

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 420

Approved: October 25, 2023

WHEREAS, North Main Street is a vital thoroughfare in Providence, extending from the Roger Williams National Memorial Park up to the Pawtucket border; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street boasts a rich history and is currently home to many small businesses that have been integral parts of Providence for decades; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street serves as a critical transit corridor for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), with the R line being the most utilized RIPTA line in the entire state; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street holds significant potential for smart growth and transit-oriented development, which can enhance the city's urban landscape; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street is also home to the North Burial Ground, a beautiful city cemetery and park that preserves much of the city's history and supports a vibrant ecosystem with diverse wildlife and plant species; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street has experienced multiple fatal hit-and-run accidents in the past calendar year, in addition to numerous other traffic accidents and injuries, particularly at the intersection of North Main Street and Doyle Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Control of North Main Street is complex, with various sections managed by the City, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), the central median under Parks jurisdiction, RIPTA utilization, and zoning and development oversight by the City; and

WHEREAS, North Main Street contains numerous vacant and overgrown lots, some of which have remained vacant for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, In 2022, the City released the North Main Street Revitalization Study, a collaborative effort between the Planning Department and former Councilwoman Nirva LaFortune, which involved extensive community input; and

WHEREAS, The North Main Street Revitalization Study currently lacks robust implementation that includes active engagement from residents, affected businesses, RIDOT, RIPTA, Planning, and other relevant stakeholders, and it requires focused involvement to make substantial progress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby establishes the North Main Street Task Force to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the North Main Street Revitalization Study. The Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

1. Ward 3 City Councilor Sue AnderBois
2. A representative from the Providence Police Department
3. A representative from the Mount Hope Neighborhood
4. A Ward 3 resident who regularly uses non-car transportation
5. A representative from the Providence Streets Coalition
6. Two business owners from North Main Street businesses
7. A representative from RIPTA
8. A representative from the City Planning Department
9. The City Traffic Engineer or Designee
10. A representative from RIDOT
11. A representative from the Green & Complete Streets Advisory Council

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force is charged with the following responsibilities:

1. Guiding the implementation of the North Main Street Revitalization Study.
2. Fostering collaboration and coordination among various city agencies.
3. Identifying and pursuing relevant grant opportunities to support the revitalization efforts.
4. Requesting presentations and input from relevant agencies and departments.
5. Formulating a series of recommendations and immediate implementation priorities to enhance North Main Street's safety, accessibility, and overall appeal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Mayor of Providence, and all members and organizations listed in the resolution.

IN CITY COUNCIL
OCT 19 2023
READ AND PASSED


RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor

Date: 10/25/23