

#### Future Plans

Because this is a concentrated investment strategy it is estimated that investment in the streetscape in the eight areas take place for a minimum of up to 36 months while simultaneously assisting the merchants to develop their organizations around the Main Street Four Point approach.

Currently the program is staffed by DPD, PEDP and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

### **7. Workforce Development and Readiness**

#### **Please see Part III Question 3**

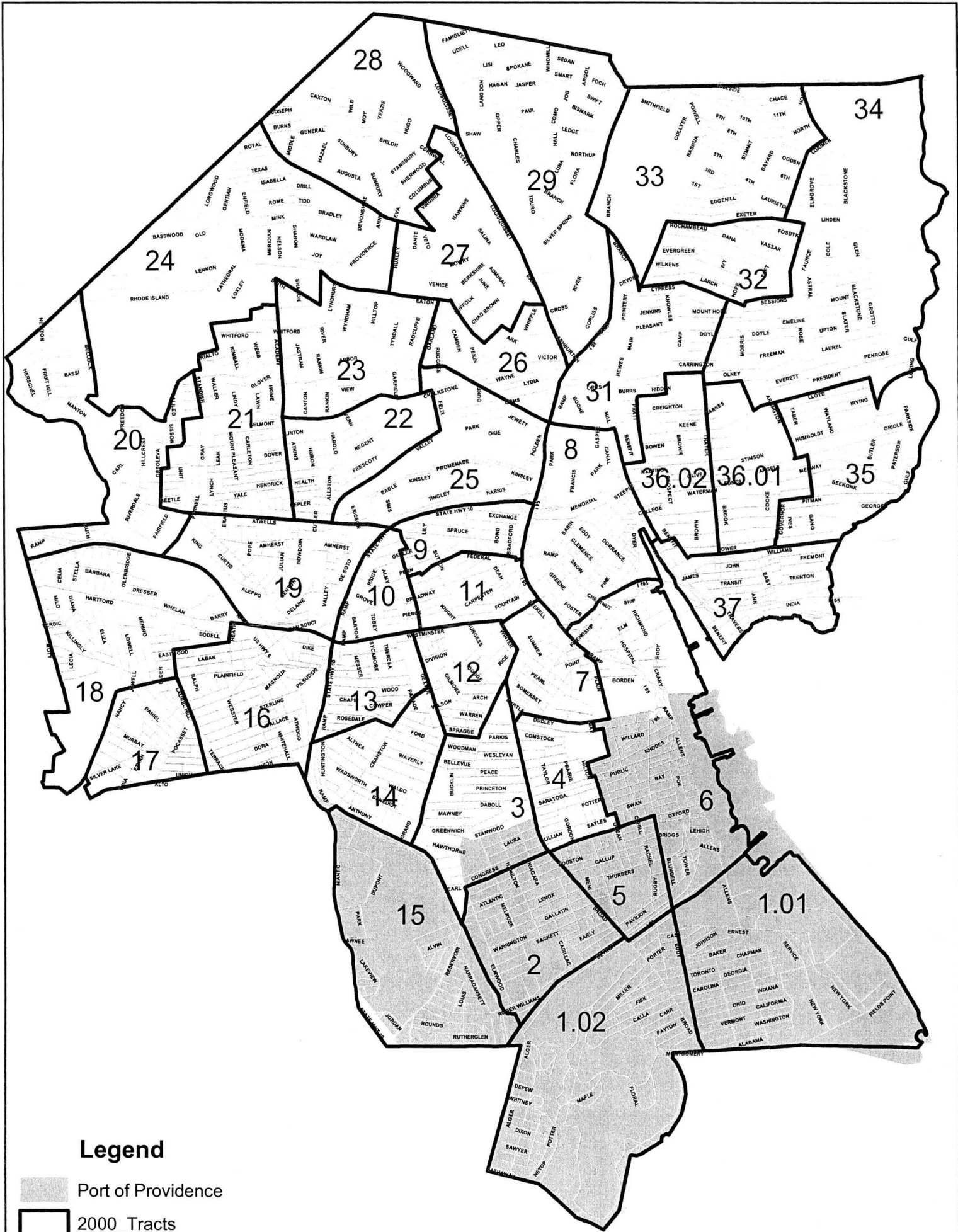
An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.





Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston's netWORKri one-stop center offers programs and services designed to train the current workforce and prepare the workforce of the future by providing a full range of workforce development services to job seekers including vocational testing, comprehensive assessment, case management, occupational skills training, job placement, labor market and labor exchange information and post employment services. Services to employers include tax credit assistance, wage subsidizes for On- The-Job-Training and training customized for the employer. All of these services are available and have been used by ProvPort EZ business.

Exhibit 1

Maps



## Legend

-  Port of Providence
-  2000\_Tracts



City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 Feet



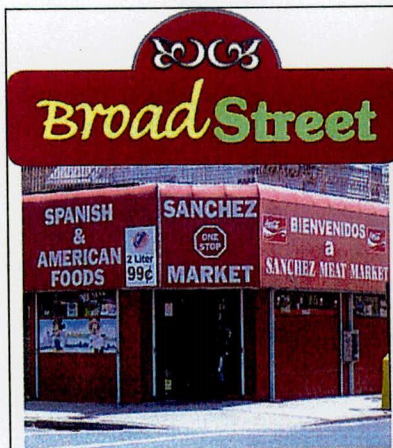


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Calver*



City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form



September 15, 2006





City of Providence, RI  
David N. Cicilline  
MAYOR

## 2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form

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#### **Exhibits**

- Exhibit 1 – Maps
- Exhibit 2 – List of Business Approved to PPEZ by Application Year
- Exhibit 3 - Projects in the ProvPort EZ
- Exhibit 4 - Housing Development in the EZ
- Exhibit 5 - Websites – City of Providence, PEDP and DPD

**2006 Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Evaluation Form**  
**City of Providence, Rhode Island**  
**Port of Providence**

**DAVID N. CICILLINE**  
Mayor



**Part 1: Distress Criteria**

1. The Port of Providence Enterprise Zone originally encompassed 1990 Census Tracts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 15. Due to changes from the 2000 Census the enterprise zone now encompasses Census Tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3 (partially), 5, 6 (partially), and 15. While the Census Tracts have changed, the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone itself have not. The changes to the census tracts which comprise the enterprise zone are as follows: Tract 1 has been split into Tract 1.01 and Tract 1.02 splitting the population between them. Tracts 2 and 5 have been made smaller, which accounts for the population decline within the tracts. Tract 6 has been made larger, accounting for its population increase. The boundaries of Tract 15 have not changed, but its population has declined by 500. Tract 3 now contains a portion of the enterprise zone which it did not originally.

These changes to the census tracts make it difficult to accurately compare the demographic changes to the area between the 1990 and 2000 census. For example, Tract 3, which was not originally part of the enterprise zone, now contains a small portion of the enterprise zone in the southern part of the tract, however the poverty level numbers do not indicate how many of the households below the poverty level are located within that small area of the tract. Likewise with Tract 6, it has been made significantly larger which accounts for the increase in the number of households below the poverty level. It however cannot be assumed that this increase mean that these are new households below the poverty level, all that can be inferred is that Tract 6 has now picked up households below the poverty level that were previously counted in other tracts.

Additionally, data on overcrowding in households and unemployment is available only by neighborhood, not by census tract. The neighborhoods of Washington Park, South Elmwood and Reservoir are entirely within the enterprise zone. However, the neighborhoods of Elmwood, Lower South Providence, and Upper South Providence only contain portions of the enterprise zone. This also makes it difficult to compare the numbers for these neighborhoods from 1990 to 2000 as we cannot determine what percentage of the overcrowded housing in each neighborhood lay within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 or 2000, neither can we determine what percentage of unemployed persons in those neighborhoods lived within the boundaries of the enterprise zone in 1990 and the percentage which lived within the enterprise zone in 2000. That being said, unemployment declined in all but one of the neighborhoods which encompass the enterprise zone.

## 2. Demographic Changes

**Poverty Level:** The number of households below the poverty level has increased dramatically:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Tract 1	417	
Tract 1.01		738
Tract 1.02		933
Tract 2	841	2,191
Tract 3	675	2,101
Tract 5	262	1,006
Tract 6	72	533
Tract 15	70	400

### **Overcrowded Housing (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	16.8% of housing units are overcrowded
Lower South Providence:	13.7% of housing units are overcrowded
Reservoir:	8.8% of housing units are overcrowded
South Elmwood:	6.6% of housing units are overcrowded
Upper South Providence:	8.5% of housing units are overcrowded
Washington Park:	8.4% of housing units are overcrowded

### **Unemployment (by neighborhood in the EZ, not by census tract):**

Elmwood:	12% unemployed Declined 29% between 1990-2000
Lower South Providence:	15% unemployed Declined 28% between 1990-2000
Reservoir:	7% unemployed Increased 48% between 1990-2000
Upper South Providence:	17% unemployed Declined 8% between 1990-2000
Washington Park:	12% unemployed Declined 13% between 1990-2000

## **PART II. Accomplishments**

1. During the period of 2002-2006, to date, the City of Providence has processed a total of 169 Enterprise Zone applications, which were approved for admission to the program. Of those applications, 40 were from businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. As a result, those businesses have retained 733 jobs and have created 450 new jobs to date in the Port of Providence Zone (2006 job creation data not available until 2007).

During that same period, to date, 228 businesses located in a Providence Enterprise Zone were certified to be eligible for tax credits during that calendar year, whereby each business met the criteria of both increasing their workforce by five percent (5%) and also increasing their total RI wages paid from the previous calendar year. Of these businesses, 63 were located within the Port of Providence Zone. As a result, to date, these businesses created 662 new jobs in the Port

of Providence Zone, of which a minimum of 110 of those jobs were filled by Enterprise Zone residents (2006 certification and new hire information not available until 2007).

In addition, during the 2002-2006 period, to date, 20 businesses city-wide were authorized to carry-forward an unused portion of a prior year's Enterprise Zone tax credit or to continue their membership in the program if they did not have an unused prior year Enterprise Zone tax credit to carry-forward. Of these businesses, 3 were located within the Port of Providence Zone, to date (2006 carry-forward authorization information not available until 2007).

The City of Providence's Enterprise Zone business participation and job creation is summarized in the table below.

### PORT OF PROVIDENCE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUSINESSES

Year	Total EZ Apps	Port Prov Apps	# Existing Jobs	# Jobs Created	# Businesses Certified	New Hires	EZ Residents	Carry Forwards		
	all zones	Port	Port of Prov '02-'06 applicants only		all zones	Port	Port of Prov EZ only	all zones	Port Prov	
2002	61	12	59	112	57	17	155	unavail.	1	0
2003	43	10	241	91	59	15	115	35	5	0
2004	31	8	367	45	61	18	143	44	8	2
2005	24	7	42	202	51	13	249	31+	6	1
2006	10	3	24	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
	169	40	733	450	228	63	662	110+	20	3

**For a list of businesses approved to the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone Program by application year, please see exhibits.**

2. The Providence Economic Development Partnership has invested \$1.5 million in the last five years in the Zone, mostly to capital projects. Two leading examples are:

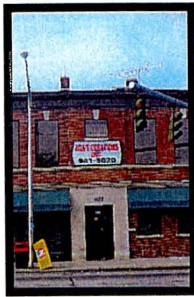
#### **Cleanscape, Inc.**

Cleanscape is a recycling and industrial landscaping firm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the South Providence Development Corporation (SPDC), which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community development corporation. Cleanscape provides employment for many individuals that are considered hard to employ and actively offers employment to ex-offenders. The company's workforce is drawn from six different countries of origin. In 2006, PEDP funded Cleanscape with \$410,000 of a \$760,000 project to purchase and renovate its headquarters building at 150 Colfax Street. This project will stabilize Cleanscape's facility needs and bolster the company's continuation as a growing positive economic presence and employer in South Providence.



The City has also supported Cleanscape's mission by providing \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding to purchase a brand new recycling truck in 2003 and the

Providence Redevelopment Agency is entering into its fourth contract for vacant lot cleaning in the amount of \$200,000.



### **Ada's Creations**

Ada's Creation is a restaurant and banquet facility on lower broad Street in South Providence. PEDP provided \$341,000 of a \$760,000 project to allow the business to renovate a long vacant building into a full services restaurant and then complete a second phase which added a second floor banquet facility. The business specializes in the food of Dominican Republic and Latin America and provides much need event space for the local community.

### **3. Enterprise Zone Related Private or Public Sector Redevelopment Projects.**

Interstate 1-195 Relocation:	525 million
Narragansett Bay Commission CSO Project:	576 million
Bomes Theater:	2 million
1040 Broad St:	2.3 million
Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex:	11 million
Meeting Street School:	20 million
Providence Community Health Center:	4 million
Salvation Army Daycare:	4 million
Williams Woods:	14 million
Firefighter's Museum:	1 million
YMCA:	10 million
Roger Williams Park Botanical Center:	6.5 million
Roger Williams Park Japanese Garden:	0.5 million
Roger Williams Park Elephant Exhibit:	5.5 million
Rhode Island Hospital:	81.5 million
Johnson and Wales University Harborside Campus:	7.5 million
Save the Bay Headquarters:	7 million
	Total: \$1,277,800,000

*Please see exhibits for details on each of the above projects*

### **Amount of investment by census tract:**

Tract 1.01:	14.5 million (plus a portion of the 576 million Narragansett Bay Commission CSO project)
Tract 1.02:	12.5 million
Tract 2:	2 million
Tract 3:	Not originally part of enterprise zone
Tract 5:	55.3 million (plus a portion of the 525 million I-195 relocation project)
Tract 6:	81.5 million (not located entirely within enterprise zone)
Tract 15:	11 million



## **RIEDC Brownfield Revolving Loan Funds Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone.**

Save the Bay Headquarters, \$700,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.  
YMCA of Providence, \$650,000 loan from the 2000 RLF Grant.

Total: \$1,350,000

### **4. Other noteworthy Accomplishments**

There have been several major initiatives in the City that have positively impacted the ProvPort EZ. In 2004 Community Policing was introduced citywide and Districts 2 and 3 were established in the EZ. Crime has decreased in these districts, and indeed, citywide, as business owners and residents have embraced the community policing model and police have made their presence and assistance visible and available.

The ProvPort EZ has also been the site of affordable housing development and investment that is detailed following in the exhibits. This investment is significant for the EZ and is a part of the City's effort to provide affordable workforce housing across the city. Currently 14% of the City's housing stock is considered "affordable" but that does not begin to meet the needs of the people who call Providence home. In the ProvPort EZ the following housing investment has been made since 2003:

Address	Homeownership	Rental	Investment
358 Potters Ave	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
101 Mitchell	1	1	\$ 280,000.00
32 Sumter St	1		\$ 205,000.00
89 Adelaide Ave	6	5	\$ 2,200,000.00
119 Adelaide Ave		38	\$ 3,900,000.00
Potter's Ave I		37	\$ 7,300,000.00
Williams Woods		65	\$ 14,000,000.00
1040 Broad	3		\$ 2,300,000.00
Total	12	147	\$ 30,465,000.00



As illustrated in Question 3, the I-95 relocation, even in its construction phase is having and will continue to have a substantial impact on the land use and business opportunities in the ProvPort EZ. Transportation, economic development opportunities and housing development are all being impacted by this massive public works project that is scheduled for completion in 2012.

### **Part III. Course of Action**

#### **1. Federal Funds Targeted for the Zone over the Next Designation Period.**

The City of Providence is an entitlement community for the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development consolidated programs- Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grant and the Housing for Persons with AIDS program. Over the next five years the City expects to receive a minimum of \$25,000,000 in CDBG funding for the entire City of which it is estimated that 20% - \$5,000,000 - will be allocated to new or ongoing projects in the ProvPort EZ. The same can be said for the HOME dollars that the

City receives. Over the next five year the City expect to receive \$14,000,000 in funds and up to 20% (\$2,800,000) may be invested in future projects in the ProvPort EZ if current trends continue.

As the intent of the funds is to improve the lives and provide opportunities for persons under 80% of median income the ProvPort EZ is clearly eligible. (In 2000 according to the US Census the median income for the City was \$26,867, while the State of Rhode Island median income was \$42,090.) For the ProvPort EZ Census Tracts the median income numbers are:

Tract	Median Income in 2000
1.01	31,130
1.02	36,199
2	28,427
3	23,833
5	18,865
6	21,692
15	38,295

The employment opportunities afforded residents of the ProvPort EZ have yielded positive results as median income has risen for the census tracts that comprise the EZ from 1990 levels.

The census tracts identified have had substantial investments made in them as evidenced by the materials provided in the exhibits. The housing projects identified have used the Low Income Housing Tax Credit investment program, city consumer housing programs such as down payment and closing cost assistance, housing repair and leads hazard reduction grant/loans. State funding for the housing project identified have also come from Rhode Island Housing's federal HOME allocation and the Housing Resource Commission's Building Better Communities fund.

**Federal Brownfield Grants Received for Projects within the Enterprise Zone:**

2006: Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 9, Plat 56, Lot 315, \$200,000  
Johnson & Wales University, Clean Up, Parcel 10, Plat 56, Lot 74, \$200,000

2005: Johnson & Wales University, Clean up, Parcel 7, Plat 56, Lot 291, 250 Shipyard Street, \$200,000.

2004: Meeting Street School and City of Providence, Clean Up, Meeting Street National Center of Excellence Site, \$200,000.

Total: \$800,000

Although these brownfield grants were awarded in the previous designation period, the funds will be spent during the next designation period.

**State of Rhode Island Transportation Improvement Program 2006-2011**

Transportation Enhancements

Broad Street Bridge and Banner Trail: \$200,000 FY06

Fields Point Dock - \$150,000 FY06

Roger Williams Bike Trail/F.C. Green Blvd Res. \$400,000 FY09

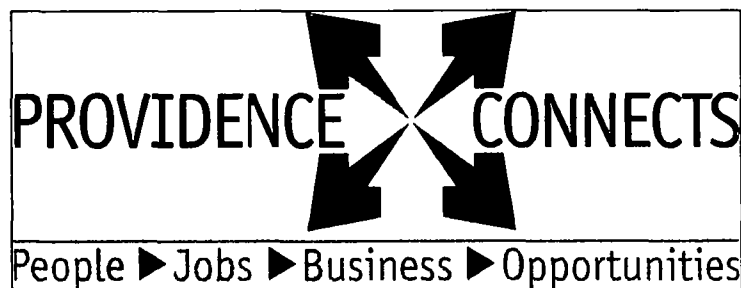
Southside Pedestrian Safety \$100,000 FY06

Total: \$850,000

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Open Space and Recreation Bond Fund Large Grant Program**

Recreation Grant: Meeting Street Athletic Facility: \$300,000 FY07

**2. What public services will be available to residents in the zone related to employment?**



An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston, working in close partnership with government, business, labor, education and community-based organizations, oversees workforce development services for incumbent workers, the unemployed job seeker and the emerging workers of the cities of Providence and Cranston. From the Providence Office of the netWORKri One-Stop Career Center, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston is the source for labor market information, hiring incentives and training resources designed to help employers address their workforce needs and to connect dislocated and unemployed individuals to the work force. Workforce Solution has been successful in engaging ProvPort EZ residents in programs that have resulted in full time productive work.



To accomplish these goals, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston received more than \$3.2 million of federal funds. Five hundred fifty-six (556) adults and dislocated workers, and 97 youth ages 14-21 received and continued to receive services with these funds.

Of those served Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston trained 292 adults and dislocated workers for high demand occupations.

Working with our business partners and the RIEDC and the Community College of Rhode Island, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston developed training in steel fabrication for a local employer. Ninety-six (96) individuals were tested and assessed at our one-stop center to standards set by the employer. Eighteen adults, including some of the hardest to serve ex-felons, completed the training and all were offered jobs at the employer. This model provided to successful that another module is being planned for early fall 2006. This model can be replicated for other employers, thus creating a truly demand driven workforce system.

In response to new certification guidelines mandated by No Child Left Behind legislation, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston partnered with Laborers Local 1033 and the Providence School Department to assess 339 Teacher Aide candidates. One hundred twelve completed the training developed by the Community College of Rhode Island for this demand. Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston leveraged funds from Local 1033 to fund the cost of the training. The Providence School Department has employed fifty-one graduates as Teachers Aids and another 19 as substitute teachers. The one-stop continues to work with other cities and towns to place the remaining candidates.

### **3. Expediting Local and State Regulations**

The City engaged a consultant (Alan Teare Associates) in 2005 to review the City's various permitting structures and systems and make a recommendation on ways to pursue a "one-stop" permitting system that would alleviate the current multileveled system in place. A streamlined system has been introduced at Inspection and Standards that brings building, code, zoning and fire together for a comprehensive review under one building official instead of multiple persons from each division. Personnel changes at the department head level have slowed implementation of further recommendations from the study but the City intends to continue with this path as a new Director of Inspection and Standards is hired.

The City continues to investigate additional ways to streamline permitting in all city departments.

### **4. Non-Governmental Agencies that support Business Growth and Residents Seeking Employment**

There are a number of nongovernmental agencies on the Southside that provide the support and training to residents in the ProvPort EZ.

*Cathedral of Life* – Literacy training/ESL  
*The Center* – Job Development and Training  
*Dorcus Place* – Literary training/ESL

*Family Life Center* – Re-entry services for former inmates including job and housing placement  
*South Providence Development Corporation* – Job Development and Training  
*South Providence Neighborhood Ministries* – Literacy training/ESL  
*South Providence Tutorial* – Literary training/ESL  
*Urban League* – Literacy training/ESL

All of these agencies have outreach programs that are neighborhood based and designed to prepare people for job readiness as they hone and develop literary skills, ESL programs and prepare for and complete GED programs.

**5. Yes. The following organizations assist start-up, minority and women-owned and income disadvantaged businesses:**

Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the City of Providence, 400 Westminster Street Providence RI 02003, Tel: 401-351-4300

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), Resources, incentives and opportunities for businesses in the State of Rhode Island. One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903, Tel: 401-222-2601 [www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA). Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment under the SBA 504 program. 155 South Main St., Providence RI 02903 (401) 454-4560

Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island. The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business. SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561 [www.sba.gov/ri/](http://www.sba.gov/ri/)

Rhode Island Small Business Development Center. This federal Small Business Administration-backed organization provides guidance, finance and consulting services for small businesses. 270 Weybossett St., 4th flr Providence RI Tel: 401-598-2704.

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce. Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. 39 Exchange Terrace, Providence RI 02903. Tel: 401-521-5000 [www.providencechamber.com](http://www.providencechamber.com)

The Center for Women & Enterprise. Provides women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership. 132 George M. Cohan Blvd, Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122 [www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

Minority Investment Development Corporation (MIDC) & the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment (RICMI). MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that can assist disadvantaged business enterprises with financial and consulting tools. 216 Weybosset Street, Providence RI 02903 Tel: (401) 351-2999 Fax: (401) 351-0990 [www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)

The Center for Design & Business. This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a small business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence. 169 Weybosset Street Providence RI 02903. Tel (401) 454-6108. [www.centerdesignbusiness.org](http://www.centerdesignbusiness.org)

Since 1992, Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) f/k/a Providence Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) has provided financial assistance to 382 businesses throughout the City of Providence. During this period, these loans, in the aggregate amount of \$44 million, provided the incentive for private investment of \$104 million. As a result of these loans, approximately 3,300 jobs were created, with 2,500 jobs being retained. Of the 382 businesses assisted, 116 were women-owned (30%) and 69 were minority-owned (18%).

Since 1992, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 36 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$17 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$4 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 4.25:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 226 jobs were created, with 284 jobs being retained. Of the 36 businesses assisted, 15 were women-owned businesses (41%) and 25 were minority-owned businesses (69%).

Over the past five (5) years, PEDP/PEDC assisted a total of 8 businesses located within the Port of Providence Enterprise Zone. These loans resulted in approximately \$1.4 million of private dollars being invested through the infusion of \$1.5 million of PEDP/PEDC loan funds; a 1:1 ratio of private dollars leveraged by public dollars. During this same period, through the assistance of these loans, approximately 49 jobs were created, with 40 jobs being retained. Of the 8 businesses assisted, 6 were women-owned businesses (75%) and 6 were minority-owned businesses (75%).

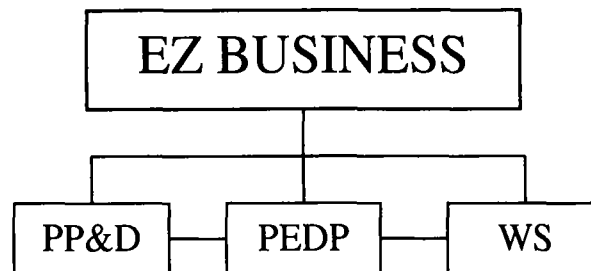
6. The Department coordinates with many agencies within the city and the region to insure assistance to all enterprise business. This close coordination of efforts allows for flow of information between organizations and then to enterprise zone businesses and when available, information on potential funding. Because of the small size of Rhode Island, this informal organization allows for support and the use of resources for the businesses and job growth.

#### **Part IV. The Management Plan and Initiatives**

1. Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director of the City of Providence Department of Planning and Development (DPD), has charged Ms. Kathy Cosentino, Assistant Director for Business Development of DPD, to currently administer all Enterprise Zone related activities. Ms. Cosentino's duties include but are not limited to: acting as the local point of contact for the program and providing program information, address verifications, and program materials to

potential business applicants and/or their accountants; verifying and processing all Enterprise Zone Program applications for admission and for annual year-end certifications; assisting member businesses to obtain their municipal Certificate of Good Standing for completion of the yearly certification process; providing state-wide member businesses with local address verifications for employees who reside in Providence in order for the business to qualify for the increased Enterprise Zone resident tax credit; attending all Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council meetings; maintaining all data relating to applications processed; businesses certified, jobs created and outstanding documentation in connection with year-end certification submissions; monitoring the status of existing zone designation terms; apprising executive level city management of any and all zone related issues.

2.



Three local organizations provide direct service to the business. There is also some cross-referral and information exchange between agencies.

DPD: Providence Department of Planning and Development – maintains maps and databases.

PEDP: Providence Economic Development Partnership – provides information to businesses regarding benefits of the EZ; technical and financial assistance to EZ businesses

WS: Workforce Solutions of Providence & Cranston – provides assistance with locating and training employees

3. PEDP tracks business name, address type of business and job creation for all businesses in the zone that enroll in the Enterprise Zone Program. The data is collected as the business register and re-qualify for the program. The total number of businesses in the zone, and the local tax revenue derived therefrom, are tracked by the Providence Tax Assessor's Office.

4. The zone is promoted one-on-one through meetings with businesses, business organizations and among professionals such as attorneys and accountants. Future plans to bolster the marketing effort include prominent placement on the DPD website, the PEDP website and the City of Providence website, and inclusion of zone information in business resource publications disseminated by PEDP.

5. The city has a series of tax stabilization programs that have been on the books for a number of years. The mayor has come to recognize that these programs are somewhat out dated and the availability of the programs is not advertised. As a result, the mayor is establishing a tax policy committee. The purpose of this committee is to create a clear and defined statement of the types of tax programs that exist, how one can take advantage of the program and what benefit the city

must receive in order to take advantage of the tax program. It is hoped that this policy can be presented to the city council in early 2007 for adoption. The program will include all aspects of the city's tax policy. This initiative is achievable as a result of amendments in state law in the 2006 legislative session that the city pursued.

## 6. Local Initiatives to Support Businesses

**Neighborhood Markets (NM)**, a *Main Street* based program, was developed by Mayor Cicilline to revitalize neighborhood commercial centers in partnership with local merchant associations. The program is designed to assist local merchants (typically with gross sales of under \$1 M) by providing access to lending capital, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements.

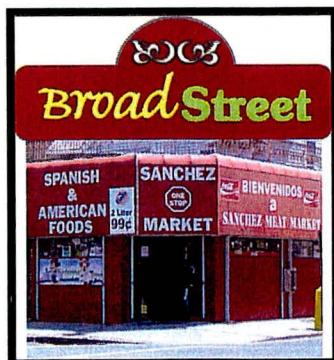
Using the *Main Street* four point approach - design, economic restructuring, promotion and organization - the City is work with existing and emerging merchant associations to identify projects and businesses most in need of assistance.



The *Main Street* initiative is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Eight neighborhoods were identified to participate as part of a concentrated 36-month phased program. (Because CDBG funding is being used all areas are low/mod eligible) It is understood that each of these neighborhoods have unique challenges and different levels of need. They are:

Upper Broad Street  
Lower Broad Street  
Olneyville Square  
Wickenden Street/Fox Point  
Chalkstone Avenue  
Atwells Avenue  
Charles Street/Hopkins Square  
Cranston Street



The first round of NM grants totaled \$150,000 for the program. The Upper/Lower Broad Street Neighborhood Market is a vibrant, thriving area that has been awarded a \$30,000 first round grant for tree guards, benches and trash receptacles that are being designed by the Greater Broad Street Merchants Association in conjunction with the Steelyard. In addition to the award of grant funds for street furniture, the City has planted 40 new trees on Broad Street and will bringing in trainers from the National Trust to conduct a *Main Street 101* seminar for all NM



participants. The NM website is slated to be rolled out in the fall of '06 with a specific home for each market which will highlight it's history, festivals, promotions and the merchant associations. A Mayor's ***Taste of the Neighborhood*** is scheduled for the Broad Street NM for the holiday season. (Taste of the Neighborhood is a promotion that highlights NM restaurants by inclusion on the city website and a mention in the enewsletter *City News* and a visit by the Mayor and staff for lunch or dinner.)

#### Financial Tools Available - Citywide

PEDP Micro Loan Program - small loans up to \$10,000

PEDP Revolving Loan Fund - commercial loans that average \$125,000

PEDP façade program - \$1,800 match grant for eligible improvements

#### Future Plans

Because this is a concentrated investment strategy it is estimated that investment in the streetscape in the eight areas take place for a minimum of up to 36 months while simultaneously assisting the merchants to develop their organizations around the Main Street Four Point approach.

Currently the program is staffed by DPD, PEDP and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

### **7. Workforce Development and Readiness**

#### **Please see Part III Question 3**

An important public service available to residents in the zone related to employment is Providence Connects. Providence Connects is an initiative developed by the City of Providence and its' Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to implement a 1985 City Ordinance known as First Source that requires businesses doing business in Providence that receive special tax considerations, receive grants-in-aid and/or are engaged in City construction projects to proactively consider hiring residents off a list maintained by the City of residents seeking employment. Providence Connects integrates First Source ordinance requirements with existing city resources aimed at helping more residents get jobs, connect with training resources, and introduce more jobs and opportunities to strengthen the City's economy. Providence Connects works with organizations that receive a benefit from the City such as grant funding or a Tax Stabilization Agreement to set goals related to hiring Providence residents, buying Providence, and/or contracting with Minority Based Enterprises and/or Women Based Enterprises. DPD also has a coordinator who connects residents to job opportunities and training programs. Providence Connects with a broad number of key partner agencies and Community Based Organizations to ensure that residents and businesses are in sync.

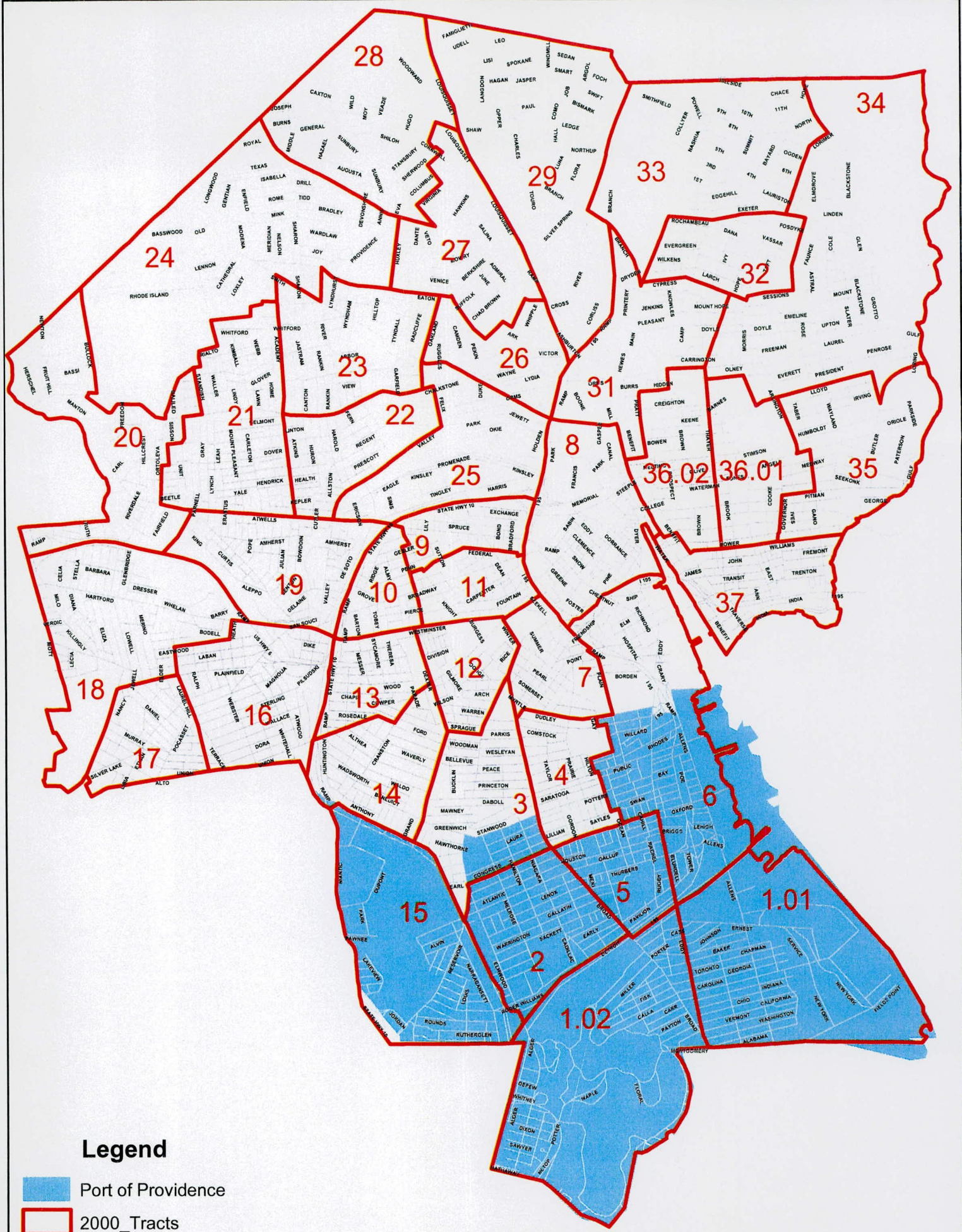


Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston's netWORKri one-stop center offers programs and services designed to train the current workforce and prepare the workforce of the future by providing a full range of workforce development services to job seekers including vocational testing, comprehensive assessment, case management, occupational skills training, job placement, labor market and labor exchange information and post employment services. Services to employers include tax credit assistance, wage subsidizes for On- The-Job-Training and training customized for the employer. All of these services are available and have been used by ProvPort EZ business.

## Exhibit 1

### Maps





## Legend



Port of Providence



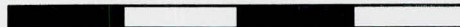
2000\_Tracts



City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 Feet







## Exhibit 2

List of Business Approved to PPEZ by Application Year

## 2003 PORT OF PROVIDENCE EZ APPLICANTS

Business	Address	Tract	Bench mark	Jobs Created	Type Bus
Radican Staffing, LLC	225 Chapman Street	1	0	0	Technical Staffing Co.
Ada's Creations, Inc.	1137 Broad Street	2	0		Bakery
Retina Consultants, Inc./Ophthalmology Assoc.	690 Eddy Street	6	30	4	Medical Services
Quality Spraying Technologies, Inc.	150 Park Lane	15	0	58	Manufacturing
Merrill Clark Incorporated	225 Chapman Street	1	11	0	Technology Consulting
The Stop and Shop Supermarket Co.	77 Reservoir Avenue	15	28	0	Supermarket & Pharmacy
Verizon New England, Inc.	288 Allens Avenue	6	123		Telecommunications
White Fuel Company	12 Hylestead Street	5	43	17	Heating oil/service
New England Picture Frame Co. (Romin Inc.)	845 Allens Avenue	1	0	2	Picture Frame & Art Gallery
Uncle Sam's Glass & Door, Inc.	90 Aldrich Street	1	6	10	Glass & Door Repair
10			241	91	

# 2004 PORT OF PROVIDENCE EZ APPLICANTS

Business	Address	Tract	Bench mark	Jobs Created	Type Bus
Quinlan Companies, Inc. (The)	125 ernest Street	1	34	0	Silver recovery equip, records mgm
Little Kids, Inc.	225 Chapman Street	1	11	1	Toy manufacturer
Superior Auto Body, Inc.	50 Cadillac Drive	2	4	0	Auto Body Repair
Park Lane Associates, Inc.	100 Niantic Avenue	15	165	18	Manu/Distributor consumer prod
Jammat Housing & Community Dev. Corp	700 Elmwood Avenue	2	0	0	Child care center, group homes
Ocean State Book Binding, Inc.	225 Dupont Drive	15	17	9	Book bindery
Sardelli International, LLC	195 DuPont Drive	15	136		Jewelry - Precious Metals
Rhode Island Cardiology Center, LLC	2 Dudley Street, Suite 360	6	0	17	Medical
8			367	45	

# 2005 PORT OF PROVIDENCE EZ APPLICANTS

Business	Address	Tract	Bench mark	Jobs Created	Type Bus
Teknastar, Inc.	145 Carolina Avenue	1	2	0	Manufacturing
Ocean State Job Lot/A&M Special Purchasing	361 Reservoir Avenue	15	26		Discount Store
Verizon Services Corp	288 Allens Avenue	6	1	0	Business Support Services
Verizon New England, inc.	1096 Broad Street	5	8	0	Telecommunications
The Roosevelt Investment Group	225 Chapman Street, 2nd Flr	1	1	0	Financial
Read & Lundy	225 Georgia Avenue	1	4	1	Industrial Supply Distributor
The Colibri Group, Inc.	100 Niantic Avenue	15	0	202	Manufacturer/Distributor
7			42	203	

# 2006 PORT OF PROVIDENCE EZ APPLICANTS

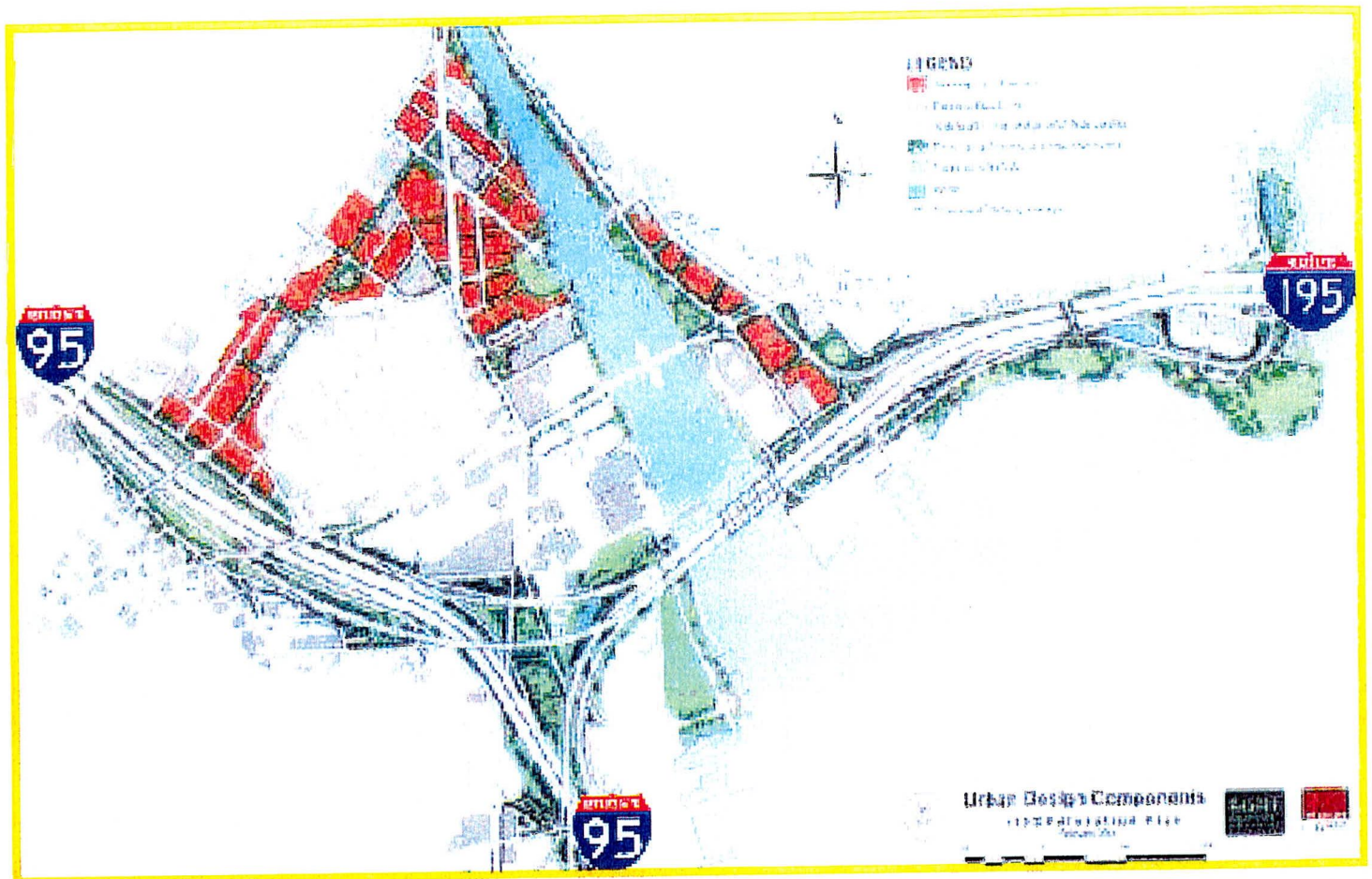
Business	Address	Tract	Bench mark	Proj. Incr	Jobs Created	Type Bus
Northeast Distributors	60 Shipyard Street	1	0	6	tbd	Manu & Distrib Bldg Supplies
RYLA Teleservices, Inc.	65 Pavilion Avenue	5	19	20	tbd	Contact Center
FarSounder, Inc.	95 Hathaway Street	2	5	1	tbd	Manufacturing
<hr/>		<hr/>				
3			24	27	tbd	

Exhibit 3

Projects in the ProvPort EZ



Downtown ○ Jewelry District



*Above: Rendering of new highway location and new development parcels created through the relocation*

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start:	2000	Location:	Existing: Between Downcity and the Jewelry District; Future: South of Point Street Bridge
Completion:	2012	Project Description:	Relocation of Interstate 195 as it passes through Providence and redesign of the I-195/I-95 interchange. The new highway will be located south of the Point Street Bridge, along the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier.
Investment:	\$525 Million		
Developer:	Rhode Island Dept. of Transportation (Providence, Rhode Island) www.dot.state.ri.us		The existing bridge and highway structure will be demolished upon completion of the new highway, freeing up approximately 40 acres of property for redevelopment.
Contact Person:	Lombri Zerva 401.222.2023 lzerva@dot.state.ri.us		Current proposals would retain the piers from the old bridge to use as a base for a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge.



# Bomes Theater

Elmwood

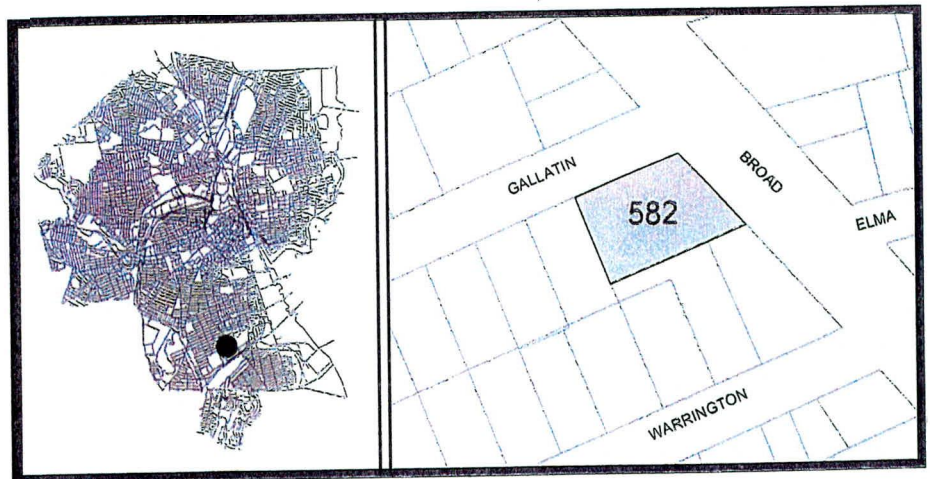
Figure II-1  
Conceptual Broad Street Elevation  
Bomes Theater



Above: Rendering of proposed renovation

Above Right: Photograph of Site

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Fall 2005

Location:

1017 Broad Street

Completion: Fall 2006

Project Description:

Renovation and revitalization of former Bomes Theater. The Providence Redevelopment Agency will issuing a Request for Proposals from developers for the site. It is expected that redevelopment of the site will be a public/private partnership.

Investment: \$2 Million

Developer: Providence Redevelopment Agency/TBD  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.providenceri.com](http://www.providenceri.com)

Contact Person: Amintha Cinotti  
401.351.4300  
[acinotti@providenceri.com](mailto:acinotti@providenceri.com)





# 1040 Broad

Lower South Providence



Above: Rendering of proposed development

Above right: Photograph of site

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start:	Spring 2006	Location:	1040 Broad Street
Completion:	Spring 2007	Project Description:	Construction of a mixed use building, including three residential condominiums and four commercial condominiums.
Investment:	\$2.3 Million		
Developer:	Dash Development (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Julian Dash 401.954.6837		





# Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex

Lower South Providence



Above: Photograph of new school

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start:	Winter 2002	Location:	Thurbers Avenue
Completion:	Fall 2003	Project Description:	Construction of a new educational campus housing two public high schools: the Health, Science and Technology Academy and the Providence Academy of International Studies.
Investment:	\$11 Million		
Developer:	City of Providence (Providence, Rhode Island) <a href="http://www.providenceri.com">www.providenceri.com</a>		
Contact Person:	Alan Sepe 401.421.7740 <a href="mailto:asepe@providenceri.com">asepe@providenceri.com</a>		



# Meeting Street School

Lower South Providence



Above: Elevation Rendering

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Spring 2005

Location: 982 Eddy Street

Completion: Fall 2006

- Project Description:
- Construction of a new campus for the Meeting Street School, a private school providing education and therapy to students with disabilities.
  - The campus will include elementary, middle and high school components.
  - New athletic fields that will be available for public use are also being constructed as part of the project.
  - The school is relocating from its current location in East Providence.

Investment: \$20 Million

Developer: Meeting Street School  
(East Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.meetingstreet.org](http://www.meetingstreet.org)

Contact Person: John Kelly  
401.438.9500  
[info@meetingstreet.org](mailto:info@meetingstreet.org)





# Providence Community Health Center

Lower South Providence



Above: Development Site

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Summer 2005

Location: 375 Allens Avenue

Completion: Spring 2006

**Project Description:** The new health center will replace the current Fox Point Health Center. The new facility will be 12,000 square feet, accommodate 10,000 patients, and increase exam rooms from 6 to 14.

Investment: \$4 Million

**Developer:** Providence Community Health Centers  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.providencechc.com](http://www.providencechc.com)

**Contact Person:** Merrill Thomas  
401.444.0400  
[mthomas@providencechc.org](mailto:mthomas@providencechc.org)





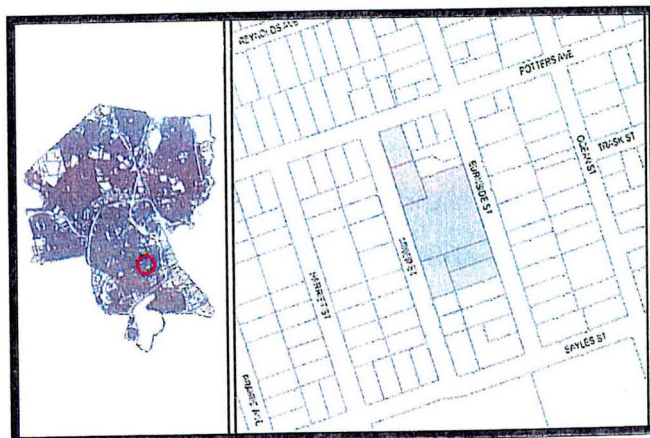
# Salvation Army Daycare

Lower South Providence



Above: Master Plan and rendering of proposed development

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

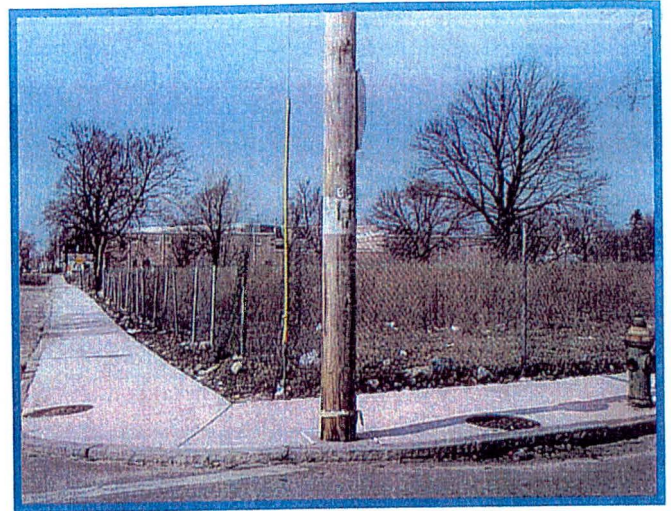
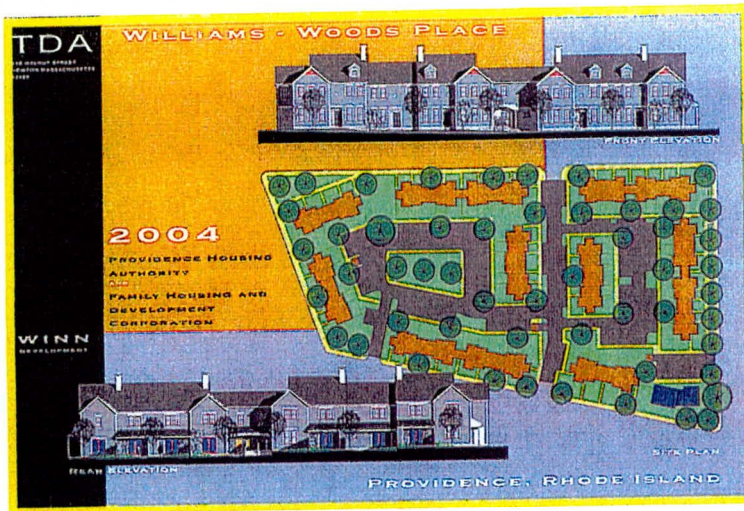
Start:	Fall, 2004	Location:	Burnside Street at Potters Avenue
Completion:	Winter, 2005	Project Description:	Construction of an 18,000 sq. ft. daycare facility.
Investment:	\$4 Million		
Developer:	Salvation Army (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Major Robert Pfeiffer 401.421-0956		





# Williams Woods

Lower South Providence



Above: Master Plan and rendering of proposed development

Above right: Photograph of site

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

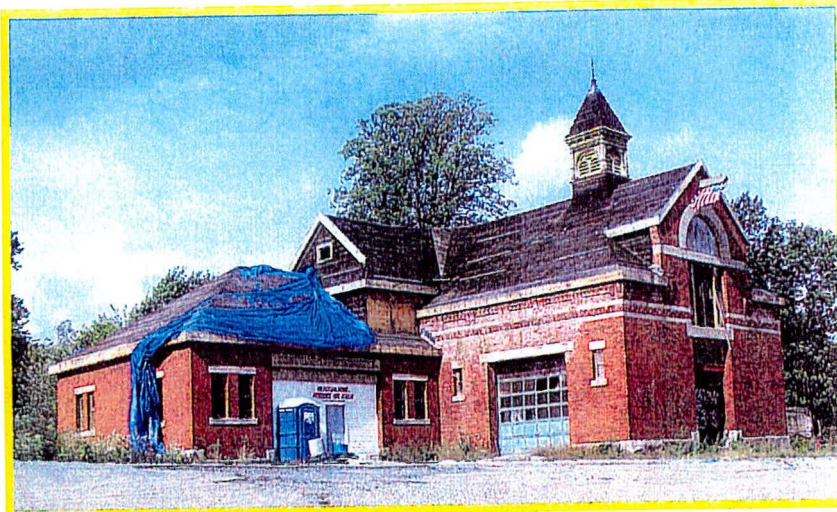
Start:	Spring 2006	Location:	Pavilion Avenue and Rugby Street
Completion:	Fall 2007	Project Description:	Construction of 65 new units of affordable housing south of the Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex.
Investment:	\$14 Million		
Developer:	Providence Housing Authority/ Family Housing Development Corp/WINN Development (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Chris Starr 617.742.4500		





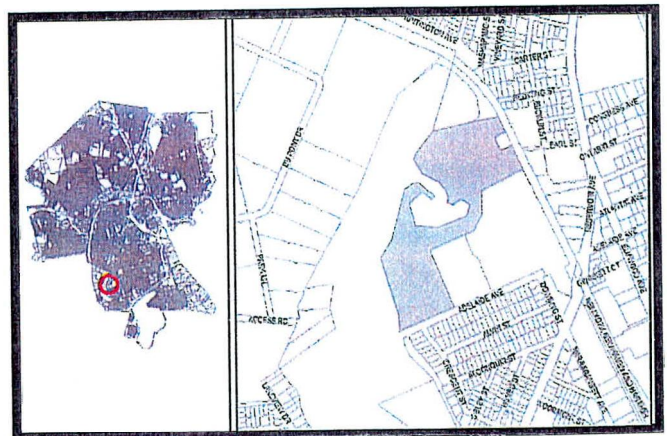
# Firefighter's Museum

Reservoir



Above: Photograph of site

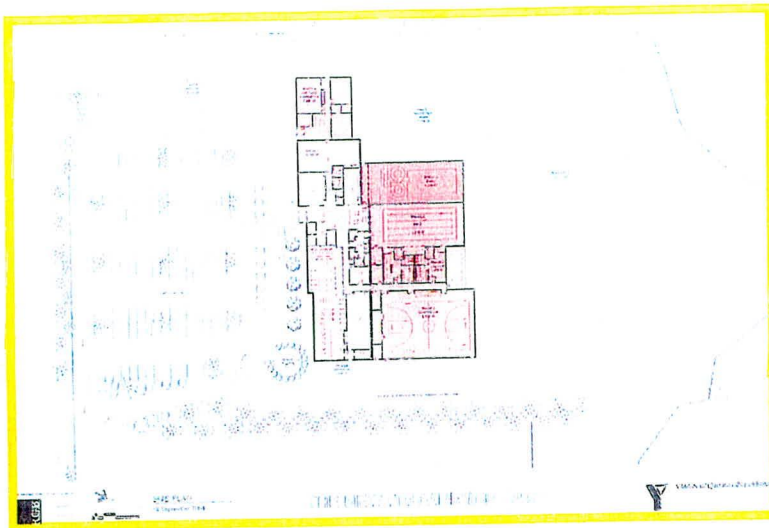
Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start:	2003	Location:	425 Adelaide Avenue
Completion:	2006	Project Description:	Restoration of Gorham Carriage House into the Providence Fire Museum.
Investment:	\$1 million		
Developer:	Providence Firefighter Historical Association (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Steve Triedman 401.524.3006		

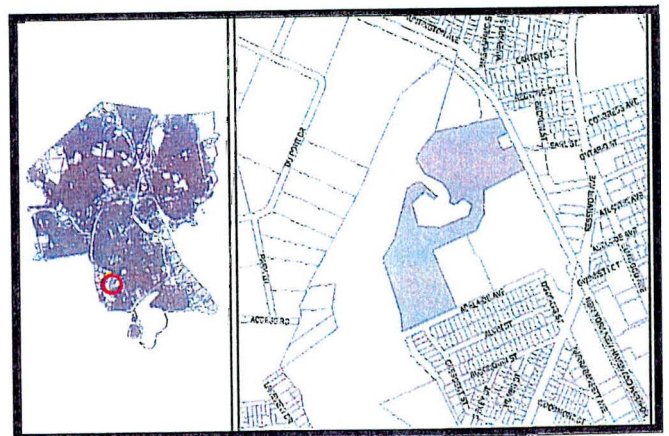




Above: Rendering of proposed renovation

Above Right: Photograph of site

Right: Location Map



### PROJECT INFORMATION

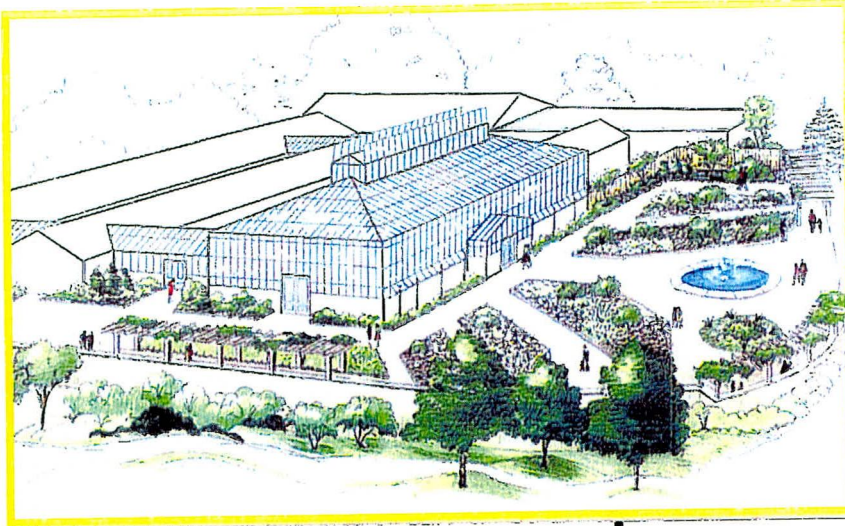
Start:	Spring 2006	Location:	Adelaide Avenue
Completion:	Spring 2007	Project Description:	This 17 acre site will be developed into a 38,000 sq. ft. YMCA. Also proposed for future development is a recreational summer camp and a community building.
Investment:	\$10 million		
Developer:	YMCA of Greater Providence (Providence, Rhode Island) <a href="http://www.ymcagreaterprovidence.org">www.ymcagreaterprovidence.org</a>		
Contact Person:	Susan Rittscher, President and CEO 401.521.9622		





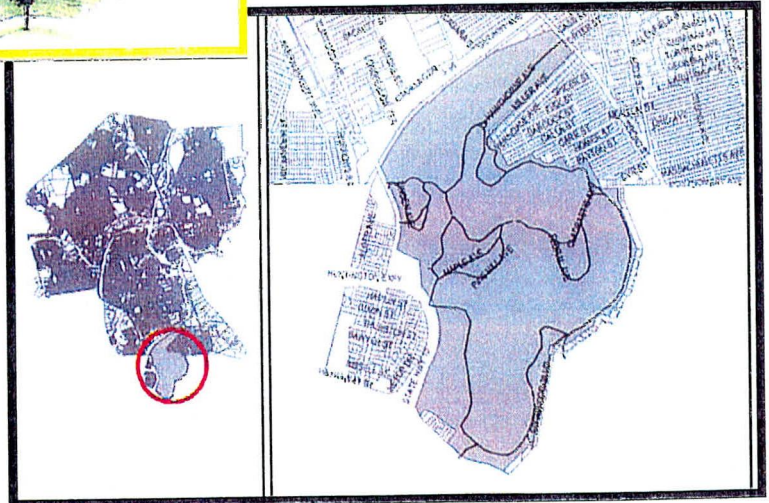
# Roger Williams Park o Botanical Center

South Elmwood



Above: Rendering of proposed building

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Fall 2005

Location:

Roger Williams Park

Completion: Spring 2007

Project Description:

The existing Charles H. Smith Greenhouses have provided park visitors with floral displays since 1964. While retaining the existing greenhouses, the new Botanical Center will substantially enlarge the visitor experience and offer hands-on horticultural education programs.

Investment: \$6.5 Million

Developer: Providence Parks Department  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org](http://www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org)

A major feature of the new complex will be a conservatory to complement the renovated greenhouses and which will provide year-round enjoyment. Acres of new seasonal gardens will be planted and a new education center will provide space for Rhode Islanders to enjoy both popular and professional horticultural programs.

Contact Person: Alix Ogden  
401.785.9450  
[aogden@providenceri.com](mailto:aogden@providenceri.com)

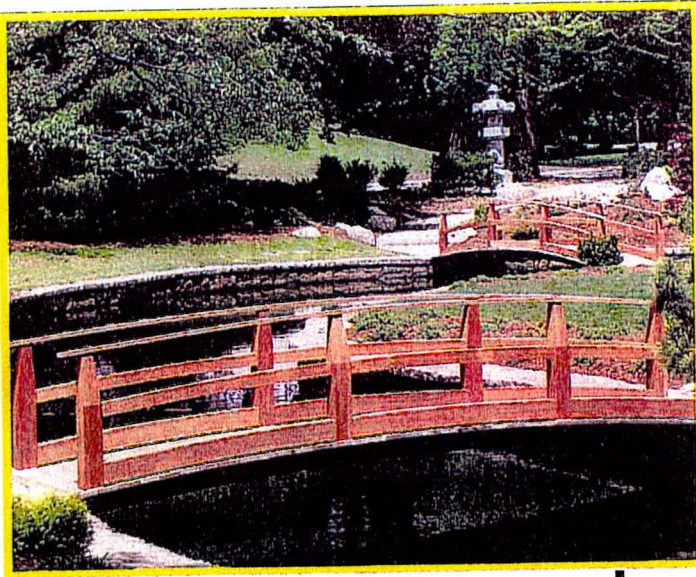


City of Providence o Mayor David N. Cicilline  
October 2005



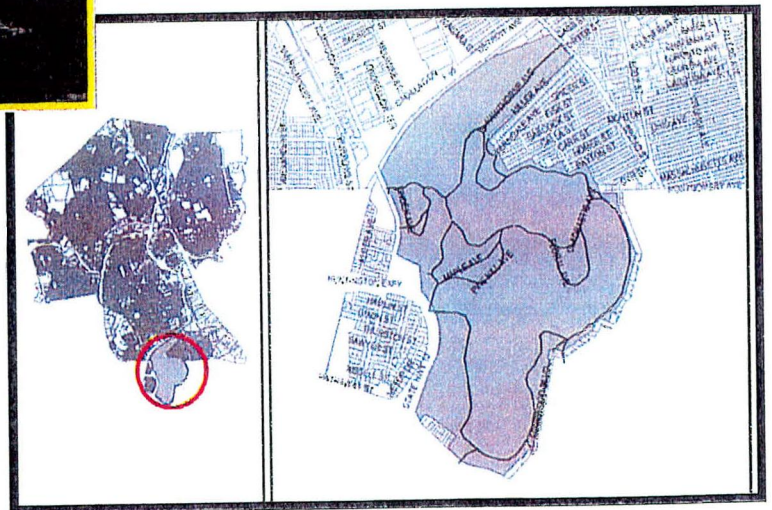
# Roger Williams Park ○ Japanese Garden

South Elmwood



Above: Japanese Garden after renovations

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Fall 2003

Location:

Roger Williams Park

Completion: Spring 2005

Project Description:

The historic 1935 Japanese Garden was completely renovated with funding from the Quinque Foundation. The renovation was designed to preserve historic features, to improve the original Japanese aesthetic, and to improve visitor safety.

Investment: \$0.5 Million

Developer: Providence Parks Department  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org](http://www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org)

The garden's waterways were cleaned up and new wood bridges with railings were constructed over the water. Hundreds of new plantings were planted, boulders moved, and entrances enhanced. An 11-foot Japanese stone lantern was restored and installed at one of the entrances.

Contact Person: Alix Ogden  
401.785.9450  
[aogden@providenceri.com](mailto:aogden@providenceri.com)

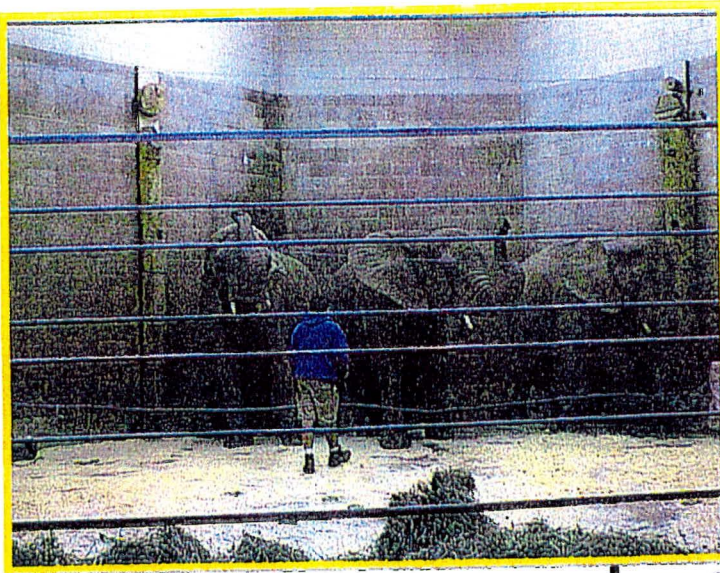


City of Providence ○ Mayor David N. Cicilline  
October 2005

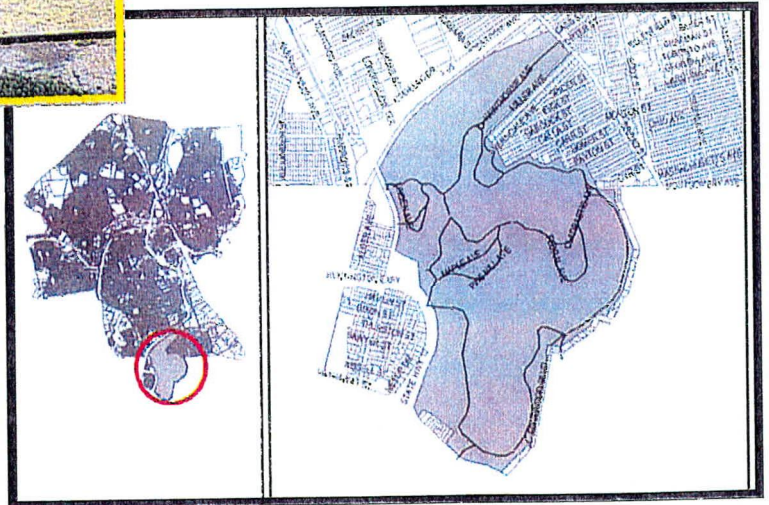


# Roger Williams Park Zoo ○ Elephant Exhibit

South Elmwood



Above: Existing elephant exhibit



Right: Location Map

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Fall 2005

Location:

Roger Williams Park Zoo

Completion: Spring 2007

Project Description:

For almost one hundred years, elephants have had center stage at the Roger Williams Park Zoo, the largest zoo in New England. In this project, the current elephant exhibit, which features three female elephants, will be expanded to allow room for breeding and the addition of more elephants.

Investment: \$5.5 Million

Developer: Providence Parks Department  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org](http://www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org)

The elephants will enjoy expanded holding quarters, zoo keepers will benefit from new safety features, and zoo visitors will enjoy a spectacular new enlarged exhibit area.

Contact Person: Alix Ogden  
401.785.9450  
[aogden@providenceri.com](mailto:aogden@providenceri.com)

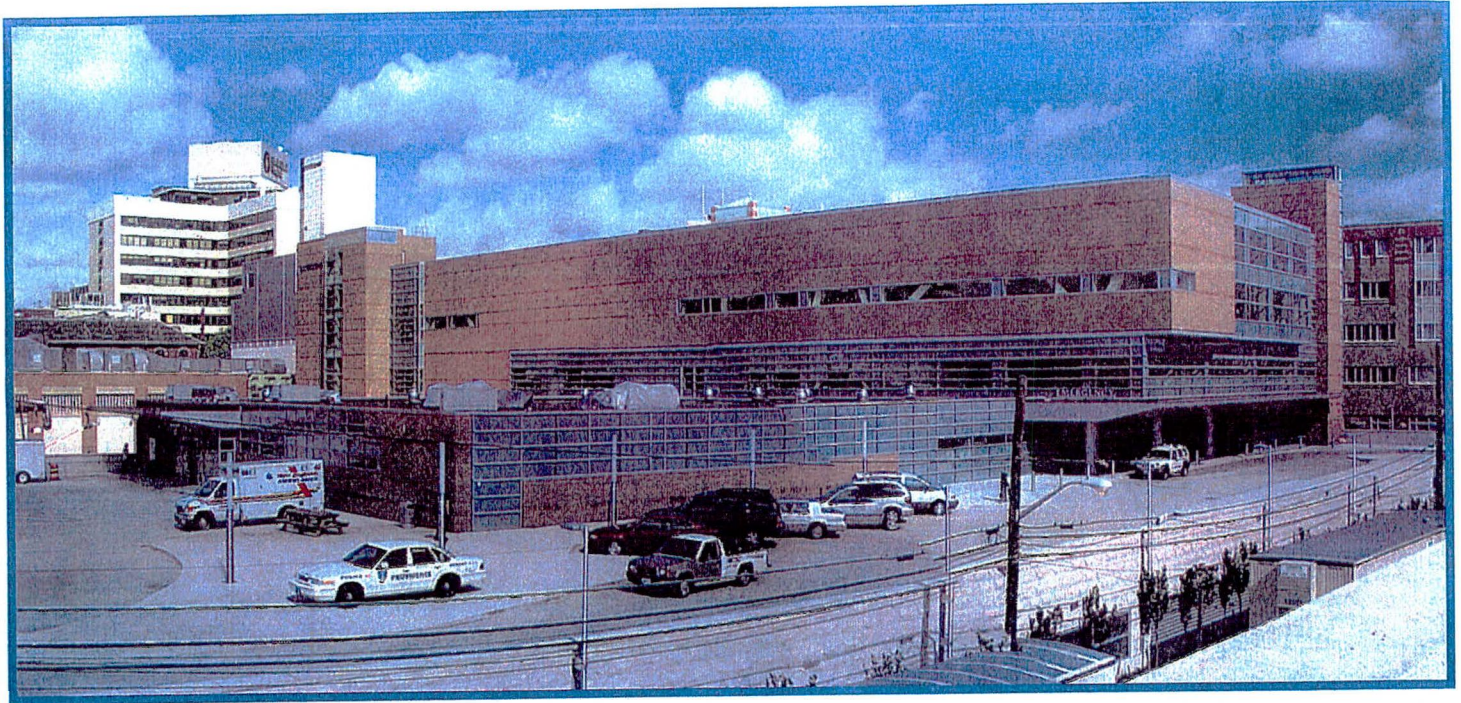


City of Providence ○ Mayor David N. Cicilline  
October 2005



# Rhode Island Hospital

Upper South Providence



Above: Photograph of project

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

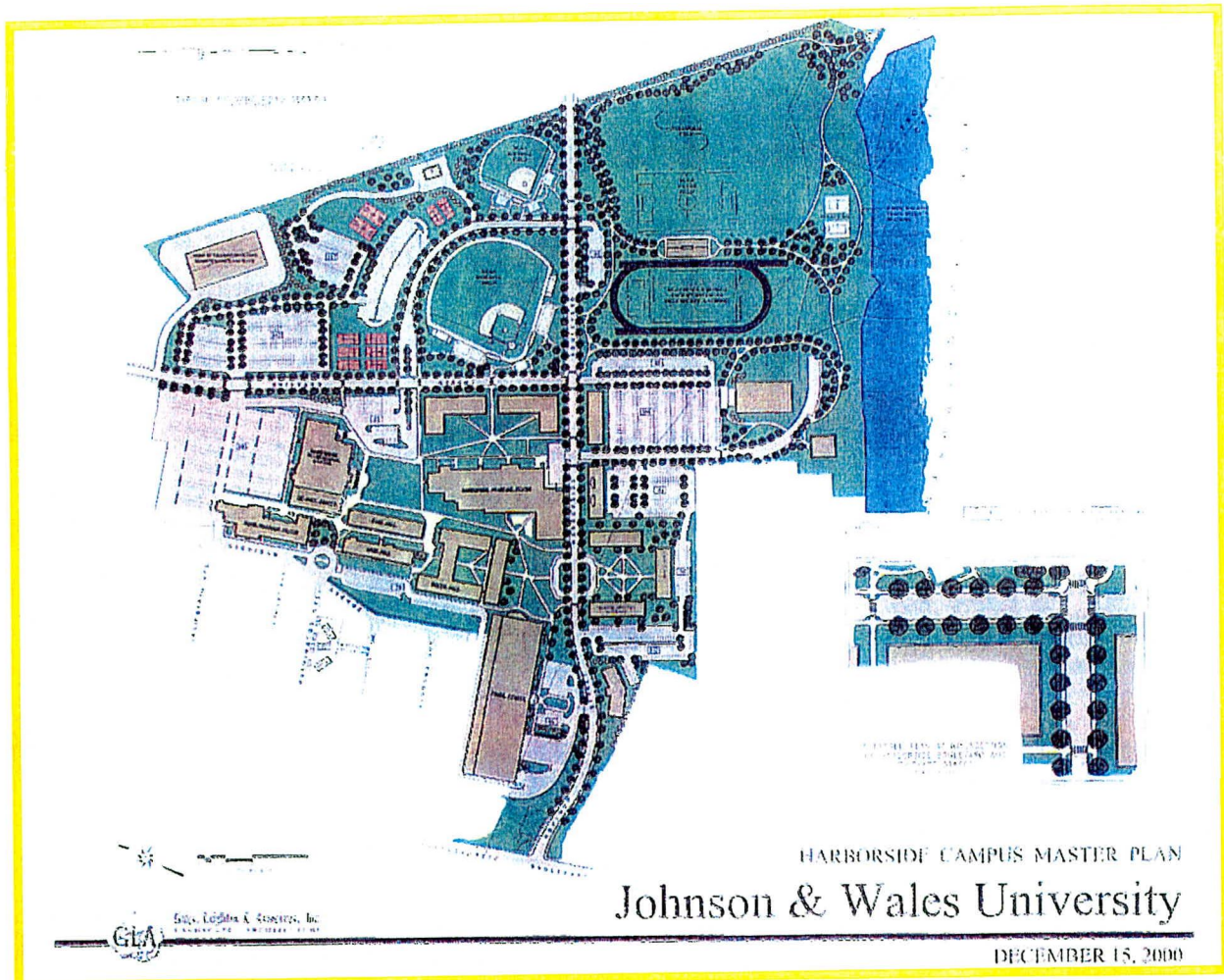
Start:	Fall 2003	Location:	Eddy Street
Completion:	Spring 2006	Project Description:	New Emergency Center and parking garage that will accommodate 150,000 patients per year and be approximately 51,000 square feet. Other improvements to the hospital include a new parking deck, Comprehensive Cancer Center, an Endoscopy Center, and an orthopedic research lab.
Investment:	\$81.5 million		
Developer:	Rhode Island Hospital (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Cynthia Blondin 401.444.3633 cblondin@lifespan.org		





# Johnson & Wales University ○ Harborside Campus

Washington Park



## PROJECT INFORMATION

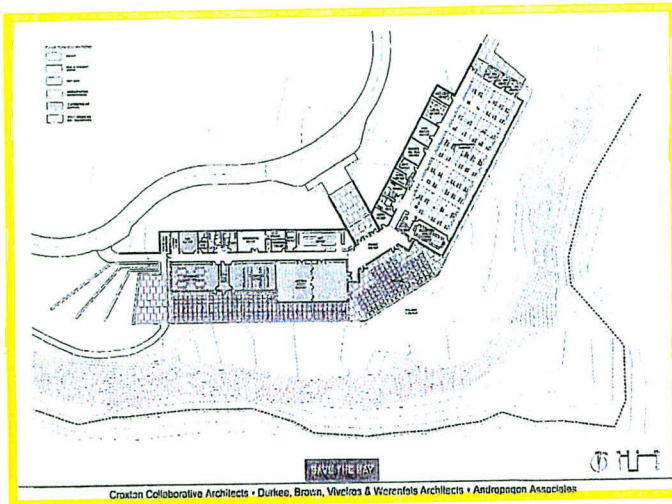
Start:	2001	Location:	Harborside Drive
Completion:	2008	Project Description:	Expansion of the Harborside campus from 20 acres to 106 acres on former industrial land. The expansion includes ballfields, jogging trails, intramural fields, four residence halls, bookstore, recreation & athletics center, open space, the College of Culinary Arts, and the Culinary Archives & Museum.
Investment:	\$7.5 Million		
Developer:	Johnson & Wales University (Providence, Rhode Island) <a href="http://www.jwu.edu">www.jwu.edu</a>		Some of this land was designated as Brownfield sites and have been under active remediation efforts over the past year. In total, the University will have invested over \$5 million to restore the land for active use.
Contact Person:	Christopher Placco, Facilities 401.598.4700		





# Save the Bay

## Washington Park



Above: Site Plan of New facility

Above Right: Photograph of New Facility

Right: Location Map



### PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: 2002

Location:

Harborside Drive/Sunshine Island

Completion: 2005

Project Description:

Construction of new 18,000 square foot educational center focusing on Narragansett Bay and the marine environment. The 6.5-acre site was formerly industrial property and required significant environmental remediation prior to the construction of the new facility. The project is a winner of a 2005 Phoenix Award for Excellence in Brownfield Redevelopment.

Investment: \$7 Million

Developer: Save the Bay Foundation  
(Providence, Rhode Island)  
[www.savethebay.org](http://www.savethebay.org)

Contact Person: John Martin, Director of  
Marketing and Communications  
401.272.3540 x131

The building and site boast many energy-saving features, such as a green roof, water-saving appliances, stormwater swales, solar panels, and a permeable parking surface.



Exhibit 4

Housing Development in the EZ



# 358 Potters Avenue

Elmwood



Above: 358 Potters Avenue

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion: 2006

Location: 358 Potters Avenue

Investment: \$280,000

Project Description: 2 units in a newly constructed owner occupied two-family house. The home will provide quality housing for a homeowner under 80% AMI and a tenant under 60% AMI.

Contact Person: SWAP  
Carla DeStefano, Executive  
Director  
439 Pine Street  
Providence, RI 02907



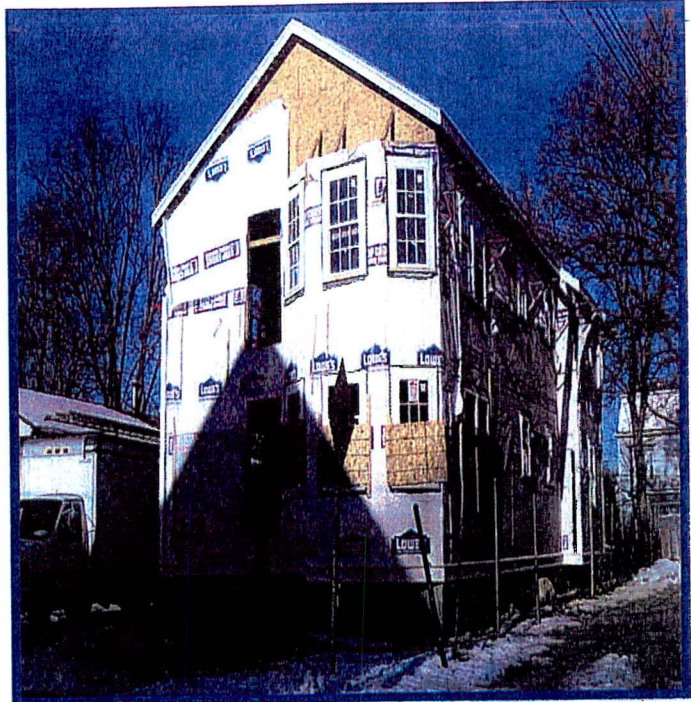


# 101 Mitchell Street

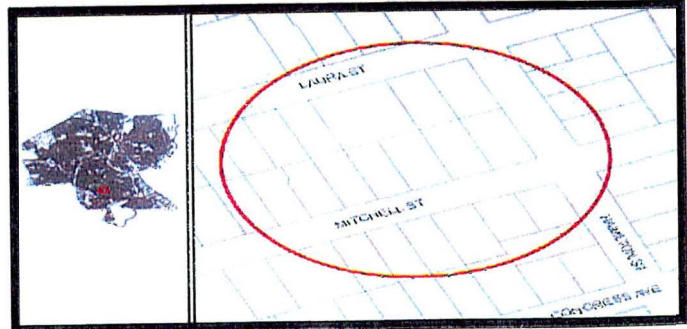
Elmwood



Above: Before Renovation



Above Right: After Renovation



Right: Location Map

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion: 2006

Location: 101 Mitchell Street

Investment: \$270,000

Project Description: 2 affordable units. Newly constructed two-family house. The new home will provide quality housing for a homeowner under 80% AMI and a rental unit for a tenant under 60% AMI.

Contact Person: Elmwood Foundation  
Susan Mark, Executive Director  
693 Broad Street  
Providence, RI 02907





# 32 Sumter Street

Elmwood

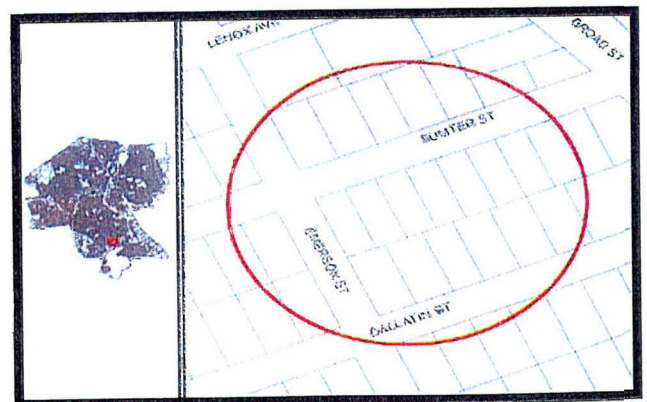


Above: Before Renovation



Above Right: After Renovation

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion: 2005

Location: 32 Sumter Street

Investment: \$205,000

Project Description: 1 affordable unit. Rehabilitation of an existing sub-standard single family house. The rehabilitated home provides quality housing for a homeowner under 80% AMI.

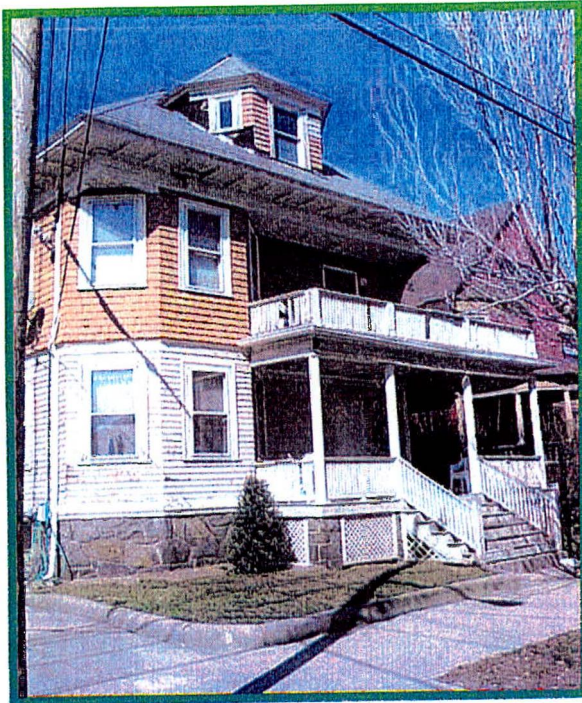
Contact Person: Elmwood Foundation  
Susan Mark, Executive Director  
693 Broad Street  
Providence, RI 02907



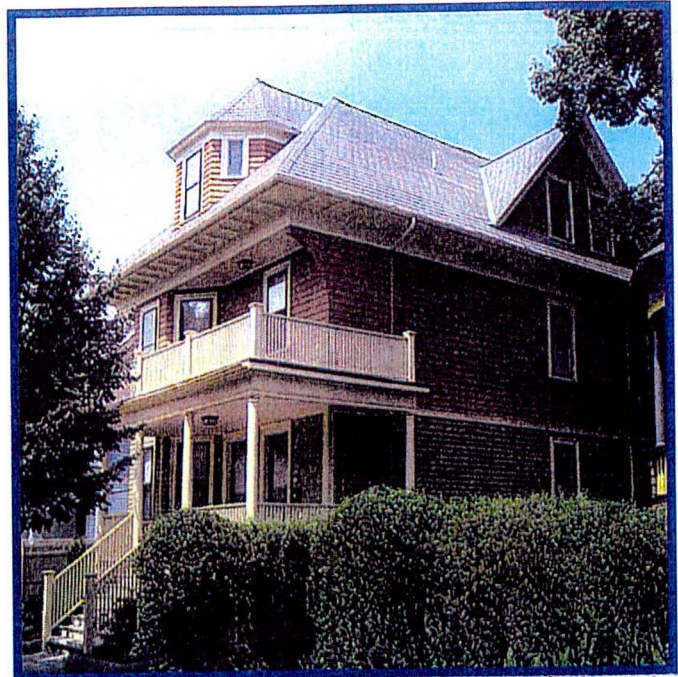


# 89 Adelaide Avenue

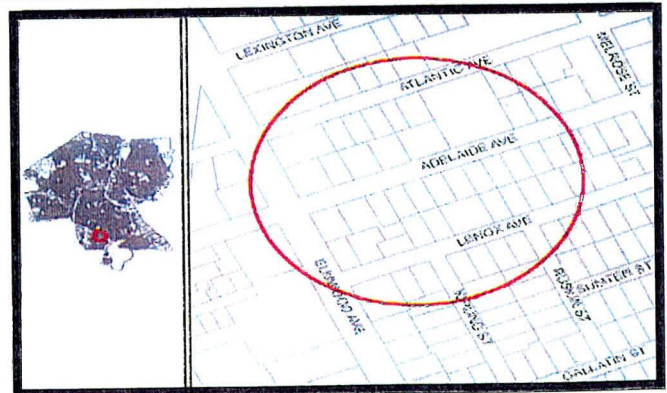
Elmwood



Above: Before Renovation



Above Right: After Renovation



Right: Location Map

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion: 2004

Location: 89, 136, 198, 200, 238 Adelaide Avenue

Investment: \$2,200,000

**Project Description:** 11 affordable units. An historic rehabilitation of 5 historic houses or homeownership, 4 multi-family homes and 1 single-family house. The project was undertaken in conjunction with the historic 38 unit affordable rental project in the same Adelaide Avenue area. The rehabilitated historic homes provide quality housing for homeowners under 80% of area median income. The rental units are for tenants under 60% AMI.

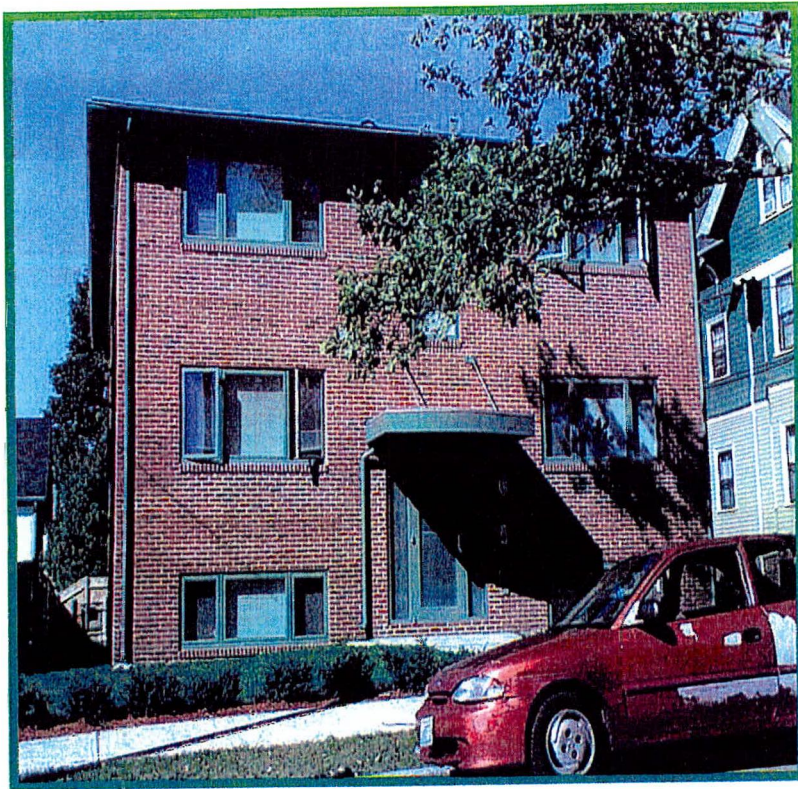
**Contact Person:** GENS  
Cynthia Langlykke  
Executive Director  
36 Parkis Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907





# 119 Adelaide Avenue

Elmwood



Above: After Renovation

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion:	2005	Location:	Adelaide Avenue between Elmwood Avenue and Broad Street.
Investment:	\$3,900,000	Project Description:	An historic rehabilitation of 38 low and moderate rental units in existing buildings. GENS led a collaboration of Elmwood Foundation and the PPS Revolving Fund in one of the largest such residential historic rehabilitation projects in the City. All units are rented to tenants under 60% AMI.
Contact Person:	GENS Cynthia Langlyke Executive Director 36 Parkis Avenue Providence, RI 02907		





# Potters Avenue Area Revitalization-Phase 1

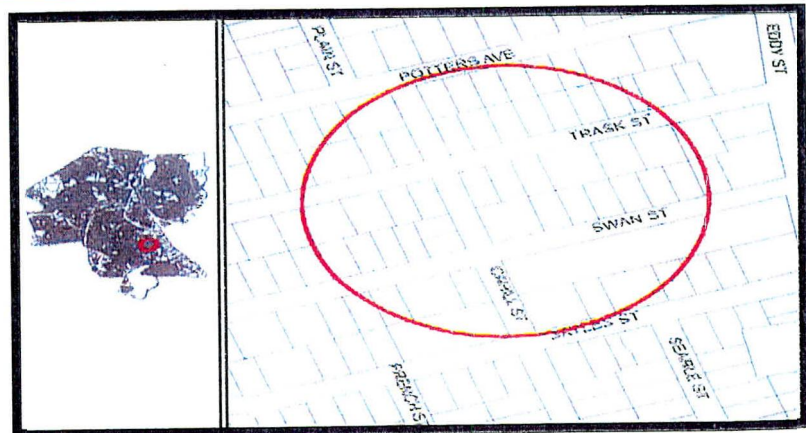
Lower South Providence



Top: Ocean Avenue

Above: Salisbury

Right: Location Map



## PROJECT INFORMATION

Completion: 2005

Location:

Ocean, Potters, Plain, Salisbury, Saratoga, and Swan

Investment: \$7,300,000

Project Description:

37 affordable rental units for tenants under 60% AMI. Low Income Housing Tax Credit deal (LIHTC).

Contact Person: SWAP  
Carla DeStefano, Executive  
Director  
439 Pine Street  
Providence, RI 02907

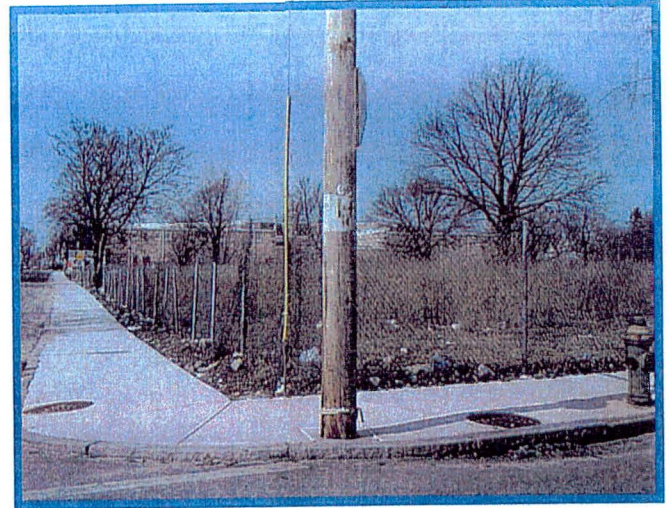
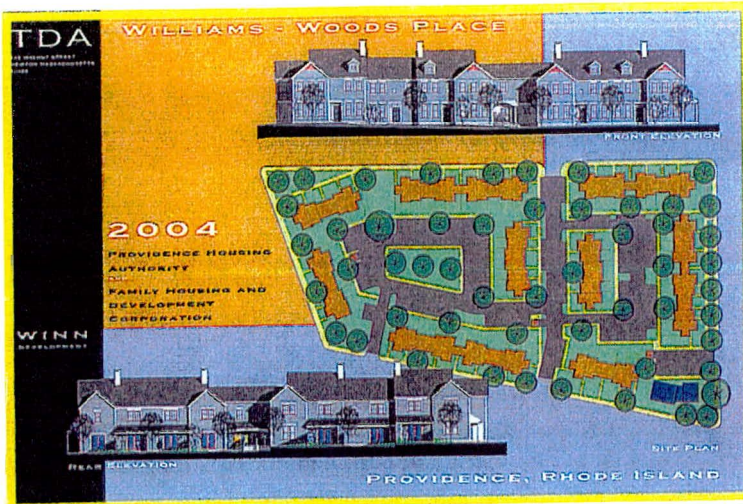


City of Providence ○ Mayor David N. Cicilline  
January 2006



# Williams Woods

## Lower South Providence



Above: Master Plan and rendering of proposed development

Above right: Photograph of site

Right: Location Map



### PROJECT INFORMATION

Start: Spring 2006

Location: Pavilion Avenue and Rugby Street

Completion: Fall 2007

Project Description: Construction of 65 new units of affordable housing south of the Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex.

Investment: \$14 Million

Developer: Providence Housing Authority/  
Family Housing Development  
Corp/WINN Development  
(Providence, Rhode Island)

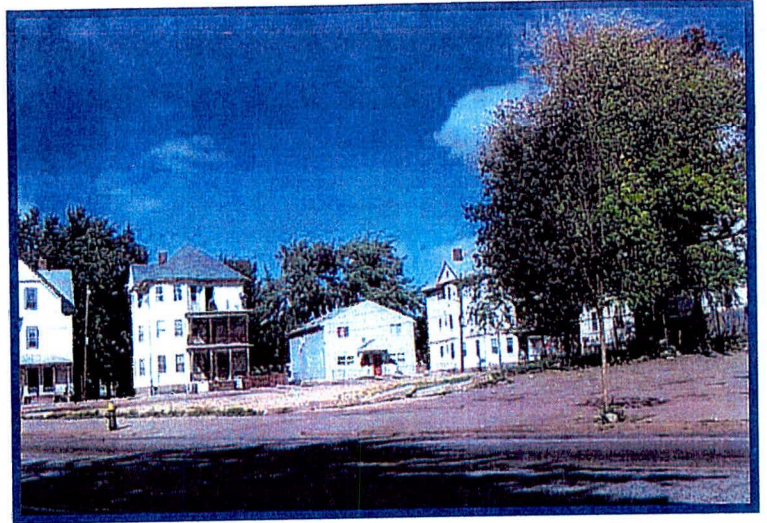
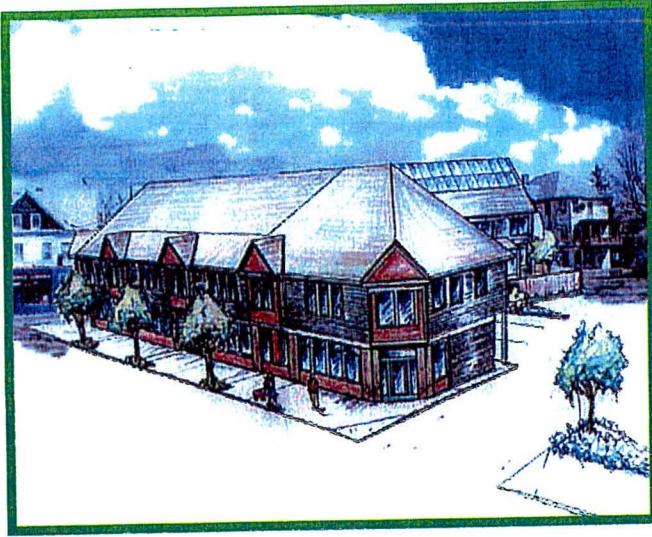
Contact Person: Chris Starr  
617.742.4500





# 1040 Broad

Lower South Providence



Above: Rendering of proposed development

Above right: Photograph of site

Right: Location Map

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Start:	Spring 2006	Location:	1040 Broad Street
Completion:	Spring 2007	Project Description:	Construction of a mixed use building, including three residential condominiums and four commercial condominiums.
Investment:	\$2.3 Million		
Developer:	Dash Development (Providence, Rhode Island)		
Contact Person:	Julian Dash 401.954.6837		



Exhibit 5

Websites -- City of Providence, PEDP and DPD

Welcome to Providence

Sept

[Home](#)[Departments](#)[Business Planning](#)[Taxes](#)[Neighborhood Profiles](#)[Contact](#)[City Home Page](#)

CITY DEPARTMENTS ONLINE: --- Select ---

MEETINGS

Providence  
Licenses Sep  
2006 01:0  
Launches B

Virtual Forms

online Small

Resource Ce

## Small Business Resource Pages

Welcome this new website section created to assist small business. We provide data and forms here in one location that are useful in starting or running a small business

### News and Events

April 4th, 2006

[PROVIDENCERI.COM CELEBRATES 10TH BIRTHDAY WITH REDESIGN CAPTURING THE SPIRIT OF TODAY'S PROVIDENCE](#)

### What Can We Help You Do?

- [Apply for a Business License](#)
- [Assumed Business Name Certificate](#)
- [Business Financing Options](#)
- [Check the Status of a Building Permit or Zoning Application](#)
- [Check Zoning Ordinance](#)
- [Download the Right Forms](#)
- [Find a Business Assistance Center](#)
- [Find the Right Permits](#)
- [Fire Related Code Information](#)
- [Locate City Departments](#)
- [Online Services and Forms](#)
- [Relocate to Providence](#)
- [Start a Business](#)
- [What is my Zoning?](#)

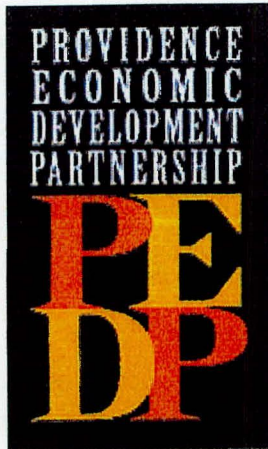


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economic development solutions

Mayor David N. Cicilline, Chairman

Donald C. Eversley, President

[PEDP Home Page](#)[Programs](#)[Business Development  
Toolbox](#)[About Us](#)[City Home Page](#)

### Welcome to *ProvidenceRI.biz*, the online home of the Providence Economic Development Partnership (PEDP)

The PEDP is a City-affiliated not-for-profit corporation and the prime economic development organization for the City of Providence.

The PEDP advises Mayor Cicilline on economic development strategy and provides technical assistance and commercial financial programs for businesses and development projects in Providence.

The PEDP offers a wide variety of economic development solutions for your business by working in close cooperation with the Department of Planning and Development, the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and other partners. By enhancing commercial and industrial development it also promotes job growth, economic opportunities, and quality of life in the City of Providence.

---

**City's Look Poised to Change Again, Says  
Wall Street Journal**



Providence is in the midst of a \$2.8 billion building boom that is will dramatically change the downtown cityscape. The upsurge in construction comes as the industrial and office sectors are improving, driven by job growth in the business services, health-care and educational sectors.  
[more]

**Contact Us!**

Providence Economic  
Development Partnership, Inc.

400 Westminster Street, 6th floor  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Tel: 401-351-4300 Fax: 401-351-9533

Donald C. Eversley, President - Ext. 604

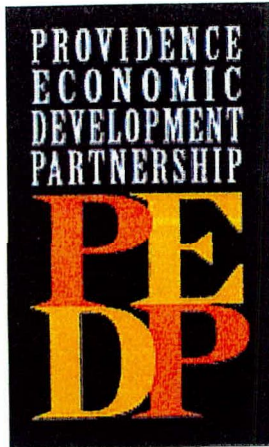
*Photo by Peter Goldberg*

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Donald C. Eversley, President

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## **PEDP Programs**

### **Technical Assistance**

PEDP provides assistance on a range of matters including site selection, workforce development & training, sourcing local customers and suppliers, access to government services, entrepreneurship skills, access to traditional and non-traditional finance and other areas of technical assistance.

These services are provided both directly and in partnership with the SBA/Small Business Development Center, Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, SCORE, ACCION and other organizations.



### **PEDP Revolving Loan Fund**

The RLF is a program is designed to encourage job creation and new investment in business ventures located in the City of Providence by providing below-market rate, short term loans for businesses or for projects that have difficulty obtaining conventional commercial financing. The target loan size is \$125,000 but larger amounts may be approved based upon the program criteria and the value of the project to local economy.

### **PEDP Micro Loan Program**

The Micro Loan Program was developed to provide access to capital for disadvantaged small businesses and help build a diverse economy in the City of Providence. Loans of between \$1,000 and \$10,000 are available for eligible borrowers. The target applicants are start-up and existing small businesses (5 full-time employees or less), and minority or women-owned businesses

### **PEDP Storefront Improvement Grant (Beginning November 2005)**

The Storefront Improvement Grant is a reimbursable matching grant for visible exterior improvements to retail locations throughout Providence. PEDP will provide grants of up to \$1800 to match the retailer's itemized investment in the project. Typical uses may include paint, signs, awnings, lights and plate glass.

### **Art & Culture Revolving Loan Fund**

The Art & Culture Revolving Loan Fund is a joint program of the PEDP and the City of Providence Department of Art, Culture and Tourism. The ACRLF provides short-term low interest loans of up to \$25,000 to arts organizations with established records of achievement and cash flow.

For more financing resources, please check our  
**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TOOLBOX**

**Contact Us!**

Providence Economic  
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400 Westminster Street, 6th floor  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
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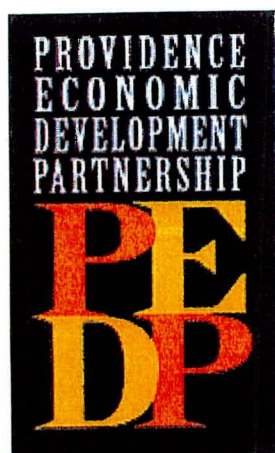


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## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TOOLBOX

### Local Resources

#### City of Providence

The official City website  
<http://www.providenceri.com>

#### Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC)

Information, incentives and opportunities  
for businesses in the State of Rhode  
Island.

#### Every Company Counts

RIEDC's small business division. can direct you to a wealth of business resources  
available within the state.

[www.everycompanycounts.com](http://www.everycompanycounts.com)

#### Finding a Job in Rhode Island

[www.jobsinri.com](http://www.jobsinri.com)

#### Rhode Island Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)

Professional assistance for individuals and businesses that sell (or are seeking) goods or services to the Department of Defense, other federal agencies, state and local governments. Tel (401) 222-2601, ext. 175 or .

[www.riptac.com](http://www.riptac.com)

#### RI Secretary of State – Business Fast Start

A collaboration of Rhode Island state agencies to improve the business registration process. The Master Application is a single point of entry for new businesses to obtain, submit and pay for state license and permit applications.

#### Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA)

Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equipment  
155 South Main St., Suite 301 , Providence , RI , 02903 (401) 454-4560

#### Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce





Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to prosper. Maintains a membership of 3,300 businesses representing all 39 cities in Rhode Island.

### **Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island**

The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business.

SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561,  
[www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

### **The Providence Plan**

A wealth of data on the City and multi-faceted programs to address urban development and poverty

<http://www.providenceplan.org/>

### **The Center for Design & Business**

This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence.

169 Weybosset Street Providence, RI 02903.

Tel: 401-454-6108

### **The Center for Design & Business The CDB Entrepreneurship Center**

### **Rhode Island Small Business Development Center**

SBA-backed organization provides guidance, training and consulting services for small businesses.

Johnson & Wales - RISBDC

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce

270 Weybosset street, 4th floor, Providence RI 02903

(401) 598-2704

[www.risbdc.org](http://www.risbdc.org)

### **Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)**

Providence chapter of a national organization that provides technical and consulting services by retired business people from a broad range of backgrounds

### **The Center for Women & Enterprise**

The Center for Women & Enterprise gives women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership

132 George M Cohan Blvd., Second floor, Providence RI 02903.

Phone (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122

[www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

### **Minority Investment Development Corporation and the Rhode Is Coalition for Minority Investment**

**MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that c disadvantages business enterprises with financial and consulting tools.**

**401-351-2999**

**[www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)**

### **Smaller Business Association of New England (SBANE)**

**A nonprofit organization established in 1938 to promote and protect sm businesses. Its 1000 member companies in six states range from sole-proprietorship service businesses and growing high technology firms to employee manufacturing plants.**

## **National Resources**

**U.S. Small Business Administration - official site of the national SB provides information about starting a small enterprise or expanding an business. Government aid, financing options, disaster assistance, regula and outside resources are all discussed on the site.**

### **Internal Revenue Service**

**Obtain Tax Identification Numbers online, download forms and more.**

**Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) - national website, in on-line advice and technical assistance for small business.**

**American Express Small Business Web Site - offers a variety of on business planning tools including a web site marketing workshop, infor. on writing a business plan and tips for managing your receivables and collections.**

**Bplans.com - thousands of pages of free sample plans, planning tools, expert advice to help you start and run your business. It includes start-up business plans, marketing and web development plans and financial too**

**CCH Business Owner's Toolkit - includes daily news updates and a guidebook with information on topics ranging from business plans, offi equipment and taxes, to developing an exit strategy for your business.**

**EntreWorld: Resources for Entrepreneurs - offers articles organize topics such as starting and running a small business, including business and hiring strategies. A glossary of over 700 business terms is also featu along with links to other small business resources.**

**Morebusiness.com - a reference center for information and advice on launching and running a small business, along with weekly news article tools such as a financial calculator, and templates for writing a business**

**and other business documents.**

**Contact Us!**

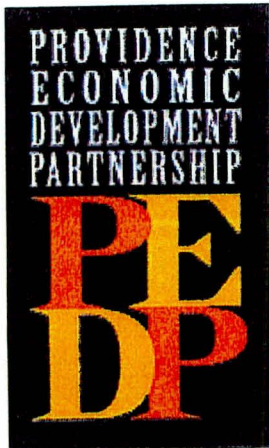
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Donald C. Eversley, President - Ext. 604

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## About Us

### PEDP Staff

- Donald Eversley, President
- Arthur Speaks, Loan Officer
- Kathy Consentino, Associate Director
- Chris Michailides, Economic Development Coordinator

### About the President

Don Eversley has extensive experience in economic development, public policy, entrepreneurship and not-for-profit work and law. He holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Afro-American Studies from Brown University.



### PEDP Board

David N. Cicilline, Mayor  
Daniel Baudouin  
Juana Horton  
Robbie Mann  
Constance Howes  
Kas DeCarvalho  
Joseph Caffey  
Michael Rollo  
Andy VanDam  
Barbara Sokoloff  
The Honorable Rita Williams

### PEDP Loan Committee

Mark Harriman  
Renee Bailey  
Freddy Nuñez  
Mark Feinstein  
Laura DiSano  
Manny Barros



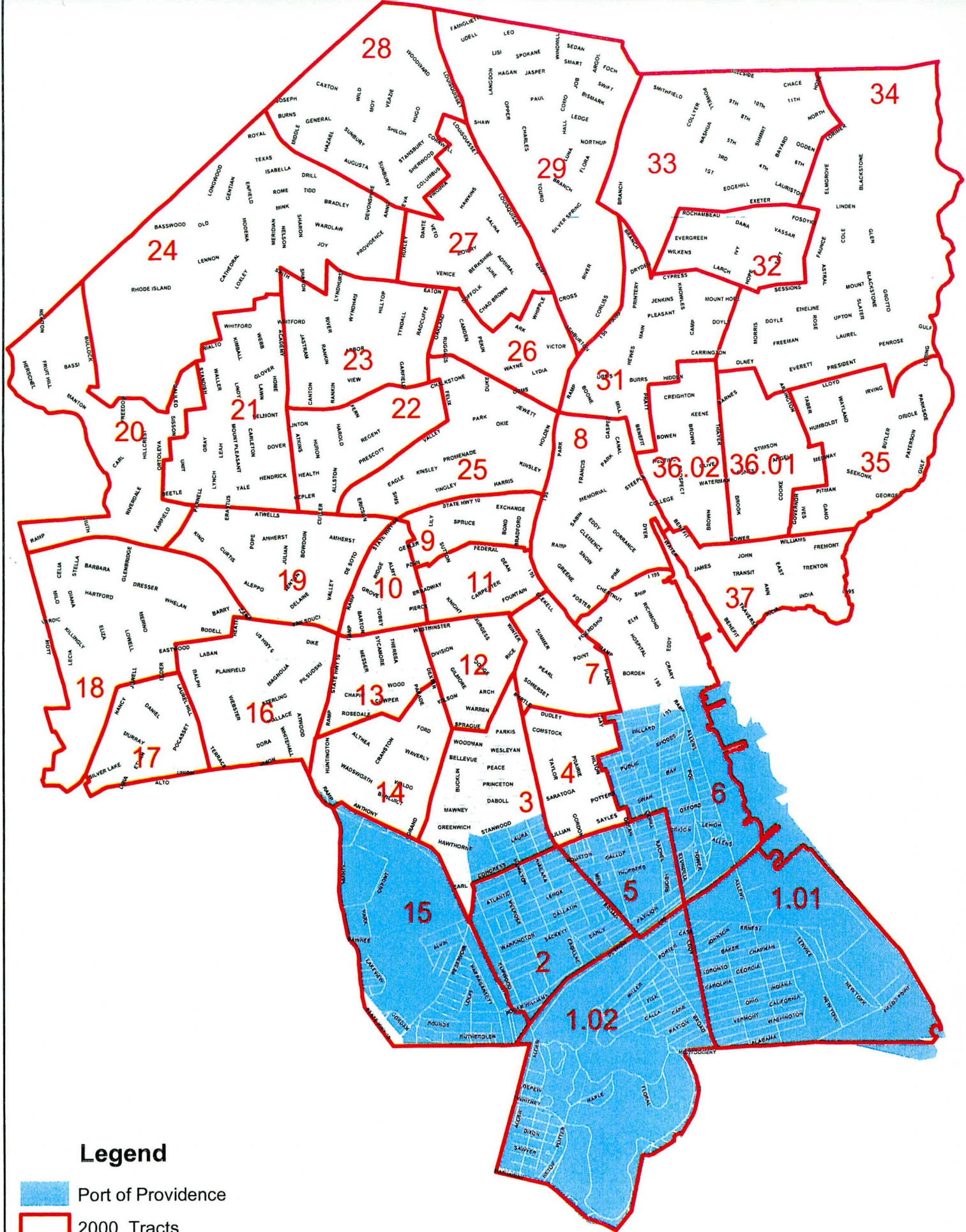
Judy Parisi

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City of Providence  
Department of Planning & Development

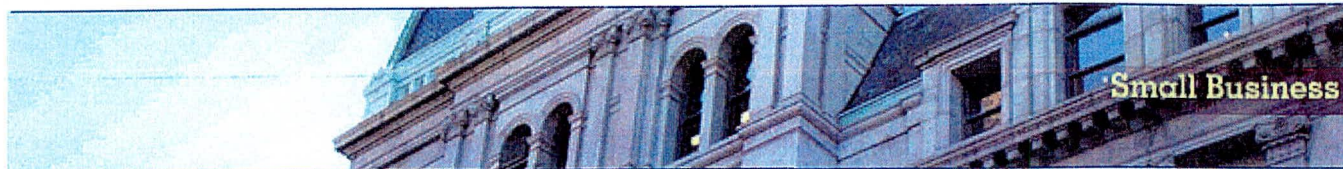
City of Providence  
Enterprise Zone





Welcome to Providence

Septe

[Home](#)[Departments](#)[Business Planning](#)[Taxes](#)[Neighborhood Profiles](#)[Contact](#)[City Home Page](#)

CITY DEPARTMENTS ONLINE: --- Select ---

MEETINGS

[Providence  
Licenses Sept  
2006 01:0  
Launches "B](#)[Virtual Prov](#)[online Small](#)[Resource Ce](#)

## Small Business Resource Pages

Welcome this new website section created to assist small business. We provide data and forms here in one location that are useful in starting or running a small business

### News and Events

April 4th, 2006

[PROVIDENCERI.COM CELEBRATES 10TH BIRTHDAY WITH REDESIGN CAPTURING THE SPIRIT OF TODAY'S PROVIDENCE](#)

### What Can We Help You Do?

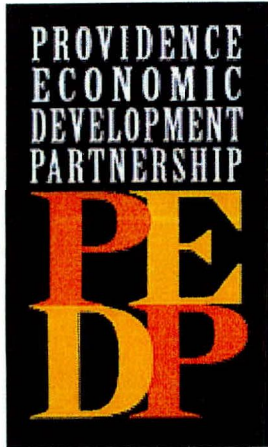
- [Apply for a Business License](#)
- [Assumed Business Name Certificate](#)
- [Business Financing Options](#)
- [Check the Status of a Building Permit or Zoning Application](#)
- [Check Zoning Ordinance](#)
- [Download the Right Forms](#)
- [Find a Business Assistance Center](#)
- [Find the Right Permits](#)
- [Fire Related Code Information](#)
- [Locate City Departments](#)
- [Online Services and Forms](#)
- [Relocate to Providence](#)
- [Start a Business](#)
- [What is my Zoning?](#)

**ProvidenceRI.biz**

economic development solutions

Mayor David N. Cicilline, Chairman

Donald C. Eversley, President

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### Welcome to *ProvidenceRI.biz*, the online home of the Providence Economic Development Partnership (PEDP)

The PEDP is a City-affiliated not-for-profit corporation and the prime economic development organization for the City of Providence.

The PEDP advises Mayor Cicilline on economic development strategy and provides technical assistance and commercial financial programs for businesses and development projects in Providence.

The PEDP offers a wide variety of economic development solutions for your business by working in close cooperation with the Department of Planning and Development, the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and other partners. By enhancing commercial and industrial development it also promotes job growth, economic opportunities, and quality of life in the City of Providence.

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**City's Look Poised to Change Again, Says  
Wall Street Journal**



Providence is in the midst of a \$2.8 billion building boom that is will dramatically change the downtown cityscape. The upsurge in construction comes as the industrial and office sectors are improving, driven by job growth in the business services, health-care and educational sectors.  
[more]

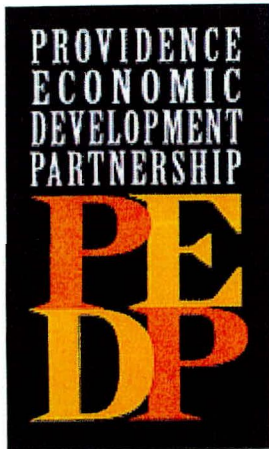
### **Contact Us!**

Providence Economic  
Development Partnership, Inc.

400 Westminster Street, 6th floor  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Tel: 401-351-4300 Fax: 401-351-9533

Donald C. Eversley, President - Ext. 604

*Photo by Peter Goldberg*

**Mayor David N. Cicilline, Chairman****Donald C. Eversley, President**[PEDP Home Page](#)[Programs](#)[Business Development  
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### **PEDP Programs**

#### **Technical Assistance**

PEDP provides assistance on a range of matters including site selection, workforce development & training, sourcing local customers and suppliers, access to government services, entrepreneurship skills, access to traditional and non-traditional finance and other areas of technical assistance.

These services are provided both directly and in partnership with the SBA/Small Business Development Center, Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, SCORE, ACCION and other organizations.



#### **PEDP Revolving Loan Fund**

The RLF is a program designed to encourage job creation and new investment in business ventures located in the City of Providence by providing below-market rate, short term loans for businesses or for projects that have difficulty obtaining conventional commercial financing. The target loan size is \$125,000 but larger amounts may be approved based upon the program criteria and the value of the project to local economy.

#### **PEDP Micro Loan Program**

The Micro Loan Program was developed to provide access to capital for disadvantaged small businesses and help build a diverse economy in the City of Providence. Loans of between \$1,000 and \$10,000 are available for eligible borrowers. The target applicants are start-up and existing small businesses (5 full-time employees or less), and minority or women-owned businesses.

#### **PEDP Storefront Improvement Grant (Beginning November 2005)**

The Storefront Improvement Grant is a reimbursable matching grant for visible exterior improvements to retail locations throughout Providence. PEDP will provide grants of up to \$1800 to match the retailer's itemized investment in the project. Typical uses may include paint, signs, awnings, lights and plate glass.

#### **Art & Culture Revolving Loan Fund**

The Art & Culture Revolving Loan Fund is a joint program of the PEDP and the City of Providence Department of Art, Culture and Tourism. The ACRLF provides short-term low interest loans of up to \$25,000 to arts organizations with established records of achievement and cash flow.

For more financing resources, please check our  
**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TOOLBOX**

**Contact Us!**

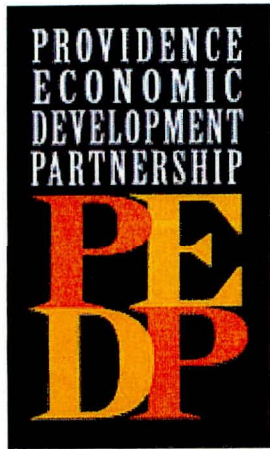
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## **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TOOLBOX**

### **Local Resources**

#### **City of Providence**

The official City website

<http://www.providenceri.com>

#### **Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC)**

Information, incentives and opportunities  
for businesses in the State of Rhode  
Island.

#### **Every Company Counts**

RIEDC's small business division. can direct you to a wealth of business res  
available within the state.[www.everycompanycounts.com](http://www.everycompanycounts.com)

#### **Finding a Job in Rhode Island**

[www.jobsinri.com](http://www.jobsinri.com)

#### **Rhode Island Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)**

Professional assistance for individuals and businesses that sell (or are seekin  
goods or services to the Department of Defense, other federal agencies, state  
local governments. Tel (401) 222-2601, ext. 175 or .[www.riptac.com](http://www.riptac.com)

#### **RI Secretary of State – Business Fast Start**

A collaboration of Rhode Island state agencies to improve the business regis  
process. The Master Application is a single point of entry for new business  
obtain, submit and pay for state license and permit applications.

#### **Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA)**

Economic development loans for commercial/industrial buildings and equip  
155 South Main St., Suite 301 , Providence , RI , 02903 (401) 454-4560

#### **Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce**



Information, programs and resources to help Rhode Island businesses to grow and prosper. Maintains a membership of 3,300 businesses representing all 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island.

### **Small Business Administration (SBA), Rhode Island**

The SBA is the premier federal government agency dedicated to the development and growth of small business.

SBA Rhode Island District Office, 380 Westminster Street, Room 511 Providence, RI 02903 Tel: (401) 528-4561,  
[www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

### **The Providence Plan**

A wealth of data on the City and multi-faceted programs to address urban development and poverty

<http://www.providenceplan.org/>

### **The Center for Design & Business**

This joint venture of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Bryant University provides technical assistance for design-based business and runs a business incubator in the heart of downtown Providence.

169 Weybosset Street Providence, RI 02903.

Tel: 401-454-6108

### **The Center for Design & Business The CDB Entrepreneurship Center**

### **Rhode Island Small Business Development Center**

SBA-backed organization provides guidance, training and consulting services for small businesses.

Johnson & Wales - RISBDC

Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce

270 Weybosset street, 4th floor, Providence RI 02903

(401) 598-2704

[www.risbdc.org](http://www.risbdc.org)

### **Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)**

Providence chapter of a national organization that provides technical assistance and consulting services by retired business people from a broad range of backgrounds

### **The Center for Women & Enterprise**

The Center for Women & Enterprise gives women the tools to realize their dreams of business ownership

132 George M Cohan Blvd., Second floor, Providence RI 02903.

Phone (401) 277-0800 Fax (401) 277-1122

[www.cweboston.org](http://www.cweboston.org)

### **Minority Investment Development Corporation and the Rhode Is Coalition for Minority Investment**

**MIDC and RICMI are lenders and technical assistance providers that c disadvantages business enterprises with financial and consulting tools.**

**401-351-2999**

**[www.midcri.com](http://www.midcri.com)**

### **Smaller Business Association of New England (SBANE)**

**A nonprofit organization established in 1938 to promote and protect sm businesses. Its 1000 member companies in six states range from sole- proprietorship service businesses and growing high technology firms to employee manufacturing plants.**

## **National Resources**

**U.S. Small Business Administration - official site of the national SB. provides information about starting a small enterprise or expanding an business. Government aid, financing options, disaster assistance, regula and outside resources are all discussed on the site.**

### **Internal Revenue Service**

**Obtain Tax Identification Numbers online, download forms and more.**

**Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) - national website, in on-line advice and technical assistance for small business.**

**American Express Small Business Web Site - offers a variety of on business planning tools including a web site marketing workshop, infor cn writing a business plan and tips for managing your receivables and collections.**

**Bplans.com - thousands of pages of free sample plans, planning tools, expert advice to help you start and run your business. It includes start- business plans, marketing and web development plans and financial too**

**CCH Business Owner's Toolkit - includes daily news updates and a guidebook with information on topics ranging from business plans, offi equipment and taxes, to developing an exit strategy for your business.**

**EntreWorld: Resources for Entrepreneurs - offers articles organize topics such as starting and running a small business, including business and hiring strategies. A glossary of over 700 business terms is also featu along with links to other small business resources.**

**Morebusiness.com - a reference center for information and advice on launching and running a small business, along with weekly news article tools such as a financial calculator, and templates for writing a business**

**and other business documents.**

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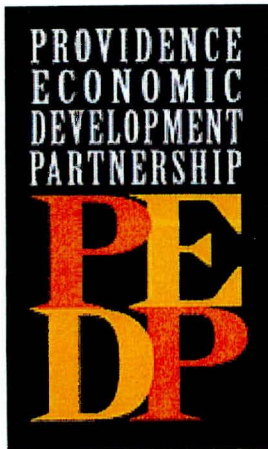
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## About Us

### PEDP Staff

- Donald Eversley, President
- Arthur Speaks, Loan Officer
- Kathy Consentino, Associate Director
- Chris Michailides, Economic Development Coordinator

### About the President

Don Eversley has extensive experience in economic development, public policy, entrepreneurship and not-for-profit work and law. He holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Afro-American Studies from Brown University.



### PEDP Board

David N. Cicilline, Mayor  
Daniel Baudouin  
Juana Horton  
Robbie Mann  
Constance Howes  
Kas DeCarvalho  
Joseph Caffey  
Michael Rollo  
Andy VanDam  
Barbara Sokoloff  
The Honorable Rita Williams

### PEDP Loan Committee

Mark Harriman  
Renee Bailey  
Freddy Nuñez  
Mark Feinstein  
Laura DiSano  
Manny Barros



Judy Parisi

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