

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 140

EFFECTIVE ~~APPROX~~ April 26, 2010

WHEREAS, The Providence School Department issued its Facilities Master Plan in January 2010, which examined and made recommendations regarding the district's school buildings; and

WHEREAS, The facilities plan recommended the closure of six schools due to excess capacity, and/or building condition; and

WHEREAS, Most schools are significant structures, and are recognized as landmarks in their communities; and

WHEREAS, The School Department's proposal does not detail the future plans for – or use of – the school buildings that would be closed, thereby allowing for the possible deterioration of the structures, including lack of maintenance and vandalism; and

WHEREAS, The abandonment of large properties in the heart of dense, urban neighborhoods will create gaps in the streetscape, and undermine the cohesiveness of the built environment, in addition to destroying the symbolic heart of many communities; and

WHEREAS, Major school structures provide stability to Providence neighborhoods, many of which continue to be destabilized by the prevalence of boarded-up and foreclosed properties throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Without a fully articulated plan by the School Department in place, closing neighborhood schools will further contribute to the deterioration and blight in Providence neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Recommendations for adaptive reuse, and/or renovations to meet current school design standards, must be included in all proposals for school closures, in order to protect the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby establish a moratorium on all school closures recommended in the 2010 Facilities Master Plan, and/or any other proposal by the School Board and Superintendent to close any of the city's public schools; and

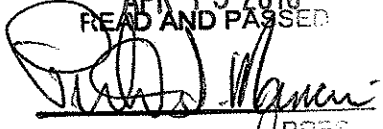

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That said moratorium will be in effect until such time Page 2

the School Board and Superintendent present to the City Council and the public a plan for the utilization of any decommissioned school building, and/or a plan to renovate any such building for future use as school or other use; and

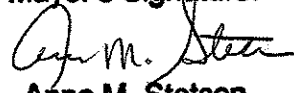
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon adoption, a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Superintendent of Schools, the President of the School Board, and the Acting Director of Public Property.

IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 15 2010
READ AND PASSED


PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature:


Anna M. Stetson
City Clerk