

CITY OF PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND



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



IN CITY COUNCIL
MAY 02 2024

APPROVED: Tina L. Mastrosini CLERK

CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 10 City Council Regular Council Meeting, Thursday, April 18, 2024, 6:00 o'clock P.M.

PRESIDING

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

RACHEL M. MILLER

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMEN ESPINAL, GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, HARRIS, PETERSON, COUNCILORS PICHARDO, ROIAS, COUNCILWOMAN RYAN, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN TAYLOR, COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS AND COUNCILMAN VARGAS – 15.

ALSO PRESENT: TINA L. MASTROIANNI, CITY CLERK, SHERI A. PETRONIO, FIRST DEPUTY CITY CLERK, ANGELA J. HARRIS, FIRST DEPUTY CITY CLERK, NAPOLEON ASKIE, CITY SERGEANT AND KENNETH CHIAVARINI, DEPUTY CITY SOLICITOR

INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by **COUNCILWOMAN SHELLEY T. PETERSON**.

"Distinguished City Councilors and guests, coming off a grace period of comradery after the budget address, and as we gather here today to deliberate and make decisions that shape the future of our community, let us maintain the spirit of collaboration, unity and wisdom. I use this moment to remind us all that in the diversity of our Council we each bring unique perspectives, experiences and insights. Together, we form a powerful force of positive change and should never forget the strength we yield. Let us remember the words of Proverbs 27-17, Iron sharpens Iron and one man sharpens another. Just as iron strengthens iron through friction and refinement let our interactions sharpen and refine one another, fostering growth, progress and innovation. In our pursuit of common goals let us lead with humility, integrity and compassion. Good leadership is not about willed empower or authority, but about serving with dedication and selflessness even when people may disagree with our choices. May we always lead by example inspiring others to follow suit and uplift our neighborhoods by their actions. While our opinions and perspectives may differ, let us approach disagreement with respect, understand and willingness to listen. As we continue on this journey together let us cultivate a spirit of mutual support and shared purpose. Through our collective efforts guided by wisdom and inspired by our shared commitment to the common good, we can overcome challenges, seize opportunities and build a brighter future for all of Providence. May we always be reminded that our work serves our most vulnerable and the loudest most organized voices alike and we should always keep this in mind as we make choices that impact the collective. With faith in our shared mission and confidence in our collective strength, let us proceed with courage, determination and dedication to the wellbeing of our communities. Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCILOR JUAN M. PICHARDO Leads the Members of the City Council and the Assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Journal of Proceedings No. 8 of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held April 4, 2024.

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

RESULT:	APPROVED (WITH VOTE) [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

APPOINTMENTS BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Section 302(b) of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended, and Article II, Section 2, of the Providence Business Loan Fund, Inc. bylaws, he is this day appointing **Chief Financial Officer Lawrence J. Mancini** to the **Providence Business Loan Fund, Inc. Board of Directors** for a term to expire on December 31, 2026. (Mr. Mancini replaces Cassandra Thomas who has resigned).

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1101 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Raphael Okelola** of 2 Devon Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02904, as a member of the **Providence Water Supply Board** for a term to expire on January 31, 2027. (Mr. Okelola replaces Mr. Cataldi whose term expired).

RESULT:	RECEIVED
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Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Hamid Akinfolarin** of 616 Charles Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02904, as a member of the **Human Relations Commission** for a term to expire on January 31, 2025, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. (Mr. Akinfolarin replaces Mr. Murray who has resigned).

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Stephanie Hague** of 300 Rochambeau Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02906, as a member of the **Human Relations Commission** for a term to expire on January 31, 2027, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. (Ms. Hague replaces Ms. Picard whose term has expired).

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day re-appointing **Larome Myrick** of 12 Eagle Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908, as a member of the **Human Relations Commission** for a term to expire on January 31, 2027, and respectfully submits the same for your approval.

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Melissa Parham** of 2 Olmsted Way, Providence, Rhode Island 02904, as a member of the **Human Relations Commission** for a term to expire on January 31, 2027, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. (Ms. Parham replaces Ms. Lasalle whose term has expired).

Communication from His Honor the Mayor, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, he is this day appointing **Kannyka Pouk** of 36 McKinley Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02907, as a member of the **Human Relations Commission** for a term to expire on January 31, 2025, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. (Ms. Pouk replaces Ms. Mendoza who has resigned).

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Communication from Council President Rachel M. Miller, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the City Clerk that pursuant to Chapter 2021-29, Section 23-170 of the Providence Code of Ordinances, she is this day appointing **Kathleen Gannon** of 42 E. George Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906 to the **Green and Complete Streets Advisory Council** for a term of two years ending on December 31, 2025. (Kathleen Gannon replaces Douglas Johnson whose term has expired).

Communication from Council President Rachel M. Miller, dated April 12, 2024, Informing the City Clerk of the following board members of the Providence External Review Authority corrected terms.

- Night Jean Muhingabo's term expires on December 31, 2024.
- Rebecca Bucci's term expires on December 31, 2025.
- Ivan Montana Montoya's term expires on December 31, 2025.

RESULT:	RECEIVED
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COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 4 through 12, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Receives items 4 and 5, Refers items 6 through 10 to the Committee on Finance and Receives items 11 and 12.

LAI D ON TABLE

The Following Resolution was in City Council April 4, 2024 and Laid on the Table:

COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES AND COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON

Resolution Opposing the plan for a shared gymnasium between Harry Kizirian Elementary School and Roger's Recreational Center.

WHEREAS, Harry Kizirian Elementary School in Ward 12 is set to undergo demolition and reconstruction to enhance its facilities and provide a better learning environment for our students; and

WHEREAS, *Option B* for the rebuilding of Harry Kizirian would result in the demolition of the school's current gymnasium with no plans for the construction of a new one, instead suggesting that the school share an existing gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center; and

WHEREAS, The gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center belongs to the community and not the school and the Council is concerned that turning it into a shared facility would severely limit public access to it, directly harming community members who depend on it for recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, The Council questions the sustainability of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the school district and Roger's Recreational Center, given uncertainties about future funding and the likelihood of the PPSD honoring its commitments; and

WHEREAS, It is acknowledged that *Option A* has also been presented, which advocates for maintaining separate gymnasiums for both the school and the recreational center, and the City Council has reviewed and endorses *Option A*; and

WHEREAS, Maintaining separate gymnasiums as part of the rebuilding plan for Harry Kizirian is essential to ensure that its students as well as community members have access to modern and adequate facilities for physical education and extracurricular activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council opposes *Option B* for rebuilding Harry Kizirian Elementary School which includes the demolition of the school's current gymnasium and does not include the construction of a new gymnasium and instead urges PPSD to move forward with *Option A* which allocates funds and resources for the construction of a new gymnasium for Harry Kizirian as part of the rebuilding project and maintains the separate gymnasium at Roger's Recreational Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council calls upon the school district and other stakeholders to prioritize the well-being and educational needs of both Harry Kizirian Elementary School students and Ward 12 community members by maintaining separate gymnasiums that meet modern standards and adequately supports physical education and extracurricular activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Office of Mayor Brett Smiley, the Office of PPSD Superintendent Dr. Javier Montanez, and the members of the Providence Public School Board to emphasize the importance of including a new gymnasium in the rebuilding plan for Harry Kizirian Elementary School.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 13 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

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

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

ORDINANCE(S) SECOND READING

The Following Ordinance was in City Council April 4, 2024, Read and Passed the First Time and Referred to the Committee on Finance and is Returned for Passage the Second Time, As Amended:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMEN VARGAS, ESPINAL, COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, PETERSON, COUNCILOR PICHARDO AND COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 “Revenue and Finance”, of the Providence Code of Ordinances, to add Article XIX, “Providence 8 Law Qualifications”.

WHEREAS, Under article 13, Section 5 of the Rhode Island Constitution, the City Council of the City of Providence was granted the power to tax property by the Rhode Island General Assembly pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 44-5-1 et seq., as well as by the Home Rule Charter of the City of Providence.

WHEREAS, The singular purpose behind Section 44-5-13.11 of the Rhode Island General Laws (entitled “Qualifying low-income housing - Assessment and taxation.”) (hereinafter referred to as “the 8 Law”) is clearly to address the assessment and taxation of qualifying low-income restricted housing and provides that qualifying low-income housing property pay a property tax rate of eight percent (8%) of the qualifying low-income housing property’s previous year’s gross scheduled rental income.

WHEREAS, This ordinance is intended to express that the public policy of the City Council and the City of Providence is and always has been that the tax benefits under the 8 Law (entitled “Qualifying low-income housing - Assessment and taxation.”) may only be conferred on the portions of properties consisting of low-income housing units, and may not be conferred on other types of housing units or commercial units.

WHEREAS, The City of Providence, by and through the City Council, shall ensure all applications of the 8 Law are consistent with the intent of Section 44-5-13.11 of the Rhode Island General Laws and protect the interests of the City of Providence, its taxpayers, and its low-income residents.

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

Section 1. Chapter 21, “Revenue and Finance,” is hereby amended to add Article XIX, “PROVIDENCE 8 LAW QUALIFICATIONS” as follows:

SECTION 21-312. Scope.

The 8% tax treatment set forth in RIGL Section 44-5-13.11 shall be granted only to eligible properties in the City of Providence in accordance with the terms herein, and any contrary grants shall be deemed ineffective.

SECTION 21-313. Definitions.

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Area median income shall mean the median income in the Providence-Fall River Metropolitan Statistical Area, adjusted for family size, as published annually by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Eligible property shall mean real property that meets the requirements set forth in Section 21-314 below.

Eligible share shall mean the portion of an eligible property that is comprised of the qualified low-income housing units and the fraction of the common areas appurtenant to the qualified low-income housing units that consists of the quotient of the total square footage of the qualified low-income housing units divided by the total square footage of all housing units.

Gross potential rent shall mean the maximum amount of rental income a property owner can expect to collect in one year and assumes one hundred percent (100%) occupancy.

Low-income housing shall mean a residential unit or units for which the rent, heat, and utilities other than telephone constitute no more than thirty percent (30%) of the gross annual household income for a household with eighty percent (80%) or less of the area median income, adjusted for family size.

Residential unit(s) shall be synonymous with “dwelling unit” as defined in RIGL Section 45-24-31(24) and mean a structure, or portion of a structure, providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation, and containing a separate means of ingress and egress.

Substantial rehabilitation shall be considered to have occurred under one of the following circumstances: 1) when the required repairs, replacements, and improvements involve the replacement of two or more major building components, or 2) the costs of the rehabilitation exceed the greater of fifteen (15) percent (exclusive of any soft costs) of the property’s replacement cost (fair market value) after completion of all required repairs, replacements, and improvements; or \$15,000 per dwelling unit (adjusted by HUD’s authorized high cost percentage); or twenty (20) percent of the mortgage proceeds applied to rehabilitation expenses.

SECTION 21-314. Eligible properties.

Eligible properties shall mean the portion of any real property that:

- (1) Has been issued an occupancy permit on or after January 1, 1995, after its development or substantial rehabilitation as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and
- (2) Is encumbered by a covenant recorded in the land records in favor of a governmental unit or Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (i) restricting the rents charged to tenants of the property to an amount that, together with heat, and utilities other than telephone, constitutes no more than thirty percent (30%) of the gross annual household income for a household with eighty percent (80%) or less of the area median income; and (ii) restricting the initial qualifying incomes of the tenant households to earning eighty percent (80%) or less of area median income, adjusted for family size; and
- (3) Has the affordability of all low-income housing units within the property certified annually by the property owner or legal representative, or by a monitoring agent authorized under RIGL Section 45-53-3.2.

SECTION 21-315. Application.

The tax assessor shall apply only to the eligible share of a property a tax that equals eight percent (8%) of the property’s previous years’ gross potential rent from the qualified low-income housing units. The 8% tax rate shall not be applied to any portions of the property that are commercial or residential whose occupancy is not restricted in accordance with Section 12-314(2).

SECTION 21-316. Procedures.

- (1) The tax assessor shall promulgate written rules and regulations regarding how property owners may request the application of this section to an eligible property, which shall include, but are not limited to, annual documentation of:
 - a. Gross potential rent from the qualified low-income units within the property;
 - b. The monthly rent of each low-income unit;
 - c. A fully completed U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Rent Schedule Low Rent Housing" (HUD-92458) form or the equivalent;
 - d. A copy of the restrictive covenant on the property showing number or book and page of its recording;
 - e. The annual income of the tenant household occupying each of the low-income units within the property.
- (2) Property owners of eligible properties must submit documentation set forth in Section 21-316(1) by March fifteenth (15th) of each year.
- (3) The rules and regulations promulgated by the tax assessor, and any revisions thereto, shall become effective only upon ratification by the city council.
- (4) In addition to the rights conferred by Section 816 of the Home Rule Charter and Section 2-42 of the Providence Code of Ordinances, the Internal Auditor shall have the right to review all documents submitted to the City relating to all properties receiving the eight percent (8%) tax treatment.

SECTION 21-317. Reporting and notification.

- (1) The tax assessor shall submit an annual report to the city council and the internal auditor by September fifteenth (15th) including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. A list of any properties that have applied for the eight percent (8%) tax treatment, including the address, name of the property owner, number of low-income housing units, the rents for the low-income housing units and the area median income restrictions for each unit; and
 - b. A list of all properties receiving the eight percent (8%) tax treatment including the address, name of the property owner, number of low-income housing units, the rents for the low-income housing units and the area median income restrictions for each unit.

- (2) Whenever any application has been received by the tax assessor for the eight percent (8%) tax treatment under the 8 Law, the tax assessor shall, within ten (10) business days of such receipt: (i) notify in writing both the city council and the internal auditor, and (ii) forward a copy of the application and materials to the internal auditor.

(3) The tax assessor shall, within ten (10) business days of approving an application for the eight percent (8%) tax treatment, provide notice in writing to both the city council and the internal auditor, certifying that the application and all submitted materials are complete and in compliance with this article.

SECTION 21-318. Revocation.

- (1) Property owners of eligible properties that do not submit the required documentation set forth in Section 21-316 within thirty (30) days of the March fifteenth (15th) deadline shall have the eight percent (8%) tax treatment status revoked, without exception, and shall be entitled to re-apply with the tax assessor for the eight percent (8%) tax treatment for future years.
- (2) Should an eligible property or eligible share no longer meet the requirements set forth in Section 21-214, the property shall be assessed at the tax rate that applies to the property's standard classification.

Section 21-319. Severability.

If anyone (1) section of this article is found to be unenforceable, then the other provisions herein shall continue to have the same force and effect as if the unenforceable provision were not passed as part of this article.

SECTION 21-319.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage.

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN VARGAS, COUNCILWOMEN
GRAVES AND HARRIS**

An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2018-49, No. 464, "An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Agreement for Steeple Street, LLC."

Section 1. Ordinance 2018-49, No. 464, is hereby repealed.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 14 and 15 and Pass for the Second Time on a Roll Call Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 "Revenue and Finance", of the Providence Code of Ordinances, to add Article XIX, "Providence 8 Law Qualifications".

RESULT: READ/PASSED SECOND TIME [13 TO 2]

MOVER: Councilman Taylor

SECONDER: Councilwoman Harris

AYES: Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Sanchez, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 13.

NAYES: Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman Taylor - 2

An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2018-49, No. 464, "An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Agreement for Steeple Street, LLC."

RESULT: READ/PASSED SECOND TIME [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Councilman Taylor

SECONDER: Councilwoman Harris

AYES: Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage the Second Time is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

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

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 23, "Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places" of the Providence Code of Ordinances to add Article IX "Bicycle Lanes".

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR abstains from voting on the referral of this matter.

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Entitled: "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance," Approved November 24, 2014, As Amended, to add certain parcels to the Historic Overlay District."

**COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 16 and 17, Seconded by
COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.**

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

**COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES AND COUNCILMAN TAYLOR abstain from voting on
the referral of this matter.**

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Ordinances

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ,
COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON AND COUNCILMAN VARGAS, (By Request):**

Resolution in Support of the Litter Free Rhode Island Pledge.

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is known for its natural beauty, including its pristine beaches, vibrant cities, and rural towns. Specifically, the City of Providence, Rhode Island enjoys its public parks, scenic bike paths and open green space; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Islanders in all thirty-nine cities and towns should be able to live in clean, litter-free and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, As municipal officials, we are the stewards of such; and

WHEREAS, We must make a commitment to investing in environmental protection and educating residents on its importance and connection to improving our state's overall health; and

WHEREAS, We will work with our state partners to advance these goals, such as hosting community cleanups, passing local litter-related ordinances, or working on shifting community culture around littering.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That City of Providence

(1) Formally pledges to Keep Rhody Litter Free by supporting Governor Daniel J. McKee's Litter Free Rhode Island campaign; and

(2) Encourages each of the residents of Providence to join us in taking this pledge by visiting litterfree.ri.gov; and

(3) Commits to fulfil our pledge through coordinating various events such as community cleanups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this Resolution it be sent to His Excellency, the Honorable Governor of the State of Rhode Island, Daniel J. McKee.

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

RESULT: PASSED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Councilman Taylor

SECONDER: Councilwoman Harris

AYES: Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, (By Request):

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

Multiple Vendors
(Department of Public Property)

\$235,000,000.00

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 19, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT Refers item 19 to the Committee on Finance.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

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

Resolution Recognizing Rhode Island's Second Annual Cambodian Genocide Day of Remembrance.

WHEREAS, During the month of April, Cambodian communities nationwide will participate in a candlelight vigil in honor of the National Day of Remembrance; and

WHEREAS, From Washington to California to Illinois and Rhode Island, the vigil will serve to remember those lost during the Cambodian genocide from 1975-1979; and

WHEREAS, On April 17, 1975, the Khmer Rouge marched into Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, and evacuated the entire city, forcing people into labor camps and executing former government officials, doctors, artists, activists, scholars, among others; and

WHEREAS, 1975 became known as "Year Zero" as it was marked by the Khmer Rouge regime; and

WHEREAS, Under that regime, it has been estimated that over 2 million lives were lost due to execution and starvation; and

WHEREAS, Within the last 40 years, the scars from that genocide continue to exist for many Cambodians whether in Cambodia, the US, or elsewhere across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Providence is home to a vibrant and resilient Cambodian community, the origins of which can be traced to refugees fleeing the Cambodian genocide; and

WHEREAS, Our world today continues to experience genocide in different regions across the globe; and

WHEREAS, During the month of April, Providence will join communities around the country to vigil and stand in solidarity with those who are genocide survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council recognizes Saturday, April 27, 2024, as Rhode Island's second annual Cambodian Genocide Day of Remembrance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council commends the Cambodian Society of Rhode Island (CSRI), the Alliance of RI Southeast Asians for Education (ARISE), and Providence Youth Student Movement (PrYSM) for organizing this year's Day of Remembrance as an opportunity to heal the community from the impact of war and acknowledge the resilience of genocide survivors.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 20 and 21 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Withdraws his Motion to Waive the Reading of items 20 and 21 and COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS Withdraws here Second.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves Passage of item 20, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COUNCILORS ANDERBOIS, SANCHEZ, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES,
COUNCILWOMEN GRAVES, HARRIS, PETERSON AND COUNCILWOMAN
VARGAS**

Resolution Opposing the Relocation of Rhode Island's Central Bus Hub.

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's central bus hub at Kennedy Plaza is an essential component of our state's transportation infrastructure, providing vital connections for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, The proposal to relocate the central bus hub from Kennedy Plaza to a vacant lot near Interstate 95 raises significant concerns for our community, particularly in light of RIPTA's budget crisis and impending service cuts; and

WHEREAS, Transit advocates have rightly questioned the wisdom of committing to a project of unknown cost and benefits, especially considering the potential drawbacks to bus service itself; and

WHEREAS, The vacant lot near Interstate 95, referred to as "Siberia" by critics, lacks the central location and proximity to essential services, such as City Hall, the Financial District, Providence Place, and the train station, that Kennedy Plaza offers; and

WHEREAS, A robust and efficient public transportation system plays a crucial role in mitigating climate change and promoting environmental sustainability by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, alleviating traffic congestion, and conserving energy resources; and

WHEREAS, Transit riders, who rely on the central bus hub for their daily transportation needs, were denied the opportunity to voice their opposition to the relocation plan at any public forums, including the meeting of the 195 Redevelopment District Commission; and

WHEREAS, Moving the central bus hub to a location near Interstate 95 would likely disrupt existing transit routes, increase travel times for passengers, and hinder accessibility for those who depend on public transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council vehemently opposes the relocation of Rhode Island's central bus hub from Kennedy Plaza to a vacant lot near Interstate 95; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council urges the 195 Redevelopment District Commission and the RIPTA Board of Directors to reconsider its decision and allow for meaningful public input and discussion regarding the future of the central bus hub; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, the 195 Redevelopment District Commission, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, the Office of Governor Daniel J. McKee, the Office of Rhode Island Speaker of the House K. Joseph Shekarchi, the Office of Rhode Island Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio, and the Office of Mayor Brett Smiley to emphasize the importance of preserving the central bus hub at Kennedy Plaza for the benefit of our community.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 21, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 21 to the Special Committee on Environment and Resiliency.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Special Committee on Environment and Resiliency

REPORT(S) FROM COMMITTEE(S)

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE COUNCILWOMAN HELEN D. ANTHONY, Chairwoman

Transmits the Following with Recommendation the Same be Severally Adopted:

COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON

An Ordinance in Amendment of the Home Rule Charter Article X, Section 1006 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence Entitled: "Department of Public Property", and Chapter 21, "Revenue and Finance", Article II, "Division of Purchase Orders" Section 21-27, "Competitive Bidding" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 22 and Refer Back to the Committee on Finance, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

COUNCILMEN GONCALVES AND VARGAS

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the property located at 165 Gano Street.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 23 and Pass for the First Time on a Roll Call Vote and Substitute the Fiscal Note, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

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

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

AT EASE

RECONVENTION

COUNCILMEN GONCALVES AND VARGAS

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the property located at 153 Gano Street.

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the property located at 157 Gano Street.

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Plan for the property located at 161 Gano Street.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 24 through 26 and Deny and Substitute the Fiscal Notes, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	DENIED [12 TO 3]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilman Espinal, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez and Councilwoman Vargas – 12.
NAYS:	Councilmen Goncalves, Taylor and Vargas – 3.

SENIOR DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS, DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER HARRIS, COUNCILMAN VARGAS, (By Request):

An Ordinance Establishing a Tax Stabilization Agreement for 180 GMC, LLC.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 27 and Pass for the First Time on a Roll Call Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

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

The Motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STATE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
COUNCILMAN JOHN GONCALVES, Chairman**

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

**COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES, COUNCILORS PICHARDO, SANCHEZ AND
COUNCILMAN VARGAS**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024
H-7057, An Act Relating to Public Property and Works - Contractors Bonds.

WHEREAS, House Bill 7057 is aimed at amending existing law to empower the state to waive bonding requirements for certified Minority Business Enterprises/Women Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE), expedite prompt pay provisions for all contractors, and enforce timely payment to subcontractors; and

WHEREAS, The proposed bill seeks to ensure fair and equitable access to government contracts by MBE/WBE companies, addressing the current disparity in meeting the 10% minimum percentage MBE/WBE subcontract requirements for public works projects; and

WHEREAS, The existence of MBE and WBE classifications signifies a commitment to diversity and inclusivity in procurement practices, and any systemic barriers hindering prime contractors from meeting mandated MBE/WBE subcontract quotas should be promptly removed; and

WHEREAS, The enactment of House Bill 7057 will foster a more level playing field for certified MBE/WBE companies, thereby revitalizing the business environment and promoting sustainable economic growth within the State of Rhode Island, particularly benefiting the City of Providence; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative to acknowledge the historical and ongoing challenges faced by MBE/WBE companies in accessing government contracts and the importance of legislative measures like House Bill 7057 in addressing these disparities; and

WHEREAS, The success and growth of certified MBE/WBE companies not only contribute to the economic prosperity of the state but also foster a vibrant and diverse business ecosystem that reflects the values of fairness and opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council wholeheartedly endorses House Bill 7057 and urges the House Labor Committee to pass this critical legislation, recognizing its significance in advancing equity, opportunity, and prosperity for all businesses in Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to Chair Corvese and Members of the House Labor Committee as a testament to the unwavering support of the Providence City Council for the passage of House Bill 7057.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON,
COUNCILOR SANCHEZ AND COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024 H-7841 and Senate Bill 2024 S-2735, An Act Relating to Alcoholic Beverages - Retail Licenses.

WHEREAS, House Bill 2024 H-7841 and Senate Bill 2024 S-2735 would authorize the Providence board of licenses to exempt from the prohibition regarding adjoining property owners and proximity to schools and churches any proposed retailer Class B or Class BV license located 94 Carpenter Street on Plat 29, lot 278 of the applicable City of Providence tax assessment map.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby supports and urges passage of , An Act Relating to Alcoholic Beverages - Retail Licenses.

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

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES

Resolution Supporting legislation in the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island exempting the real property located on Assessor's Plat 17, Lot 487 (79 Ives Street) to consider, and or allow, a Class B liquor license at said premises.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby supports legislation in the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island exempting the real property located at 79 Ives Street, Plat 17, Lot 487, from the provisions of RI Gen Laws 3-7-19, and authorizing the Board of Licenses of the City of Providence to consider, and or allow, a Class B liquor license at said premises.

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

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN PETERSON AND GRAVES

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024 H-7373 and Senate Bill 2024 S-2202, An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses - Weapons.

WHEREAS, House Bill 7373, introduced by Representatives Caldwell, Knight, Fellela, Batista, Boylan, Kazarian, Fogarty, Stewart, McEntee, and Handy on January 31, 2024, seeks to amend sections 11-47-60.1 and 11-47-60.3 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47, Entitled "Weapons," focusing on the safe storage of firearms; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2202, introduced by Senators Lauria, Pearson, Lawson, Gallo, Euer, DiMario, Miller, Felag, DiPalma, and Cano, on January 24, 2024, proposes amendments to Sections 11-47-60.1 and 11-47-60.3 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled "Weapons,"; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7373 and Senate Bill 2202 mandate that firearms must be stored securely in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device to prevent operation by unauthorized users, thereby enhancing the safety of Rhode Island homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, The bills introduce civil and criminal penalties for violations of safe storage requirements, establishing a framework for accountability and promoting responsible firearm ownership; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7373 and Senate Bill 2202 extend the requirement of including a trigger lock or other safety device with the purchase of pistols, rifles, or shotguns, further ensuring the safety of firearms from unauthorized use; and

WHEREAS, The legislation requires firearms dealers to post informational signs regarding safe storage laws and the risks associated with improper firearm storage, thereby raising awareness and encouraging compliance; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7373 and Senate Bill 2202 include provisions for the distribution of printed information on secure firearm storage and suicide prevention resources to firearms purchasers, as well as the development of educational materials for students and families on the importance of secure gun storage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill 7373 and Senate Bill 2202, recognizing these bills' critical role in promoting the safe storage of firearms, preventing accidents, and enhancing public safety across Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and the Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of the Governor, to affirm the Providence City Council's endorsement of House Bill 7373 as well as Senate Bill 2202 and their comprehensive approach to firearm safety and community well-being.

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMEN PETERSON, GRAVES AND
COUNCILOR SANCHEZ**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024
H-7217, An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses - Assault Weapons.

WHEREAS, House Bill 7217, introduced by Representatives Knight, Caldwell, Boylan, Dawson, Speakman, Craven, Batista, Felix, McEntee, and Ajello on January 18, 2024, proposes the Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2024, aiming to prohibit the possession, sale, and transfer of assault weapons within the state; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7217 defines assault weapons based on specific characteristics that enhance their lethality, including semi-automatic rifles with certain features, semi-automatic shotguns with a fixed magazine capacity exceeding six rounds or the ability to accept a detachable magazine, and semi-automatic pistols with specific features that increase their firepower; and

WHEREAS, The act allows for the possession of assault weapons owned on the effective date of this act to be "grandfathered" subject to certain registration provisions, thereby respecting the rights of current lawful owners while preventing the future accumulation of these firearms; and

WHEREAS, Violations of the act are subject to severe penalties, including fines of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or imprisonment of up to ten (10) years, underscoring the seriousness with which the state views the unlawful possession and distribution of assault weapons; and

WHEREAS, The act includes provisions for the secure storage and transfer of grandfathered assault weapons, ensuring that these firearms are kept out of the hands of unauthorized users and are safely stored to prevent accidents and misuse; and

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2024 represents a significant step towards enhancing public safety, reducing gun violence, and addressing the proliferation of military-style firearms in civilian hands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill 7217, recognizing the bill's critical importance in promoting the safety and well-being of Rhode Island's residents through the regulation of assault weapons; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of the Governor, to affirm the Providence City Council's endorsement of House Bill 7217 and its objectives to safeguard the community from the dangers posed by assault weapons.

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024 H-7981, An Act Relating to Towns and Cities - Zoning Ordinances.

WHEREAS, House Bill 2024 H-7981, sponsored by Representative Joshua J. Giraldo (D-Dist. 56, Central Falls), proposes an essential amendment to the current zoning laws, aiming to permit residential uses in commercial zones by right; and

WHEREAS, The existing legal framework recognizes the right of "households" to exist within all zoning districts, yet, paradoxically, some municipalities have imposed restrictions that prohibit residential developments within commercial zones; and

WHEREAS, This legislation seeks to clarify and ensure that residential uses are permitted within commercial zones, thereby aligning with the principles of flexibility, inclusivity, and sustainable urban development; and

WHEREAS, While allowing residential uses in commercial and, by extension, industrial zones (except in cases where public health and safety concerns necessitate prohibition), House Bill 2024 H-7981 respects and upholds the autonomy of municipalities to maintain other zoning requirements for residential uses in these zones; and

WHEREAS, The enactment of House Bill 2024 H-7981 would facilitate a more dynamic and adaptable urban landscape, capable of meeting the diverse housing needs of Rhode Island's residents, and promoting a mixed-use development approach that is vital for vibrant, livable communities; and

WHEREAS, By encouraging residential development within commercial zones, this bill supports economic growth, enhances the viability of public transportation, reduces urban sprawl, and contributes to the environmental sustainability of our cities and towns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill 2024 H-7981, recognizing the bill's potential to significantly improve the flexibility of land use, address housing shortages, and foster the development of cohesive, integrated communities within the State of Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of Governor, to affirm the Providence City Council's endorsement of House Bill 2024 H-7981 and its provisions for enhancing urban development and housing accessibility.

**COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON AND
COUNCILMAN VARGAS**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024 H-7977, A House Resolution Creating a Special Legislative Commission to study the ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to offer degree or certificate programs within the state to provide a supply and pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff.

WHEREAS, 2024 H-7977, sponsored by Speaker Shekarchi, proposes the creation of an 11-member commission tasked with studying the capacity of Rhode Island's educational system to offer degrees or certificates aimed at cultivating a supply of planners, planning technicians, and planning staff; and

WHEREAS, This legislative initiative acknowledges the critical shortage of planning professionals within the state, a condition that hampers Rhode Island's ability to effectively plan for and manage growth, development, and conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, The absence of a dedicated educational program for planning professionals in Rhode Island has been identified as a significant barrier to establishing a sustainable pipeline for these essential jobs, thereby necessitating a comprehensive study and strategic action; and

WHEREAS, The commission is charged with reporting its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2025, providing a clear timeline for addressing this urgent issue; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of such a commission represents a proactive and strategic approach to strengthening Rhode Island's educational offerings, ensuring that the state can meet the evolving needs of urban and regional planning in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, By focusing on the development of local talent and expertise in the field of planning, 2024 H-7977 aims to enhance Rhode Island's capacity for sustainable development, economic growth, and environmental stewardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for 2024 H-7977, recognizing the critical need for a specialized educational pathway for planning professionals in Rhode Island; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of Governor McKee, to affirm the Providence City Council's endorsement of 2024 H-7977 and its goal of establishing a robust educational pipeline for planning professionals in the state.

COUNCILMAN GONCALVES AND COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024 H-8000 and Senate Bill 2024 S-2752, An Act Relating to State Affairs and Government - Reduced Housing Rent Pilot Program.

WHEREAS, House Bill 8000 and Senate Bill 2752 propose the establishment of an incentive program aimed at encouraging landlords to offer reduced rents to eligible tenants, addressing the critical need for affordable housing in Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, Establishing the Reduced Housing Rent Pilot Program, a tax rebate structure established to incentivize property owners to enter into eighteen (18) month lease agreements with eligible tenants, offering significant rebates for reduced rents, thereby encouraging participation in the program; and

WHEREAS, This innovative program is to be administered by the state department of housing, ensuring that the initiative is implemented with expertise and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, An appropriation of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the fiscal year 2024-2025 has been proposed to fund this incentive program, demonstrating a significant commitment to making housing more affordable for Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, The bills are designed to take effect upon passage, allowing for immediate action to be taken towards alleviating the housing affordability crisis in the state; and

WHEREAS, By providing financial incentives to landlords, House Bill 8000 and Senate Bill 2752, seek to increase the availability of reduced rent units, thereby directly benefiting tenants in need of affordable housing options; and

WHEREAS, The program represents a strategic investment in the well-being of Rhode Island residents, contributing to the economic stability and quality of life for individuals and families across the state; and

WHEREAS, The administration of this program by the state Department of Housing ensures that the initiative aligns with broader housing policies and goals, promoting cohesive and effective efforts to address housing affordability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill 8000 and Senate Bill 2752, recognizing the bill's potential to significantly impact the availability of affordable housing in Rhode Island in a positive manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of the Governor, to affirm the Providence City Council's endorsement of House Bill 8000 as well as Senate Bill 2752 and their objectives to enhance housing affordability through landlord incentives.

**COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER,
COUNCILWOMAN ANTHONY, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES,
COUNCILWOMAN GRAVES, COUNCILORS PICHARDO, SANCHEZ,
COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS AND COUNCILMAN VARGAS**

Resolution Endorsing and Urging Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2024
H-7726, An Act Relating to Education - Health and Safety of Pupils.

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island General Assembly has introduced House Bill 7726, aimed at establishing standards for the closure, or phase-out, of public school buildings to ensure transparency, accountability, and community engagement in such decisions; and

WHEREAS, The proposed bill acknowledges the significant impact of school closures, phase-outs, and mergers on students, families, and staff, and seeks to mitigate potential disruptions by mandating detailed public reports and contingency plans; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7726 outlines a comprehensive process that requires public school districts and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to announce proposals for closures, mergers, or phase-outs, and to provide timely and accessible information to stakeholders, including students, families, and staff affected by such decisions; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7726 mandates public engagement through meetings, forums, and opportunities for public comment, ensuring that the voices and concerns of the community are heard and considered before any final determinations are made; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7726 underscores the importance of adhering to legal and ethical standards concerning the rights and needs of students with individualized education plans (IEPs) or enrolled in special education programs, as well as the rights of staff impacted by closures, mergers, or phase-outs; and

WHEREAS, For Providence Public School students and families, the opportunity for a comprehensive and transparent process is essential for continued trust and accountability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Providence City Council fully supports House Bill 7726 and urges its swift passage by the General Assembly to safeguard the well-being and educational opportunities of all students, families, and staff in Rhode Island's public school system.

COUNCILWOMAN PETERSON, COUNCILMAN GONCALVES, COUNCILOR SANCHEZ, COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER, COUNCILOR ANDERBOIS, COUNCILWOMEN ANTHONY, GRAVES, COUNCILOR PICHARDO AND COUNCILWOMAN VARGAS

Resolution in Support of House Resolution 2024 H-7774, Joint Resolution making an Appropriation of \$78,000,000.00 to the Rhode Island Transit Authority (RIPTA).

WHEREAS, The Governor's proposed 2024-2025 budget includes an Operating Grant of \$10,000,000 for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA); and

WHEREAS, Public transportation serves as a critical infrastructure for thousands of Rhode Islanders, fostering vibrant communities, generating employment opportunities, mitigating traffic congestion, and contributing to a healthier environment; and

WHEREAS, The proposed fiscal budget for 2024-2025, with its current allocation, would result in an \$8 million deficit, leading to the reduction of essential services for Rhode Islanders who rely on public transportation for their daily needs and livelihoods; and

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island faces significant challenges with workforce limitations and staffing shortages across various sectors, necessitating proactive measures to address and reverse these trends; and

WHEREAS, An appropriation of \$24 million is vital for RIPTA to enhance its capacity to recruit and train additional bus operators, offering competitive wages and benefits that reflect the cost of living in Rhode Island and are comparable with neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, an annual allocation of \$46 million is imperative for the execution of the Transit Master Plan, aimed at extending transit services throughout the state, thereby supporting Rhode Island's commitment to achieving its Act on Climate goals; and

WHEREAS, The comprehensive appropriation of \$78,000,000 to RIPTA is essential for maintaining current transit services, augmenting the workforce of bus operators through improved recruitment and training initiatives, and advancing the state's environmental and climate objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council wholeheartedly supports House Bill 7774, advocating for the appropriation of \$78,000,000 to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority for the fiscal year 2024-2025, to ensure the continuation of vital transit services, bolster workforce development within the public transportation sector, and facilitate the implementation of strategic initiatives under the State's Act on Climate goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to members of the Rhode Island State House of Representatives and Rhode Island State Senate, and the Office of Governor Dan McKee, to underscore the critical importance of this appropriation for the welfare of Rhode Island's communities and the sustainable development of the state's public transportation infrastructure.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 28 through 37 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Petition from Stephen A. Izzi, Law Offices of Stephen A. Izzi, P.C., 10 Dorrance Street, Suite 700, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, requesting a Zone Change for the property located on Assessor's Plat 69, Lot 184 (475 Smith Street), from R-3 to C-2.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Ordinances

Petitions for Compensation for Injuries and Damages, viz:

Miguel Centeno
Samuel Andemichael
Christopher J. Rossi
Mary Fernandes
Vincent Cirelli, III
MAPFRE Insurance a/s/o Galina Berin
Rachel Bonzagni
Christopher Francis
Patricia Putney
Jane Delamare
William Clasby
Elaine Kennedy
Jonathan Hull

MAPFRE Insurance a/s/o Jeffrey Kilsey
Luis G. Jauregui
Taylor Hughes
Farmers Group Property and Casualty Ins.
Co. a/s/o Aris Arias
James C. Cunningham
Alyssa Azzara
Christine Hammond
Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance
Company a/s/o John Duque
Muhammad Yasin

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Claims and Pending Suits

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Communication from Tina L. Mastroianni, City Clerk, dated April 1, 2024, of all monies received, transmitted to and credited by the City Collector for fiscal quarter of January 1, 2024 to and including March 31, 2024, in a total amount of Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Four Dollars (\$2,284.00).

Communication from Jeffrey Dana, City Solicitor, dated April 4, 2024, submitting the Annual Report on Civil Suits and Legal Proceedings, pursuant to Section 2-98 of the Code of Ordinances.

RESULT:	RECEIVED
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Communication from Mayor Brett P. Smiley, dated April 15, 2024, submitting the Tentative Agreement by and between the City of Providence and Providence Lodge No. 3 Fraternal Order of Police for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028.

RESULT:	REFERRED
TO:	Committee on Finance

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of items 38 through 42, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER Refers item 38 to the Committee on Finance, Refers item 39 to the Committee on Claims and Pending Suits, Receives items 40 and 41 and Refers item 42 to the Committee on Finance.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS "IN CONGRATULATIONS"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Congratulations.

RESOLVED, that the Members of the City Council hereby extend their Sincere
Congratulations to the following:

Lee Ann Weller Desilets, in recognition of the celebration of your 44th Birthday on April 4, 2024!

Howard Soares, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Waldo Alvarado, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Brandon Tapley, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Armani Almonte, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Andy Andujar Jr., Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Lorenzo Gonzales, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Izaiah Nelson, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Nathaniel Rymer, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Ahmejah Evans, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Lyric Cruz, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Daniel Garcia, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Jacoby Vails, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Kailub Law-Juarez, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Elliot Nguyen, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Aiden Ramirez, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Kenzo Fofana, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Raheem Ellis, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Tavares League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 10 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Gary DiSarro, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Alejandro Minaya, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Waldo Alvarado, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jose Martinez, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

John Ramos, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Carmello Camacho, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Michael Roderick Jr., Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Ibraheem Salem-Perry, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Legacy Smith, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Nasir Marte, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Yorby Romero, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Marcus Washington, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Luke Nguyen, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Timothy Furtado, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Maleek Neal, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Angel Rodriguez, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Jeremiah Peguero, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Barnes League, in recognition of being the 2024 Boy's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation League.

Jenna Lemoi, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Stephany Menjivar, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Alexia Costa, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jaydel Harris, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jackie Poullos, Zuccolo Recreation Center, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Aniyah Halloway, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Giavana Britto, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Anari Lee, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Abigail Rymer, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Valentina Resto, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Amarielle Waite, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Annastazzia Corpening, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Janiyah Robles, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Denalyse Garcia, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Na'Raijah Johnson-Miamen, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Anaya Rios-Rodriguez, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Angelina Brito, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Aniyah Brito, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Amber Estrella, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Liana Lopes, Zuccolo Recreation Center, Dicarlo League, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 14 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Isaiah Nyahokoon, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Cameron Cimini, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jaiden Cox, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Adrian Valle, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Mikael Champman, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jace Edmonds, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Robert Adams, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Leo Weeks, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Isiah McNair, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Jose Haz, Kennedy, in recognition of your outstanding leadership, guidance and mentorship and playing an instrumental role in the success of your team!

Analys Hilario, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Rieley Perry, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Devan Dorsey, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Savannah Cooper, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Sanaiya Hilario, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Vianey Fisher, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Tori Cooper, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Maurliyah Cromwell, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Blessing Kafo, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Naomi Kafo, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Carmela Rossi, V. Brown, in recognition of being the 2024 Girl's 12 & Under City Champions of the Providence Recreation Basketball League.

Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant, in recognition of our heartfelt admiration and congratulations to Angelo's Civita Farnese Restaurant on your momentous 100th Anniversary, celebrating a century of delicious food, familial tradition and community spirit. As the mantle of leadership passed through generations, from Bob and Lee Antignano to your daughters Cindy and Jaime, the indomitable spirit of Angelo's has endured, a testament to the enduring legacy of familial dedication and unwavering commitment to excellence. Best wishes for another century of good fortune!

Dolores Ureña, in recognition of your 80th Birthday!

Angela McCalla, First Ward, Newport, Rhode Island, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Public/Servant Government Official Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Ineida Lpes Carvalho Rocha, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Community Supporter Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Farm Fresh Rhode Island, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Organization Addressing Food Insecurity Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Nicole M. Bush, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Individual Addressing Homelessness Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

The Honorable Tiara Mack, Rhode Island State Senator, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Champion of Affordable Housing Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Khadija Lewis Khan, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Early Childhood and Youth Development Organization Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Bliss Gives, Christine M. Paige, CEO, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Non-profit Organization Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Precious Clouthier, Precious G.E.M.S, LLC, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Motivational Speaker Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Tropical Liquors, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Mom & Pop Shop Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Bri Duffy, High Society RI, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Emerging Entrepreneur Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Milou Rodrigues, in recognition of being the recipient of the Top Assistant Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Dr. Eugenio Fernandez Jr., in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Doctor Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Donna Lee O'Connor, Fit First and FitfirstRI Wellness, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Momager Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Bank of America, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Financial Empowerment Leader Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

United Way of Rhode Island, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Philanthropic Organization Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Claude Arnell Milhouse, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Mogul Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Mike Rollins, Saxophonist, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Entertainer Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Goldman Sachs, 10,000 Small Businesses Rhode Island, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Business Development Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Kobi Dennis, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Service Member Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Mother Earth Wellness Cultivation, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Cannabis Cultivator Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Susan M. Pires, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Law Firm Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Steven O'Donnell, YMCA and stages of Freedom, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Swim Empowerment Collaboration Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Ray Rickman, Stages of Freedom and YMCA, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Swim Empowerment Collaboration Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Ciata Tengbeh Johnny, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Nurse Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Aura of Rhode Island, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Cannabis Dispensary Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Rhode Island School of Design, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Top Education Institution Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Bally's Twin River Lincoln, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Best Hospitality Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Lanre Ajakaiye and Hilina D. Ajakaiye, in recognition of being the recipient of the 2024 Inspiring Power Couple Award at the Business Boss Level Extravaganza presented by Bliss Gives.

Jose Francisco Avila, in recognition of your 70th Birthday!

Thomas Avila, in recognition of your 70th Birthday!

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 43 and Pass on a Voice Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS "IN MEMORIAM"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MILLER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Extending Sympathy.

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

Leonardo Ureña

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR Moves to Waive the Reading of item 44 and Pass on a Unanimous Rising Vote, Seconded by COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilman Taylor
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Harris
AYES:	Council President Miller, Councilor AnderBois, Councilwoman Anthony, Councilmen Espinal, Goncalves, Councilwomen Graves, Harris, Peterson, Councilors Pichardo, Roias, Councilwoman Ryan, Councilor Sanchez, Councilman Taylor, Councilwoman Vargas and Councilman Vargas – 15.

The Motion for Passage is Sustained.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

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

“Before we adjourn, I just wanted to share with everyone information that we might have or might not have. We know that Earth Day is actually Monday, April 22nd and tomorrow the 19th the Roger Williams Park and the Mayor and all of us as partnership including the City Council is going have a time for our kids who attend public schools or just in general to volunteer at the Roger Williams Park to walk in the park and pluck as they call it. Pick litter while you walk and many of us are participating in events throughout April and I commend you for all of that. So, you are all invited to join us tomorrow at 9:30 for those of us who want to walk in the park and pluck. The other is that we’re going to have some food and the Mayor is going to have a conversation about conserving water at Roger Williams Park. So, join us at 12:00 o’clock, invite some of the students as they ending their spring break. I just wanted to share that information among our Providence residents. Thank you.”

CONVENTION

There being no further business, on Motion of **COUNCILMAN TAYLOR**, Seconded by **COUNCILWOMAN HARRIS**, it is voted to adjourn in memory of Grace Gunner, Dominga Montrand, Alfred "Doc" Augusta and Richard "Dick" Plotz at 7:05 o'clock P.M., to meet again **THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.**



TINA L. MASTROIANNI
CITY CLERK

*This meeting was live streamed and the recording is available on our
YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oX5ImOOan9o>*

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