

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 248

Approved April 9, 1975

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has offered Rhode Island \$1 million dollars in federal planning money to zero in on Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972 (areawide waste treatment management) and,

WHEREAS, the Statewide Planning Program has asked each of Rhode Island's thirty nine cities and towns to join together to "develop and implement a plan resulting in coordinated waste treatment management systems for the entire State" and,

WHEREAS, Providence has been designated as a "key community" within the State,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Planning and Urban Development will represent the City of Providence in the 208 planning process, and cooperatively plan, with all other interested cities and towns, a system that will control not only pollution that flows from sewers, but runoff from roads, parking lots, farms, dumps, construction sites, and so forth, thus making the City of Providence and the entire State of Rhode Island a better, cleaner and safer place to live and play.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
APR 3 1975

READ AND PASSED

*Ralph Tanguet* PRES.  
*Vincent Crespo* CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

*Vincent Crespo*

APR 9 1975

Commil Bousant De Supte  
Baptist and.  
Catholicism Person,  
Key Request

IN CITY COURT

READ AND PASS

RECEIVED BY THE COURT

RECEIVED BY THE COURT

JOHN A. DOHERTY, CHAIRMAN  
EARL H. ASHLEY  
UGO RICCIO  
JOHN J. TIERNEY  
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## WATER SUPPLY BOARD

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552 ACADEMY AVENUE

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SECRETARY

March 11, 1975

Councilman Ralph A. Fagnoli  
1241 Smith Street  
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Councilman Fagnoli:

We have reviewed your material pertaining to Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL-92-500) which stresses areawide waste treatment planning by local governments and submit the following comments.

"208", as it is commonly referred to, has as its purpose the establishment of a planning process by local governments in a particular planning area which will bring about development and implementation of a strategy that eliminates common water quality management problems. The governor of each state is given the responsibility of determining the areas or area. Governor Noel, because of Rhode Island's compactness and the interrelatedness of water quality problems among all the state's communities, has informed the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, which is responsible for administering the provisions of the Act, of his intent to designate the entire state as a single "208" planning area and has appointed the Department of Administration, Division of Statewide Planning, as the area's "208" planning agency.

While the Act speaks of water quality, it does not refer to treated potable water but instead to those deleterious events which might occur in a river basin due to discharge of untreated or insufficiently treated wastes. If a local planning group determines a point source of pollution and the State Planning Division has its submitted follow-up plans for the abatement or improvement of the condition approved by EPA, funds are available to implement further design studies and eventual construction of the required treatment facilities.

Act 208 then, would have no implications in our operation as a supplier of potable water and there are no significant sources of contamination on the 92.8 square mile Scituate watershed which would qualify for such attention.

With regard to the City of Providence itself, there may be a possibility of assistance under "208" for enlargement of the present sewage treatment works or at least the start of separation of the combined sanitary and storm sewer lines which so often place an unmanageable load on the treatment facility resulting in increased pollution of the Providence River during those temporary periods.

Very truly yours,

  
John E. Rogers, P.E.  
Chief Engineer

JER/ms



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration  
STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM  
265 Melrose Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02907

January 28, 1975

Dear Mr.

As you know, Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500) stresses areawide waste treatment planning by local governments. This "208" planning is dependent upon the full participation and cooperation of all the state's cities and towns. The purpose of this letter is to solicit your community's participation in the areawide waste treatment management planning process and to outline for you the general provisions and requirements of Section 208.

When Congress passed this Act, it recognized that some water quality problems in the United States are of such complexity and severity that they cannot be solved by technology alone. For this reason, the development of an areawide waste treatment planning process is suggested under Section 208 of the Act. Section 208 planning involves itself in areas of severe water pollution control problems, caused by intensive urban-industrial concentrations or other factors. Section 208 calls for the Governor to designate localities which meet the "208" planning area criteria. He must also designate a planning agency to serve each "208" area, according to certain criteria. These criteria were set forth in the Federal Register of September 14, 1973, in sections 126.10 and 126.11. Copies of these criteria and of the provisions of Section 208 of the Act are enclosed as Attachments A and B.

The "208" planning process calls upon local governments in a particular planning area to develop and implement a strategy that eliminates common water quality management problems. Because of Rhode Island's compactness and the interrelatedness of water quality management problems among all the state's communities, Governor Noel has advised the United States Environmental

January 28, 1975

Protection Agency, the federal agency responsible for administering the provisions of the Act, of his intent to designate the entire state as a single "208" planning area.

Governor Noel has also expressed his intent to designate the Department of Administration, Division of Statewide Planning, as the "208" planning agency. Local input to the statewide planning process is assured through the State Planning Council, which reviews, approves, and provides policy advice and guidance on the planning activities of the Division of Statewide Planning. The Council's membership consists of federal, state, and local officials. Local government interests are represented by five members appointed by the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns. For calendar year 1974, the communities represented were: Providence, Cranston, Newport, Warwick and Westerly. If the Division of Statewide Planning is designated as the 208 Planning Agency, the Council will ask every city and town to appoint an individual to serve and represent the community's interest on a special "208" planning subcommittee, thus enabling all of the state's municipalities to participate in the planning process for areawide waste treatment management.

Cooperation and participation by local governments is essential to development of the "208" plan. EPA requires formal adoption by each community of a resolution of intent to join with other communities and the designated planning agency to develop and implement a plan which will result in a coordinated waste treatment management system for the designated area. Under the provisions of section 208(f) (2) of the Act, 100 percent federal funding is available for a two-year planning period, provided that the application is approved by EPA prior to July 1, 1975. It is therefore necessary for your community to give early consideration to participation in the program. Adoption of a resolution of intent is the first step for participation. If the state is to take advantage of the Act's 100 percent funding provision, a resolution similar to the one suggested in Attachment C must be adopted by your community as soon as possible.

Input from the general public is also essential to the "208" planning process. A public hearing will be held by the Governor's Office to solicit the testimony and comments of all interested parties on the proposed designation of the 208 planning area and agency. Representatives of local and regional governments and organizations, private organizations, and members of the general public are urged to attend this hearing. Details as to the time and place of the hearing will be published in the near future.

January 28, 1975

Two information pamphlets are enclosed in addition to the attachments cited above, so that you may more effectively evaluate the proposed designations. If you have any questions or comments on the enclosed materials, or wish to arrange a meeting to discuss the 208 Program, please contact Mr. Victor Parmentier or Mr. William Brinson at the letterhead address or at 277-2656.

Yours very truly,

Daniel W. Varin  
Chief, Statewide Planning

DWV/WBB/j1

ATTACHMENTS: A. 208 Rules and Regulations (Federal Register  
9/14/73)  
B. Section 208, FWPCA Amendments of 1972  
C. Suggested resolution

PAMPHLETS: Areawide Waste Treatment Management Planning  
The Challenge and Opportunity of Water Quality  
Management Planning