

CAROL GRANT  
Chief of Operations

DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Mayor



**OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

January 11, 2007

Anna M. Stetson  
City Clerk  
Providence City Hall

Dear Ms. Stetson,

With this letter are submitted the Annual Reports for the 2006 Fiscal Year prepared by the Department Heads of the following City Departments:

- Parks
- Planning and Development
- Public Works (Including Traffic Engineering)
- Recorder of Deeds
- Recreation
- Vital Statistics

If you have any questions regarding any of the annual reports, the Department Heads will be glad to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Carol Grant

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 2007 JAN 11 P 12:01  
 DEPT. OF CITY CLERK  
 PROVIDENCE, R.I.

**IN CITY COUNCIL**  
**JAN 25 2007**

READ  
 WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
 THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Carol Grant* CLERK

PROVIDENCE CITY HALL  
 25 DORRANCE STREET  
 PROVIDEN, RI 02905  
 PHONE 401-421-2489 FAX 401-455-8827

CAROL GRANT  
Chief of Operations

DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Mayor



## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

January 12, 2007

Mayor David N. Cicilline  
Executive Office  
Providence City Hall

Dear Mayor Cicilline,

With this letter are submitted the Annual Reports for the 2006 Fiscal Year prepared by the Department Heads of the following City Departments:

- Parks
- Planning and Development
- Public Works (Including Traffic Engineering)
- Recorder of Deeds
- Recreation
- Vital Statistic

These Departments all contribute significantly to your strategic goals of strengthening the neighborhoods of Providence and growing its economy. The enclosed reports show highlights of their results in FY 2006. In the two prior years, these Departments had invested in building capacity, in professionalizing their operations, in new systems, in energized partnerships and in new ways of approaching their work. That focus does not stop. Every day the people in the Departments are looking for ways to innovate and improve.

The results in FY 2006 attest to the wisdom of those ongoing investments. It was a year of firsts, including the first community garden, the first phase of the Big Green Cans, the first off-leash dog park, the first on-the-spot service in the Records office, and the first solar-powered lighting system.

The year was also one in which the City's core functions and services got better. The City's roads benefited from pavement sealing, striping and a pavement replacement program. The City's neighborhood commercial markets were enhanced by streetscape grants. The City's Community Development Corporations assisted by strong support from Planning and Development had their best year on record for producing housing for low and moderate-income families. Recreation programs for the City's youth grew both in numbers and quality. New woodlands trail and a full street tree inventory were created in partnership with community volunteers.

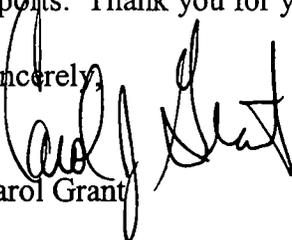
Mayor Cicilline 2

Just as important, 2006 saw the City launch a new approach to planning its future. Under your leadership and in collaboration with City Council, the Planning Department announced a first-in-the nation initiative entitled Providence Tomorrow. Updating the Comprehensive Plan could be a dry, technical endeavor. But with Providence Tomorrow, our City is using the process to build relationships. Residents are invited to conversations in multiple charettes and online comments are made easy. People from many departments collaborate with each other and with residents. Lively creative concepts and active debates about our future are anticipated and encouraged throughout the City. The plans that emerge from Providence Tomorrow will reflect the energy and diversity of our collective best thinking.

The accomplishments of our people don't stop with the end of the fiscal year. As you know, exciting and tangible results are added all the time. But the delivery of these annual reports provide you a snapshot of the good work and proud service of the men and women of these Departments.

I know you will talk with the Department Heads to let them know of any questions on these annual reports. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

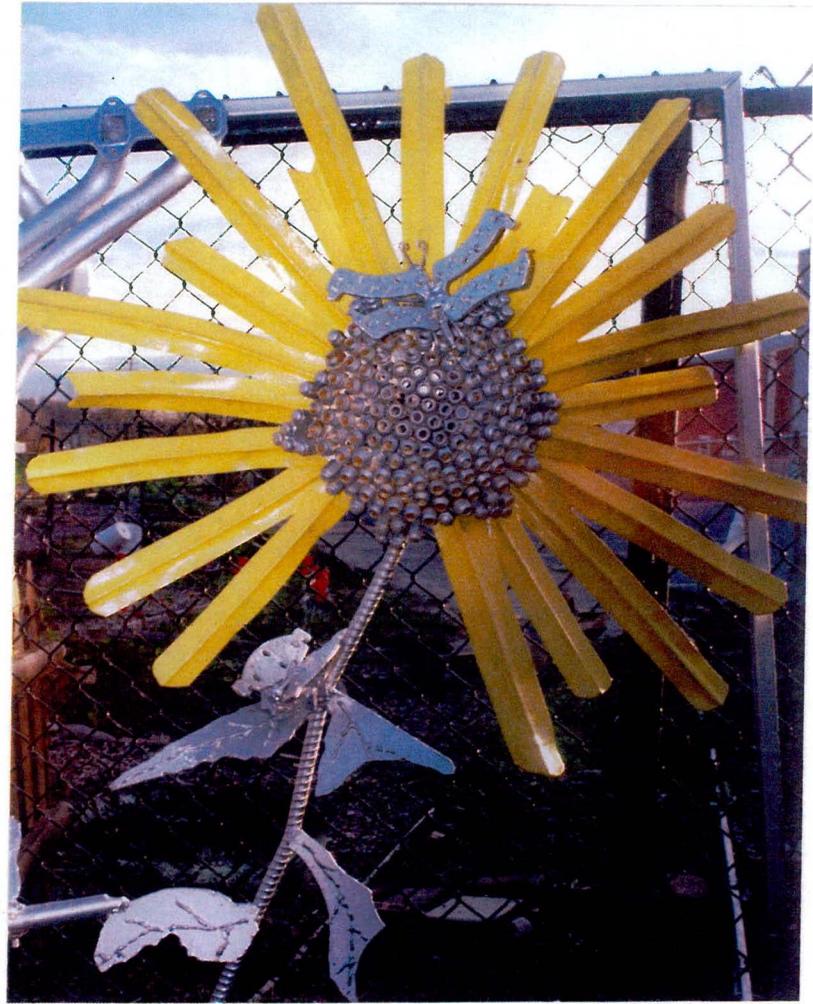


Carol Grant

Cc: City Clerk  
Department Heads

# *Providence Parks*

## Annual Report/Fiscal Year 2006



# Providence Parks Department

## *Board of Park Commissioners*

July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

**Mayor David N. Cicilline, Chairman**

**Councilman Patrick K. Butler**

**Ms. Elizabeth Gordon-Martin**

**Ms. Jill Jaffe**

**Mr. John Kelly (resigned May, 2006)**

**Ms. Sara McConnell (effective June, 2006)**

**Dr. John McCray**

**Councilman Peter S. Mancini**

## *Superintendent of Parks*

**Alix R. Ogden**

Providence Parks Department  
Dalrymple Boathouse  
Roger Williams Park  
Providence, Rhode Island 02905

401-785-9450  
agoden@providenceri.com

# **Providence Parks Department**

Annual Report

July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

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**1/Street Trees**

**2/Neighborhood Parks**

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# *1/Street Trees*

The Providence Parks Department is responsible for all of the street trees in the City in addition to trees in City parks. The street tree program is managed by the Forestry Services division which is responsible for tree removals and maintenance and by the City Forester who heads up street tree planting, the young tree care program, and other street tree management programs. A key partner in the street tree planting program is the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program (PNPP) which is funded by the Mary E. Sharpe Tree Planting Endowment.

## **Street Tree Planting**

Street tree planting occurs in Providence in the spring and in autumn months. The primary continuing funding source for street tree planting in Providence is the PNPP program which is funded equally by the Sharpe Endowment and by Parks Department funding as provided by the City Council. For the past several years, this program has funded 350-400 trees per year.

As seen in the accompanying exhibit, the number of street trees planted in Providence in the past fiscal year was down from FY 2005 by about 18 %, but was still significantly higher than two years ago. The primary reason for the decrease in planting was a major tree planting program done by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation as part of several road projects in the City in FY 2005. There were no tree plantings done by RIDOT in the City in FY 2006.

A major funding source for street tree planting in the past two years was the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. The CDBG program funded tree planting along major commercial streets as part of the *Mayor's Neighborhood*

**Market Initiative.** Trees were planted in the past year along Charles Street, Douglas Avenue, Chalkstone Avenue, Cranston Street, Reservoir Avenue, and in Olneyville Square.

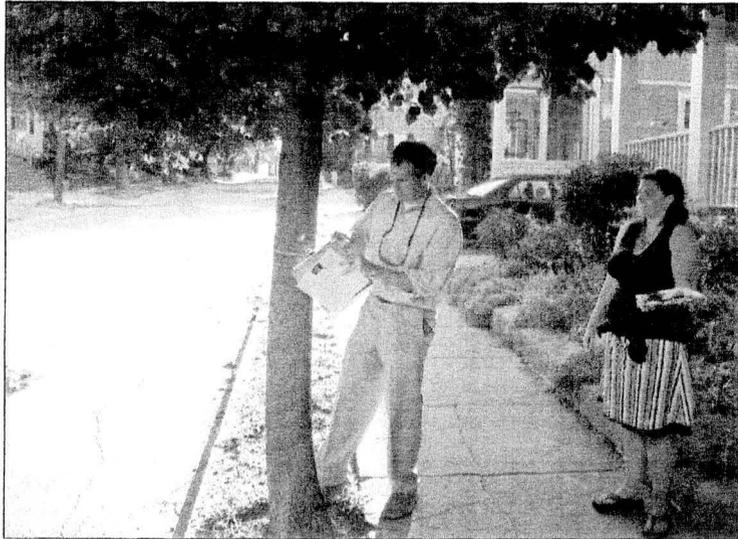
Under the direction of the City Forester, two important initiatives were accomplished in street tree planting in the past year. ***Species diversity in tree planting was increased*** from typically 12 species per year to 39 species in FY 2006. Species diversity is important in defending against specific species blights that can devastate an urban forest. And for the first time in decades, ***"bare root" planting was done***. The first effort looks promising and this program could substantially cut future tree planting costs, thereby allowing more trees to be planted.

## **Forestry Services**

The Forestry Division is responsible for tree removals, tree pruning, stump grinding, and removal of fallen branches from street trees along Providence's 400+ miles of streets. The 14 person division also handles requests for putting up a variety of banners and other decorations in the City that require a bucket truck. The division staff also provides the key staff to plant the street trees in the PNPP program.

The total numbers for tree servicing were down this year from FY 2005 due to several reasons: 1) funds for contractor services were allocated in FY 2006 for tree planting as a policy decision to increase tree plantings in the city; 2) there were two months of down time for the Division's two bucket trucks that needed repairs and servicing; and finally, 3) the service demands for incidental services for hanging banners and using the Division's bucket trucks for park light repairs increased significantly this year.

## Providence Tree Tally



*Trained volunteers conducting the citywide tree inventory*

For the first time in almost twenty years, Providence is counting its street trees—all of them. Under the direction of the City Forester and with funding from the Helen Walker Raleigh Tree Care Fund managed by the Rhode Island Foundation, a “tree tally” was begun in May, 2006 and continued throughout the summer. Results will be available in January, 2007.

Almost 100 volunteers were recruited, trained, and armed with palm pilots, clipboards, tape measures, and t-shirts to conduct the inventory of every city street tree. When the results are completely tabulated, the survey will provide invaluable data on future tree planting needs and sites, species diversity, and tree care needs in the city.

## Tree Rescue & Young Tree Care

A new program started this past year by the City Forester was the Tree Rescue program. This program focuses on improving the immediate surroundings of trees threatened by undersized tree pits, ill-advised tree grates, and pavers and pavement too close to trees. A pilot program on Smith Street removed constricting infrastructure around 29 trees and similar efforts are underway in other parts of the City.

With funding from Helen Walker Raleigh Tree Care Trust, over 700 trees planted in the last several years received some “TLC” in the past year. The work included removing weeds from tree pits, adding mulch, and fertilizing. Other newly planted trees also received special watering to help them survive in their early years.

## Downtown Tree Management Plan

With an America the Beautiful grant via Rhode Island DEM, the Parks Department completed this past year a comprehensive tree management plan for the Downtown trees. The trees in the Downtown area face unique challenges because of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, infrastructure conflicts, and lack of space both above and below ground. Using volunteers and 6 high school students employed by Groundwork Providence, the inventory portion of study counted 1,182 street trees and 718 future planting locations.

The Plan outlines future design standards for Downtown tree planting and management strategies to provide a healthy and more continuous canopy on Downtown streets.

### **STREET TREES PLANTED IN PROVIDENCE**

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>FY 2004</b>	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>
PNPP	421	318	341
City Bond Funds	69	25	23
Brown University		49	25
Rhode Island DOT		249	
Neighborhood Groups	66	84	
Community Development Block Grant		363	417
Individual Residents	49	39	50
Parks Department		23	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>937</b>



### **TREES SERVICED BY FORESTRY DIVISION**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>FY 2004</b>	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>
Tree Removals	1074	1,257*	896
Trees Pruned	799	1,129	749
Stumps	244	554*	301
Misc. (primarily pickup of fallen branches)	385	391	432

\*Funds were allocated for private contractor services for these activities in this fiscal year.

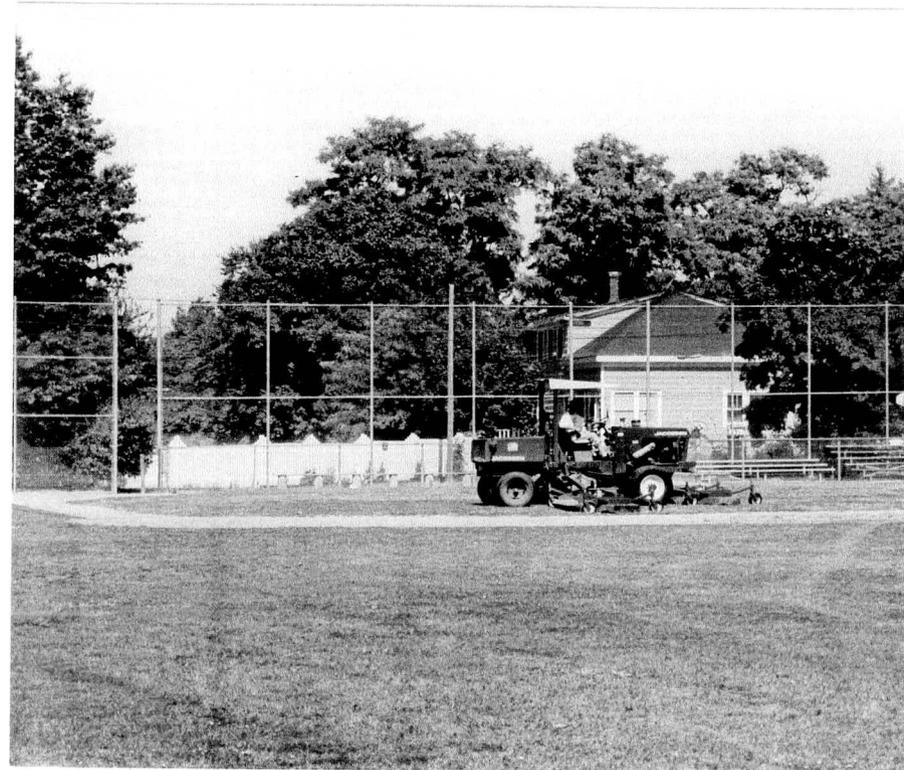
## *2/Neighborhood Parks*

### **Neighborhood Park Services**

The Neighborhood Park Services division provides maintenance and support services for the City's 112 neighborhood park spaces. It is a daunting task given the tremendous diversity in the park system. There are 62 playgrounds, 50 baseball and softball fields, 8 water parks, 37 basketball courts, 8 soccer fields, and 22 tennis courts.



Full-time crews are supplemented by seasonal workers from April-October to provide routine park maintenance: grass cutting, cleaning parks, emptying of trash barrels, removing leaves, and repairing park facilities. Given the hundreds of park lights, hundreds of benches, and more than 3 miles of fences, park repair is a daily challenge for NPS.



## Community Partners

The Parks Department has traditionally depended on support from a variety of community groups to help with park programming. In the past year, the Department worked closely with the following organizations that provide organized *youth athletic opportunities* to approximately 3,200 youth in the City's park system:

### PROVIDENCE YOUTH SPORTS: PARK PARTNERS

- +Providence Recreation Department
- +Fox Point/East Side Little League
- +North End/Wanskuck Little League
- +Elmhurst Little League
- +Mt. Pleasant Little League
- + Silver Lake/Olneyville Little League
- +Elmwood Little League
- +South Providence-Washington Park Little League
- +Cal Ripken League
- +Providence Babe Ruth League
- +West Elmwood Intruders
- +Mt. Hope Cowboys
- +South Side Saints
- +North End 49ers
- +Capitol Youth Soccer
- +Community Boating of Providence

Besides youth sports activities, neighborhood and citywide groups have partnered with the Parks Department in many ways to improve neighborhood parks. These community partner roles range from simply being a "park watchdog" to organizing a neighborhood park cleanup, providing neighborhood volunteers for a park renovation, planning park improvements, and even raising money for park improvements. See accompanying exhibit for a list of neighborhood park community partners. Several of these groups were particularly instrumental in the past year in helping the Parks Department.



*Neighborhood volunteers help to install new playground at Lennon Park*

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS: ACTIVITY IN PAST YEAR**

Group	Park Interest	Activity in the Past Year
Blackstone Park Improvement Assoc.	Blackstone Park	Spring cleanup; monitored York Pond detention pond
College Hill Neighborhood Association	Prospect Terrace	Park watchdog
Citywide Green	Citywide parks	Hosted neighborhood park conference; advised on park signage
Downtown Improvement District	Downtown parks	Park watchdog
Elmwood Foundation	New park on Peace Street	Advised on a proposed new park on Peace Street
Fox Point Neighborhood Association	Fox Point parks	Held neighborhood event at Brassil Park; advised on proposed boat ramp
Friends of Ardoene Park	Ardoene Park	Provided advice and community volunteers for Ardoene playground renovation
Friends of Blackstone Boulevard	Blackstone Boulevard	Funded new benches and on-going new planting efforts
Friends of Donigian Park	Donigian Park	Park watchdog
Friends of India Point Park	India Point Park	Installed community bulletin board; planted 3,000 flower bulbs; monitored RT 195 project
Friends of Neutaconkanut Park	Neutaconkanut Park	Partnered on trails renovation project; recruited community volunteers for trail clearing
Groundwork Providence	Burnside Park; Gano Street	Coordinated volunteer day at Burnside Park and new Gano Street community garden
Hartford Park Tenants Association	New Melissa Street Park	Advised on remediation and park plan for proposed new Melissa Street Park
Jewish Community Center	Sessions Street	Park watchdog; hosted meetings for proposed community garden
Mount Hope Neighborhood Assoc.	Billy Taylor Park	Park watchdog; hosted community events at the park
Morris Avenue Residents	Morris Avenue Park	Advised on improvements to the park
North End/Wanskuck Crime Watch	Iola French Park	Park watchdog
Olneyville Housing Corporation	New Riverside Park	Planned proposed housing/community center in proposed park
Providence Dog Park Association	Gano Street Dog Park	Helped develop operating rules for new dog park
Providence Foundation	Downtown Parks	Park watchdog; helping to coordinated revitalization plan for Burnside Park
Rhode Island Injury Prevention Council	Safe playgrounds/citywide	Funded and coordinated community assisted renovation of Lennon Park playground
Rhode Island School of Design	Providence Riverwalk	Help to maintain the Riverwalk
S. Providence Neighborhood Ministries	Southside parks	Helping to promote fitness by using southside parks
Southside Community Land Trust	Community gardens	Advised on the new community garden at Gano Street Park
Summit Neighborhood Association	Lippitt Park; Summit Ave. Pk	Park watchdog
Trust for Public Land	New Melissa Street Park	Coordinated neighborhood meetings for proposed new park
West Broadway Neighborhood Assoc.	Dexter Training Ground	Funded new tree planting in park; advised on proposed dog park
Woonasquacket Riv. Watershed Assoc.	Riverside Pk; Neutaconk. Pk.	Coordinated community input for proposed new park; managing Neut. Trails project

## New in the Neighborhood: Park Improvements

The Parks Department was very active in the past year with neighborhood park improvements. As seen in the accompanying exhibits, park improvements were completed or begun in many neighborhoods parks. Most of the projects were small in scale. Significantly, however, many park improvements were marked by neighborhood involvement in the actual renovations. In particular, the cost of the new playground at *Lennon Park* was reduced by 50% by using community volunteers to do the installation of the new equipment.

The past year also was significant for many “firsts” in neighborhood park improvements:

- The first *community garden* in a neighborhood park was developed at the *Gano Street Park*.
- The first official *off-leash dog park* was established also at the *Gano Street Park*.
- The first *solar-powered lighting system* in a Providence park was installed at *Earley Park* in Elmwood.
- The first *woodland trail system* in 50 years was cleared at *Neutaconkanut Hill* (see picture below).



*New off-leash dog run at Gano Street Park*



*A Fox Point family enjoys the new playground equipment at Brassil Park*

# NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RENOVATIONS COMPLETED IN THE PAST YEAR, FY 2006

PARK	NEIGHBORHOOD	WORK COMPLETED
Ardoene Playground	Reservoir Triangle	New playground equipment installed with community volunteers
Blackstone Boulevard	Blackstone	Tree planting with community volunteers; new benches installed
Brassil Playground	Fox Point	New playground and site improvements
Cabral Park	Fox Point	New community mural painted on Wickenden Street wall
Davis Park/Baseball Field	Valley	New dugouts
Earley Park(Cadillac Drive)	Elmwood	First solar powered lighting installed*; site improvements;new community mural*
Gano Street	Fox Point	New community garden; first official off-leash dog run
General Street Park	Wanskuck	New fencing and safety surfacing at the playground
Hopkins Square	Charles	Extensive tree pruning and new tree planting
India Point Park	Fox Point	New community bulletin board; community planting of 2,500 flower bulbs near playground*
Lennon Park	Smith Hill	New paved walking track; new community built playground
Neutaconkanut Park	Silver Lake	Three miles of woodland trails opened on Neutaconkanut Hill*
Preston & Ives Playground	Fox Point	New lighting installed
George West Park	Mount Pleasant	New building erected for future water park facility
Ruth Williams Playground	Upper South Providence	Memorial installed at re-named playground in honor of the late Ruth Williams*

\*These improvements were completed in the summer, after the official end of FY 2006

# NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RENOVATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN THE COMING YEAR

<b>PARK</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD</b>	<b>WORK TO BE COMPLETED</b>
Ardoene Park	Reservoir Triangle	Basketball court re-paving re-striping
Donigian Park	Valley	New lighting system around the walking track
Earley Park (Cadillac Drive)	Elmwood	New soccer field turf
Gano Street	Fox Point	Conversion of old softball field to little league field
General Street Park	Wanskuck	New water park
Locust Grove Cemetery	Elmwood	New lighting
Lower Prospect Terrace	College Hill	Site improvements: new retaining walls and turf improvements
Neutaconkanut Park	Silver Lake	Phase II of trail improvements; new off-leash dog run area
Riverside Park	Olneyville	New park opened
Roger Williams Landing	Fox Point	Site Improvements: fencing, landscaping, lighting
Sackett Street Park	Elmwood	Ballfield improvements
Sessions Street Park	Blackstone	New community garden
George West Park	Mount Pleasant	Water park
Iola French Park	Wanskuck	New paved walking track

## New in the Neighborhood: Park Art

Providence neighborhood parks are blessed with an incredible amount of public art that ranges from simple murals completed by neighborhood youth to historic bronze sculpture done by famous sculptors.

Much of the bronze public art in our parks are “hidden treasures”, hidden because we generally don’t notice them. But some of the traditional bronze sculpture in our parks does engage us, such as *The Spirit of Youth* (see below) on the *Blackstone Boulevard*, which engages the walkers and runners who pass her by.

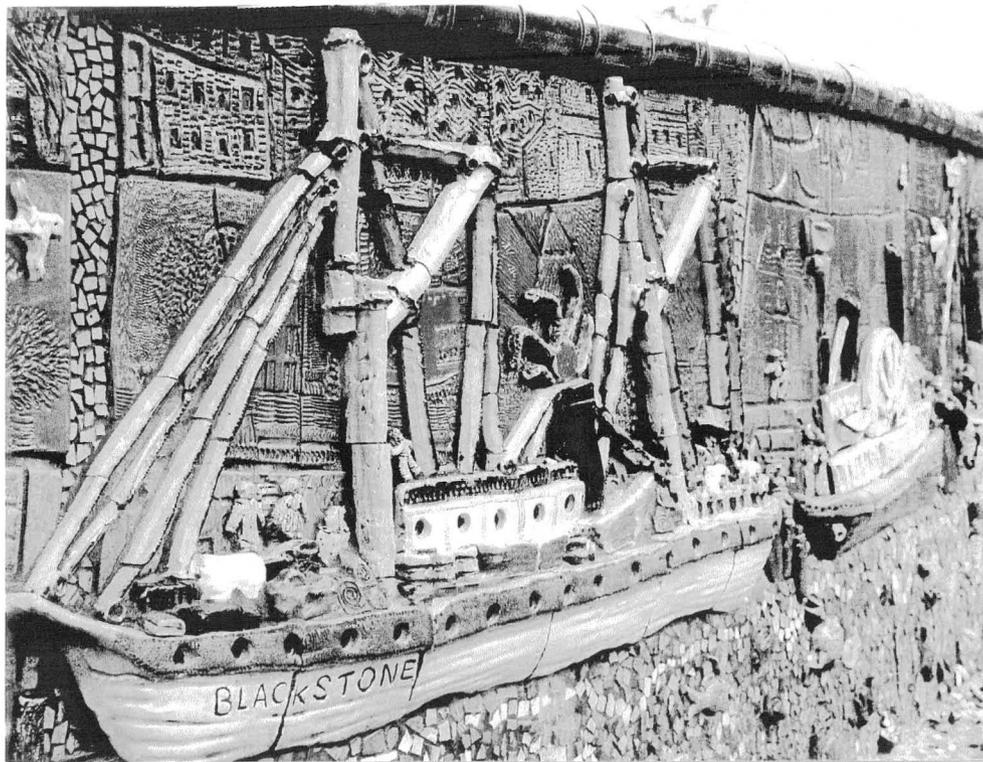


More recent public art in our parks is less commemorative and sentimental than the bronze sculptures of the past; rather these contemporary art pieces simply grace a park space and engage park users to provide their own meaning and feelings about the work. The work shown below on the Providence Riverwalk is such an example.

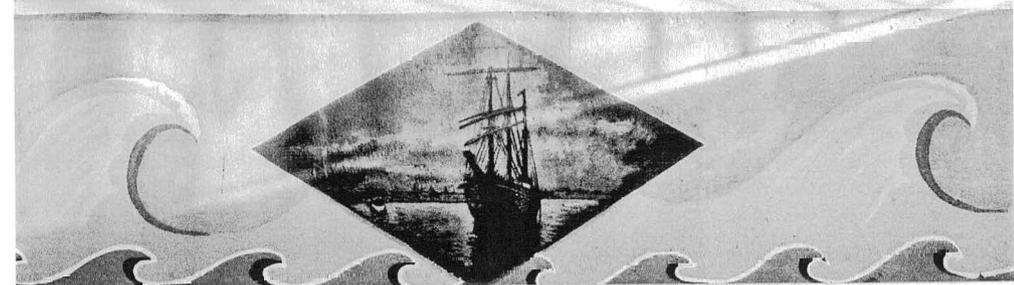


## Park Art Completed in the Past Year

An encouraging trend in Providence neighborhood park art is the use of art to “stamp neighborhood ownership” on the park. The recently completed wall mural at *India Point Park* is a great example.



The new murals at *Earley Park* in Elmwood and at *Cabral Park* in Fox Point are also good examples of neighborhood expression



In the past year new commemorative public sculpture monuments were erected.

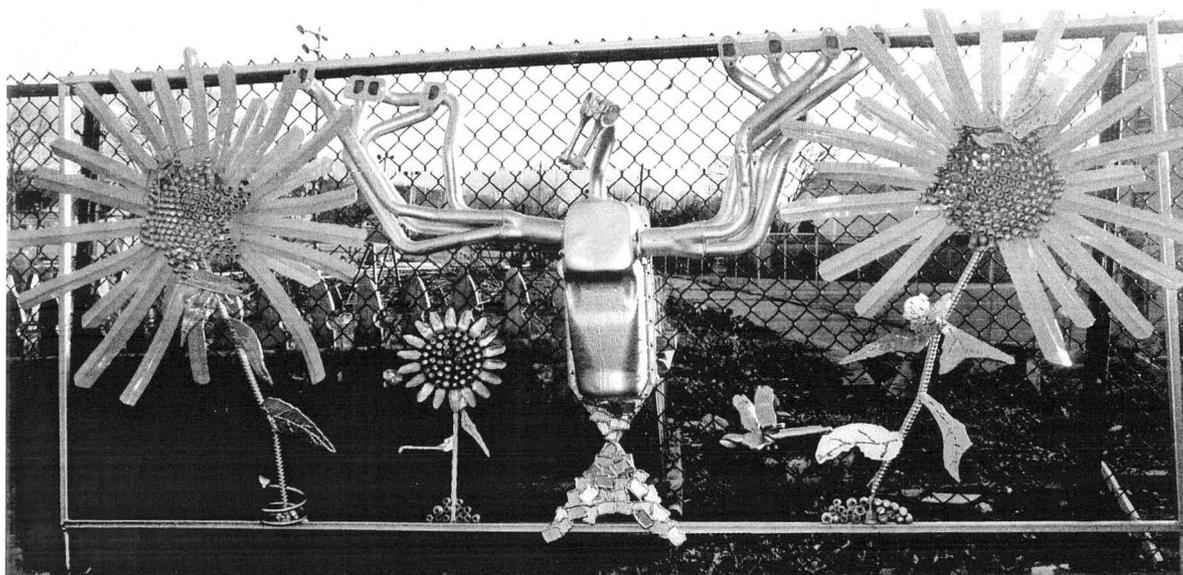


*New sculpture at Ruth Williams Playground that commemorates the memory of a beloved neighbor.*



*The Festa Italiana Society monument at Garibaldi Park*

Finally, this past year saw the installation of some delightful and playful public art in neighborhood parks.



*The fence line at the Gano Street Park community garden*



*One of five "bike pole sculptures" along the bike path under construction at the new Riverside Park(above)*

*New fence mural at Riverside Park(left)*



## Now Playing in the Park...

The Providence Parks performing arts scene encompasses more than just WaterFire and weekend concerts at Waterplace Park. Neighborhood parks this past year were alive with performing arts and neighborhood festivals attracting thousands of neighborhood residents. The Parks Department teamed up once again with the Art, Culture, & Tourism Department to co-produce a performing arts program in a dozen neighborhood parks. These events were supplemented by more than 50 large neighborhood festivals and events held in neighborhood parks, Roger Williams Park, and the Bank of America City Center.



*Neighborhood Festival at Earley Park*



*Mayor Cicilline joins the fun at the community festival at Lippit Park*



*Movie Night at Merino Park*

## *3/Roger Williams Park*

### **There's Always Something Happening at the Park**

This past year was an active one as always at Roger Williams Park. The **Park Casino** was a favorite place to party and meet with 160 events in FY 2006. The grounds of the Park were also active with another 60 major outdoor events, including walkathons, neighborhood festivals, and for the first time, the **National Cyclocross Championships**. This event drew hundreds to the Park in the snow last December and will once again be held in the Park this coming December.



## **The Museum of Natural History and Planetarium**

Since the 1890's, the park Museum has been a leader in the community in informal science education for students and the general public. The Museum collects natural history specimens and cultural artifacts from around the world. These collections have educational value beyond their scientific significance. They provide Providence children with opportunities to learn about plants, ecological patterns, cultures and astronomical phenomena. In the past fiscal year, approximately 24,000 visitors experienced the Museum's collections, exhibits, or educational programs. Repairs and reconstruction to the cornice and gutter system in the rear of the building also began this year, aided by a grant from **RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission**.

### **Programs/Exhibits**

*Structures of Nature: Photographs by Andreas Feininger*, featured 50 photographs by this world-renowned photographer that captured the pattern and texture of natural forms.

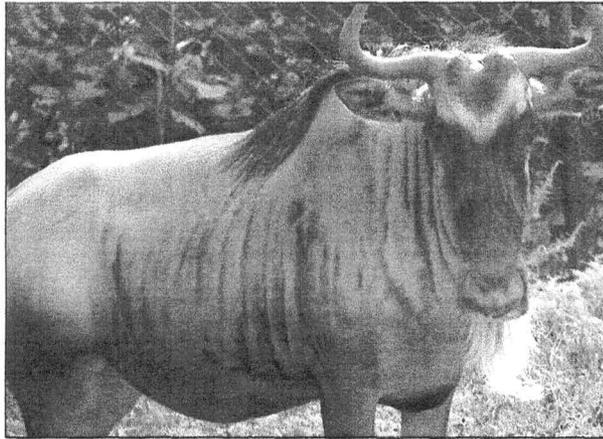
*Into the Unknown: The Spirit of Exploration* highlighted the common issues in exploring the vastness of space; in collaboration with NASA.

*"Dead or Alive"* was an after school program developed with the Providence After School Alliance. The Museum programs included planetarium shows and behind-the-scene collection tours.

*Space Camp* was once again a sold out summer program.

*Astronaut Academy* was a popular after school program for older kids.

## The Zoo: Lots of Creature Features



School kids and families once again enjoyed Providence's favorite place to visit, the Roger Williams Park Zoo as seen by the statistics below. Three hundred docent volunteers donated 19,184 hours of volunteer time in the education programs. Over 500,000 visitors enjoyed the Zoo in the past year, with the Dinosaur Exhibit a special treat.

Work has also begun on expanding the Elephant holding building to allow first ever breeding for the Zoo's three elephants.



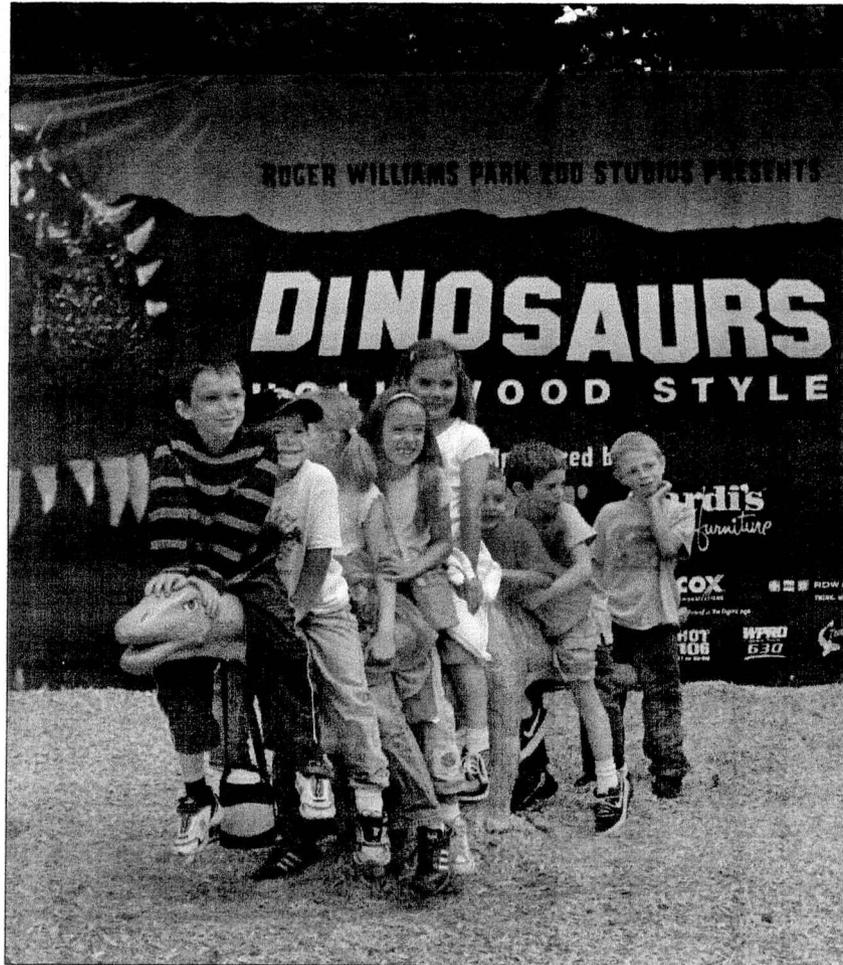
### Zoo Education Programs: By the Numbers

<u>Program</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
Early Education Programs	1,863
Family Programs	623
On-grounds Tours	926
Scout Programs	285
Zoo Overnights	1,233
Zoomobile Outreach	13,493
Zoo Camp/Travel Camp	1,034
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,457</b>

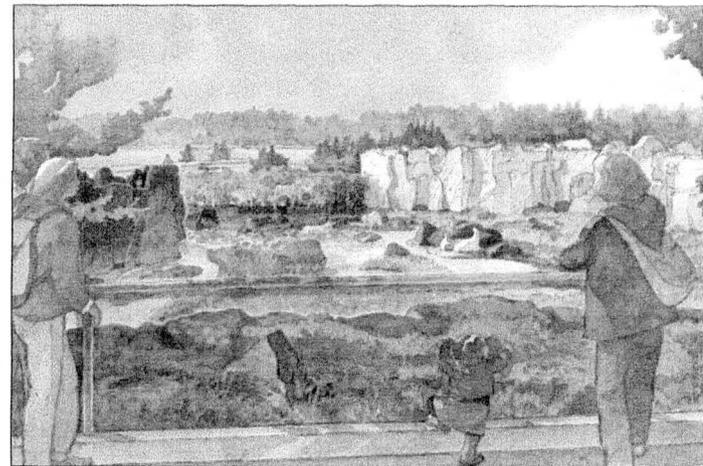
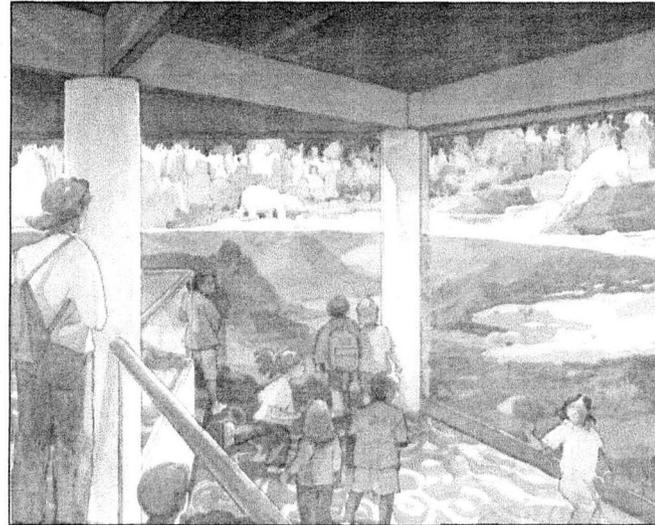
<u>Field Trips</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
Overall Groups (1,134)	62,366
Providence Schools (78)	3,384



Dinosaurs may have finally gone extinct at the Roger Williams Park Zoo... at least for a few years anyway.



Coming Soon....Design has begun on a world class new North American exhibit area that will bring polar bears back to the Zoo and totally change several other exhibits in the area of the former polar bear exhibit. The accompanying illustrations provide a peek into what the new polar bear exhibit will look like.



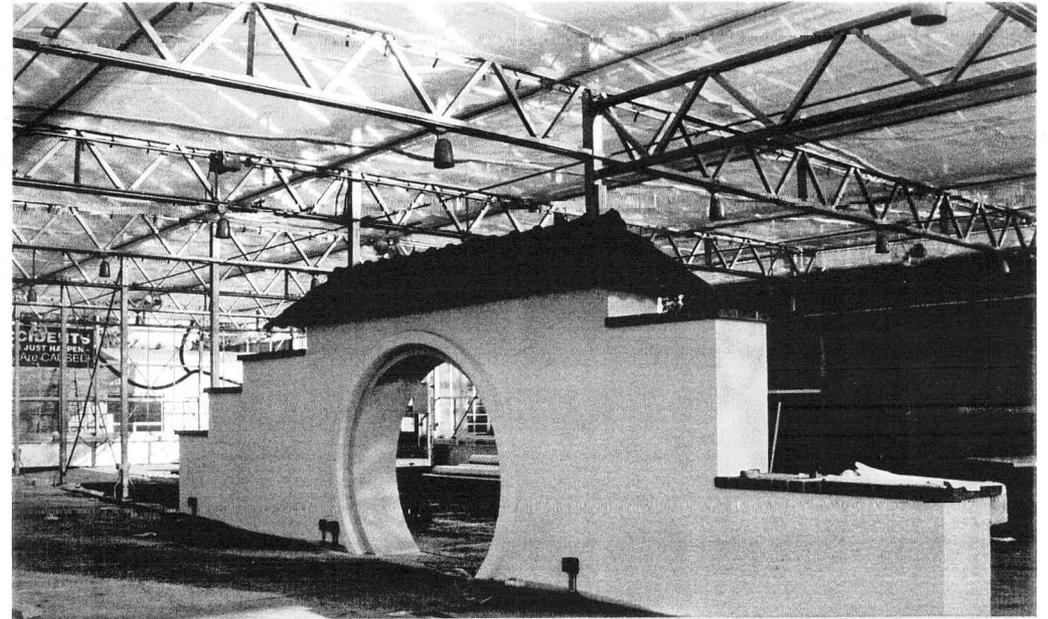
## The Botanical Center

Great progress was made in the last year in the construction of the new \$7.5 million Roger Williams Park Botanical Center. The construction is being managed by the Gilbane Company of Providence.

The first phase of the project when completed in January, 2007 will include a new Conservatory, renovated greenhouses to be used as classrooms and hands-on teaching areas, educational offices in the former blockhouse, a gazebo for wedding ceremonies, an area for tented events, extensive underground utilities, and a parking area. The installation of outdoor gardens, the next phase of the project, will begin in the summer of 2007.



*The new Conservatory taking shape*



*An interior view of one of the new Conservatory garden areas*



*The new outdoor gazebo—soon to be another landmark location for weddings in Roger William Park*

## *4/Citywide Park Facilities*

### **Bank of America City Center**

In its second year of joint operation by the Parks Department and Rink Management Services, the Bank of America City Center enjoyed a successful ice skating season in 2005/2006.

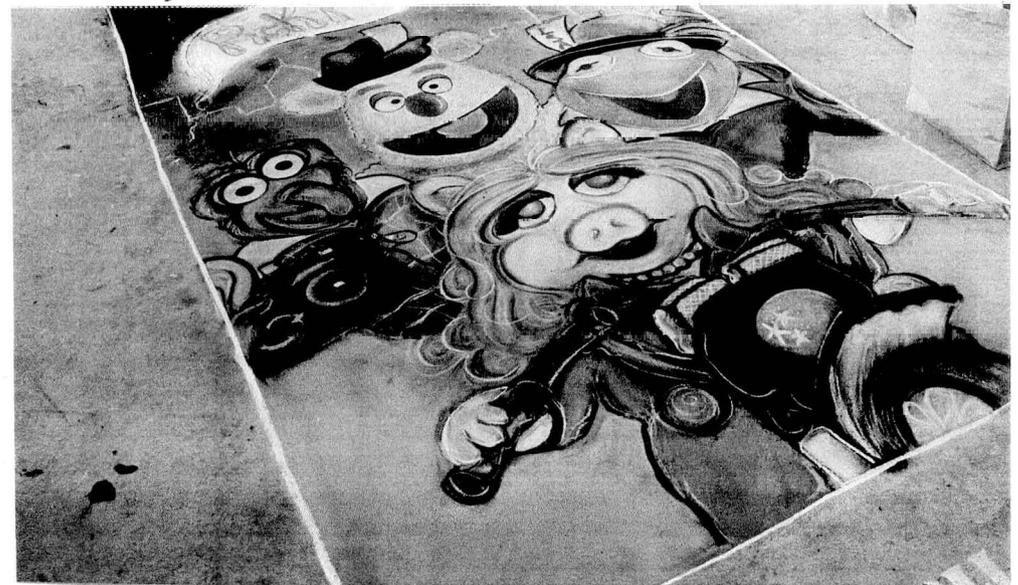


More than 50,000 skaters enjoyed the skating rink from Thanksgiving to St. Patrick's Day. In addition, the rink held a "**Providence Winter Olympic Fest**" during February which featured figure skating demonstrations, speed skating races, ice curling, and a special "Cardi's Chair Race" competition.

The City Center continues to expand its event offerings in the non-skating season. A second year of the Downtown Farmer's Market was held from June through October. And the second year of the **Providence Roller Derby** series enjoyed fan support from June to September.



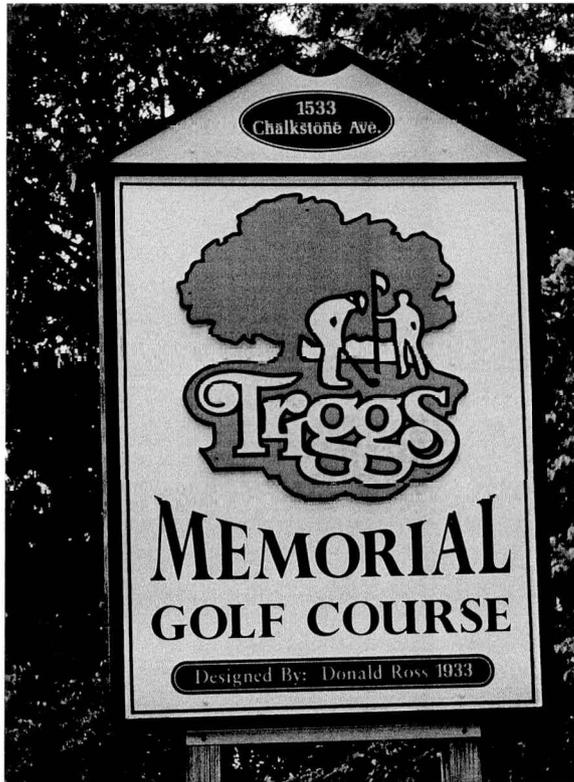
Special events, such as the **Providence Street Painting Festival**, provide additional activity on summer weekends at the City Center.



## Triggs Memorial Golf Course

Designed by world famous golf course architect Donald Ross in the 1930's, Triggs Memorial Golf Course continues today to be one of the most popular public golf courses in New England. In the past year almost 45,000 rounds of golf were played on the course. Located in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood and encompassing 161 acres, the golf course is a jewel of open space in Providence.

For the past 15 years, Triggs has been operated by FCG Associates for the City. The lease revenue streams provide an annual revenue stream for the Parks Department that is used for neighborhood park improvements. Triggs attracted a number of regional and state golf tournaments last year, including the New England Intercollegiate Championship and the Rhode Island Public Links Championship.



## North Burial Ground



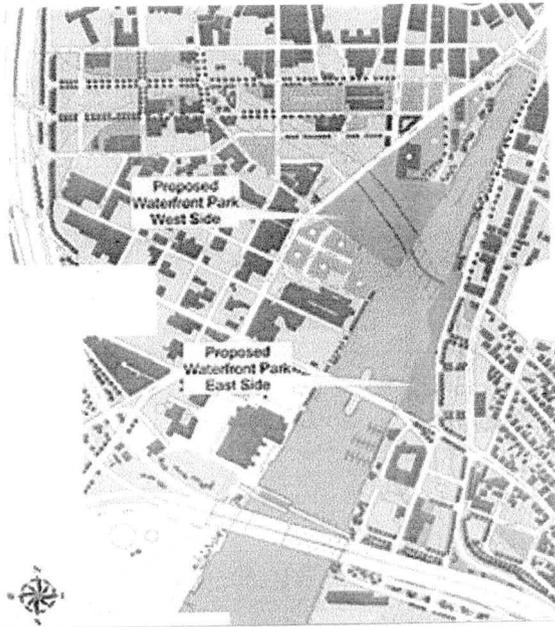
Dating back to 1700, the North Burial Ground (NBG) at 109 acres is one of the largest public spaces under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. Last year there were 223 burials.



The maintenance of NBG is tremendous challenge, not only because of the size of the facility, but because of the number of gravestones and their proximity to each other. To facilitate grass-cutting operations, full-time employees are supplemented by seasonal staff from April to October each year.

## Waterfront Park Design Competition

The relocation of RT 195 by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation will have a major beneficial impact on one of the City's most important public spaces—India Point Park. It will also open 30 acres of land along the waterfront just south of Downtown for new development. And thanks to RIDOT, some of the land—6 acres on the west side of the Providence River and 2 acres on the east side of the Providence River—will be set aside for open space.



In order to ensure that these two parcels reflect the vision of Providence residents, Mayor Cicilline convened a panel of community leaders in the arts, business, and parks to hold a nation design competition to develop concept plans for these new parks. Twenty-six designs were received and the committee will announce a decision in December 2006. The parks will be built by RIDOT, based on the winning designs, in 2010-11.

### Waterfront Design Selection Committee

Jill Jaffe  
Merrill Sherman  
Arthur Salisbury  
Howard Ben Tre  
Jenny Pereria  
Ano Cano-Morales  
Keith Oliveira  
Frank LaTorre  
Arria Bilodeau  
Barbara Petrarca  
Mary Ellen Flanagan

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Annual Report ✧ Fiscal Year 2006**  
*Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director*



*Working with the residents of Providence to create the vision  
for the city that Providence can become.*

**Mayor David N. Cicilline**





**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Annual Report** ✧ **Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006)**  
*Mayor David N. Cicilline*



**MAYOR DAVID N. CICILLINE**

*CHIEF OF OPERATIONS*  
 Carol Grant

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
*Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director*

*FISCAL*  
 Mark Merlino, Director  
 Syneth Buor  
 Russell Caramante  
 Larry Mancini  
 Brian Michela  
 Denise Scittarelli

*ADMINISTRATION/MIS*  
 Ann Fera  
 Marcia Brown  
 Clinton Goins  
 Beverly Moreira-Schechtman

**PLANNING DIVISION**  
 Linda M. Painter, AICP, Deputy Director

*Planning*  
 Robert Azar, AICP  
 David Everett  
 Roberta Groch, AICP  
 Bonnie Nickerson, AICP  
 Mieke Stekelenburg

*Plan Review/Development*  
 Paula Baron  
 Christopher Ise  
 Jason Martin

*GIS*  
 Robert Enright  
 Edward Grant

*COMPLIANCE AND MONITORING*  
 Stephen Vadnais, Director  
 Nancy Almagno  
 Collen Dupre  
 David Hochman  
 Donna Miele  
 Anastasia Williams

**DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**  
 Amintha K. Cinotti, Deputy Director

*Housing Services*  
 Barbara Barone  
 Tom D'Amico  
 Jameela Dunstan  
 Bob Hallel  
 David Johnston  
 April Lape  
 Paul Marandola  
 Karen Marsella  
 Nelson Rodriguez  
 Pat Rossi  
 Ken Schadegg

*BUSINESS SERVICES*  
 Kathy Cosentino  
 Chris Michallides  
 Arthur Speaks

*REAL ESTATE*  
 April Wolf, Director  
 Monica Jerejian  
 Michael Lepore

**CITY COUNCIL**

*Ward 1*  
 David Segal

*Ward 2*  
 Rita Williams

*Ward 3*  
 Kevin Jackson

*Ward 4*  
 Carol Romano

*Ward 5*  
 Patrick Butler

*Ward 6*  
 Joseph DeLuca

*Ward 7*  
 John Igliozzi

*Ward 8*  
 Ronald Allen

*Ward 9*  
 Miguel Luna

*Ward 10*  
 Luis Aponte

*Ward 11*  
 Balbina Young

*Ward 12*  
 Terrence Hassett

*Ward 13*  
 John Lombardi,  
 Council President

*Ward 14*  
 Peter Mancini

*Ward 15*  
 Josephine DiRuzzo

## Department Overview



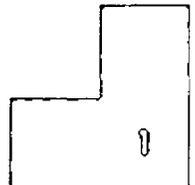
The people of Providence know the Planning Department in terms of their past interactions. Some people think of the department as the Historic District Commission, while others think it is the Redevelopment Agency. Still others think of the department as community development dollars or the housing programs or the business loan program. While all of these opinions are right, the fundamental responsibility of the department is to plan the city's future and develop the rules, regulations, and funding sources to carry out the plans.

*Working with the citizens of Providence, the Department creates the vision for the city that Providence can become and develops the plans and implementing programs that will make all of Providence's neighborhoods great places to live, work and play.*

It is clear from the Department's mission that there are two basic functions for the department: planning, the visioning arm of the department, and development, the implementing arm. The city charter and ordinances, state law and federal regulation further define the functions of the department by directing the department to:

- ◇ Advise the Mayor on any matter affecting physical development;
- ◇ Assist the City Plan Commission in the development of all city plans;
- ◇ Review and make recommendations regarding proposed action by the city council, the Providence Redevelopment Agency and other city agencies regarding implementation of city plans;
- ◇ Develop and periodically review the five-year Capital Improvement Program and annual capital budget;
- ◇ Provide staff services to the City Plan Commission;
- ◇ Prepare rules and regulations to govern subdivision of land;
- ◇ Develop and maintain the Zoning Ordinance;
- ◇ Oversee all matters which lead to improvement in: the type, distribution, intensity and treatment of land and building use; traffic circulation; and, the organization and effectiveness of economic activities and social systems; and
- ◇ Manage and monitor entitlement programs in accordance with regulations.

To achieve these responsibilities, the Department has established the following objectives:





## Objective: Progressive Planning Process

*Create a progressive and responsive planning process that will provide expert planning and implementation skills to advance the vision of the City's future to provide thoughtful and creative strategies for the revitalization of neighborhoods*

### 2006 Accomplishments

On May 31, 2006, Mayor Cicilline, in partnership with the City Council, announced the creation of *Providence Tomorrow: Our City, Our Neighborhoods, Our Future*—an innovative and inclusive planning process designed to create a framework for growth and preservation of Providence neighborhoods.

This planning process was developed by the staff of the Planning Division to meet the following objectives:

- ✧ Inform updates to Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance to ensure protection of neighborhood character and direct growth and economic development to desired areas
- ✧ Identify neighborhood specific objectives for use in review of proposed development projects
- ✧ Strengthen relationships with the neighborhoods/neighborhood leaders through an open, transparent, accessible and inclusive process
- ✧ Engage the interest and participation of a broader group of citizens that reflects the city's diversity

To ensure that everyone has a voice in the future of our city and our neighborhoods, the *Providence Tomorrow* initiative will focus public involvement through the use of charrettes, multi-day planning sessions during a one-week period where ideas expressed at the beginning of the week can be transformed into plans by the end of the week.

### 2007 Goals

- ✧ Host a citywide charrette in October 2006 to look at growth and preservation issues citywide and establish the framework for updates to the Comprehensive Plan and the neighborhood plans.
- ✧ Complete interim update to Comprehensive Plan by April 2007
- ✧ Begin neighborhood charrettes in the winter of 2007



## Objective: Expert Guidance



*Provide expert advice and guidance to boards and citizen groups who seek to develop and improve housing and commercial or industrial development, be it through new construction, historic restoration or neighborhood improvement.*

### 2006 Accomplishments

The Development Division provides staff support to the following:

#### ◆ *Housing Council (HC)*

The Providence Housing Council is an advisory group established by Mayor David N. Cicilline in 2004 to gather advocates, funders, and citizens to the table to create solutions for the City's housing affordability needs and review proposed housing policies and programs brought forth by the Department of Planning and Development.

The Planning Division provides staff support to the following Commissions/Committees:

#### ◆ *City Plan Commission (CPC)*

*Chair* ◆ *Vice Chair* ◆ Jennifer ◆ Andrew ◆ James ◆ Samuel ◆ Bryan  
Steve Durkee ◆ Harry Bilodeau ◆ Cole ◆ Cortes ◆ Leach ◆ Limiadi ◆ Principe

The CPC is responsible for the review and approval of all subdivisions, land development projects and institutional master plans and recommendations to City Council on: abandonment of easements and rights-of-way, the Capital Improvement Plan; and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Map and Comprehensive Plan.

#### ◆ *Downcity Design Review Committee (DRC)*

*Chair* ◆ *Vice Chair* ◆ Richard ◆ Elizabeth ◆ Glen ◆ Elizabeth ◆ Barbara  
Reverend ◆ Clark Schoettle ◆ Baccari Jr. ◆ Chace ◆ Fontecchio ◆ Isaacson ◆ Macauley  
Robert Brooks

The DRC is responsible for review and approval of new construction and alterations to existing buildings in the Downcity overlay district.

#### ◆ *Providence Historic District Commission (PHDC)*

*Chair* ◆ *Vice Chair* ◆ Cornelius ◆ Virginia ◆ Erin ◆ Neal ◆ Catherine ◆ Mildred ◆ Tina ◆ Cecilia  
Glen ◆ Clark ◆ DeBoer ◆ Branch ◆ Chace ◆ Kaplan ◆ Lund ◆ Parillo ◆ Regan ◆ Searle  
Fontecchio ◆ Schoettle

The PHDC is responsible for review and approval of new construction and alterations to existing buildings in designated historic districts. Includes ±2,000 structures.



## Objective: Expert Guidance

### 2006 Accomplishments (continued)

Staff support includes scheduling meetings, preparing agendas and minutes, meeting with applicants and concerned neighbors, preparing staff reports and attending each meeting to provide assistance and advice. Each of the committees listed above meets on a monthly basis and holds special meetings as needed, including an annual workshop/retreat for each committee. As such, the staff of the planning division provides support for approximately 36 commission meetings annually. In addition, the Division also prepares written recommendations on all petitions acted on by the Zoning Board of Review.

The following table identifies the number of applications reviewed during fiscal year 2006 for each of the commissions.

Board/Commission	2005 Applications	2006 Applications	Percent Change
City Plan Commission*	128	134	4.7%
Downcity Design Review Committee*	23	21	-8.7%
Providence Historic District Commission*	198	194	-2.0%
Zoning Board of Review	93	130	40%
<b>Total</b>	421	479	14%

\*Includes administrative reviews and referrals from the City Council

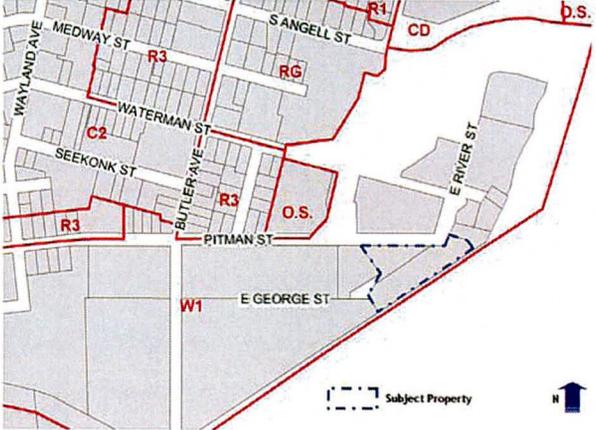
### 2007 Goals

- ❖ Work with the City Plan Commission to update the development review regulations
- ❖ Continue to review projects in a timely manner
- ❖ Work with the Chairs of the City Plan Commission, Historic District Commission, Downcity Design Review Committee and Zoning Board of Review to coordinate review of projects that require approvals from multiple commissions

Providence  
City Plan Commission  
March 21, 2006



**AGENDA ITEM 14 - 281-285 PITMAN STREET**



Subject Property



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**OVERVIEW**

<p><b>OWNER/APPLICANT:</b> Essex Richmond, LLC</p> <p><b>CASE NO. / PROJECT TYPE:</b> 06-015MA Major Land Development Project (Master Plan Stage)</p> <p><b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b> 281-285 Pitman Street (AP 15, Lots 6 and 451)</p> <p><b>NEIGHBORHOOD:</b> Fox Point</p>	<p><b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION:</b> Redevelopment of an existing 2.1 acre site abutting the Seekonk River through the demolition of the existing office building and surface parking lot and construction of two four-story buildings that contain a total of 35 dwelling units and 5,547 square feet of commercial space.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> Approval of the Master Plan subject to the findings and conditions noted on page 14...</p> <p><b>PROJECT PLANNER:</b> Roberta Groch, AICP</p>
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Richmond Square

Essex Richmond LLC

Final/Prop Equipment Plan

## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



*Promote neighborhood revitalization, housing, job development and business expansion by getting federal dollars quickly into development that will have a positive impact on the city's neighborhoods.*

The City of Providence has made great progress in recent years. We've witnessed tremendous growth in all areas, from arts & culture to economic development. But in order to ensure the continued success of our city, we need to redouble our efforts and commitment to strengthening our neighborhoods and revitalizing our communities.

The core of our society and the heart of our strong neighborhoods are our working families. The City of Providence is deeply committed to supporting families by working to make housing more affordable. Everyone deserves the opportunity to live in decent housing. This requires creating new affordable housing units, preserving existing units and providing leadership, support and homeownership opportunities for working families.

The condition of Providence's housing stock tends to reflect the condition of the city overall. When the city's fortunes were in the decline, the condition of Providence's housing stock and property values spiraled down as well. However, Providence is now in a sustained period of growth and revitalization. This city has transformed itself and is now one of the most desirable places to live in the Northeast. Nowhere is this more evident than in the housing market and the condition of the housing stock.

The number of housing units in the city has increased dramatically since 2000. There is unprecedented development throughout the City of Providence. Developers, using the Rhode Island Historic Tax Credit, are converting industrial and commercial buildings to residential uses as well as creating large scale new construction condominium developments. Rental units in our historic former department stores in Downtown Providence and The Foundry, and the condominiums at The Capital Center, The Westin, and One-Ten Westminster are just a few examples of this ongoing development activity which highlight the vitality of Providence as a strong urban environment.

Providence has a network of non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs) that are rehabilitating abandoned and/or substandard houses into affordable homes for city residents. The CDCs are also developing community based new affordable housing units for rental and homeownership. Between 2003 and June 2005, a period of 2 1/2 years, building permits were granted for over 2000 residential units in Providence. Compared to the previous 10-year period, there were approximately 3,200 units constructed.



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

This increase in construction demonstrates the rapid pace of development in Providence today. The 2005-2006 production year was one of the best on record for the Community Development Corporations who receive Community Block Grants through the performance funding formula. 207 units for low and moderate income families were either constructed or preserved in seven neighborhoods.

To serve city residents in all neighborhoods, the city has developed a wide array of programs that assist first time buyers, preserve units through rehabilitation and serve the elderly through deferred loan products. For first time buyers, down payment and closing cost assistance is available for families/individuals with incomes of up to 120% of area median income; additionally the American Dream down payment program is available for families with incomes of up to 80% of area median. The Housing Repair program along with the Senior deferred and Emergency Repair program are available to assist with housing preservation and modernization. The Lead Hazard Reduction is also available citywide and serves city residents with lead poisoned children, children under 6 years of age and pregnant women residing in the unit.

While the increase in development is a benefit to the city as a whole, it has priced many low and moderate income families out of the city's housing market. The vast majority of new housing being produced in Providence is expensive housing which low and moderate income families cannot afford.

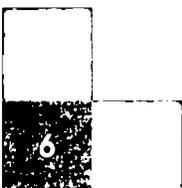
The City of Providence is on the cusp of undertaking some bold new initiatives that will not only ensure our economic health, but will also provide for new resources for affordable housing production in all neighborhoods of the City.

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Federal Grants

The Department is currently managing the following federal grants that are geared toward neighborhood revitalizations:

- ◇ Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): \$6,407,247
- ◇ HOME: \$2,750,458
- ◇ ESG: \$248,423
- ◇ Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA): \$764,000



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



### Federal Grants (continued)

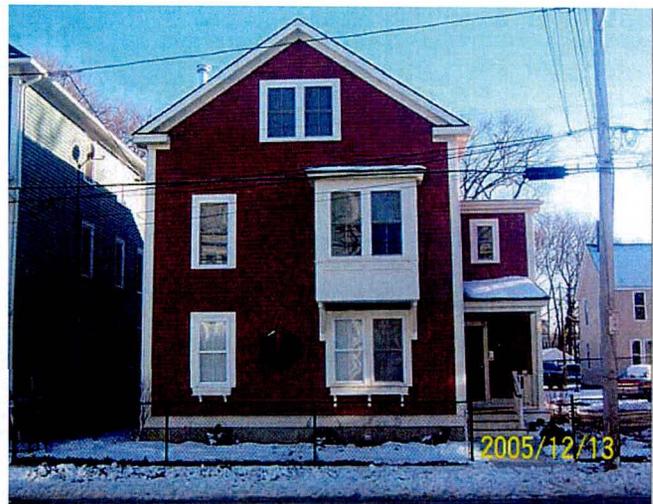
- ✧ HUD Lead Grant: \$3.9 Million (received 2005)
- ✧ HUD EDI-SP: \$250,000 for Commercial Revitalization Program
- ✧ EPA Brownfields Grants:
  - ◆ Louttit Laundry Clean-Up (West End): \$200,000 (received 2005)
  - ◆ Lincoln Lace and Braid Clean-Up (Hartford): \$200,000 (received 2006)
  - ◆ Brownfields Assessment: \$200,000 (received 2006)

Additionally, the Department prepared a successful application to have the expansion of CAPCO Steel listed on the State Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which will enable us to seek federal assistance for acquiring the needed land for expansion.

### Housing Programs

Fiscal Year 2006 was a very successful year for the City's Housing Programs, as evidenced by the following accomplishments:

- ✧ Completed and distributed Mayor Cicilline's **Housing In Providence** which contained *Create Preserve Revitalize: A Housing Agenda for Providence for 2006*; *Building on Our Strength: Realizing the Vision for Housing and the Providence Housing Investment Programs: Housing Trust Handbook*.
- ✧ Hosted **A Celebration of Housing** - Mayor Cicilline's first annual housing breakfast honoring the partnerships between the City, Congressional Delegation and the Community Development Corporations.
- ✧ Initiated two new housing programs into the Housing Trust portfolio: *City Home* which provides funding for medium income families of 81 to 120% of median to purchase homes in the City of Providence. These families are generally not eligible for any assistance and make up the majority of potential homeowners in the City. The program is available Citywide. The *Land Acquisition Program* sets aside funding to assist community development corporations acquire land for the development of affordable housing, with funds loaned for up to one year.



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



- ✧ Recognized Stop Wasting Abandoned Property (SWAP) with the 2005-2006 Top Affordable Housing Producer Award.
- ✧ Recognized Clear Corp/West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation with the 2005-2006 Award for City Partnership.
- ✧ Participated in the production of the Statewide Affordable Housing Plan element and the Attorney General's Advisory Commission on Lead.
- ✧ Provided assistance to Providence residents in the acquisition and repair of housing units and financial assistance to Community Development Corporations in the development of affordable units as depicted in the following tables.

### Consumer Loan Programs for Providence Residents

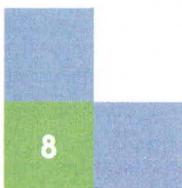
Consumer Loan Product	FY 2006
Downpayment Assistance	68
Home Repair	0
Emergency Repair/Senior Deferred	2
Employee Advantage	2
Lead Mitigation	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>



### Housing for Persons with AIDS formula grant (HOPWA)

The service area for the HOPWA grant is the entire State of Rhode Island and Bristol County, MA. The numbers below represent individuals/households served under this program in 2005-2006.

Assistance Provided	FY06
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	59
Facility Based Housing Assistance	11
Short Term Rent/Mortgage/Utility Assistance	23
Housing Placement Assistance	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>





## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

### Performance Formula Housing Units Produced (HOME)

Community Development Corporation	Homeownership	Rental	Preservation	Total
Elmwood Foundation	2			2
Habitat for Humanity	2			2
Olneyville Housing	4			4
Providence Preservation Society	20	6		26
Smith Hill Development Corporation		11		11
SWAP	22	20		42
Women's Development Corporation			76	76
West Elmwood Housing Development	13	48		61
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>224</b>



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



### Neighborhood Markets: A New Program for Fiscal Year 2006



A Collaborative Initiative of  
the Department of Planning & Development and  
the Providence Economic Development Partnership

David N. Cicilline, Mayor  
Providence, Rhode Island

### What is the Neighborhood Markets Program?

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

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

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

To date \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds have been awarded to six Neighborhood Market areas for streetscape improvements such as planters, permanent trash receptacles, gateway signage and benches. This is a merchant driven program with technical assistance provided by the Department of Planning and Development and the Providence Economic Development Partnership.

To learn how to get involved in one of the eight neighborhood markets contact the following:



#### BROAD STREET MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Jose Brito  
351-4140  
Wesleyan St., Suite 1  
Providence, RI 02907



#### CRANSTON STREET BUSINESS OWNERS GROUP

Contact: Paul Degaitis  
345-4461  
328 Cranston St., A-3  
Providence, RI 02907



#### FEDERAL HILL COMMERCE ASSOCIATION (Atwells Ave)

Contact: Rick Simone  
480-6483  
Renaissance Restaurant  
242 Atwells Ave.  
Providence, RI 02903



#### NORTH END BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (Charles St)

Contact: David Henault, Pres.  
781-4827  
c/o Ocean State Tackle  
430 Branch Ave  
Providence, RI 02904



#### OLNEYVILLE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Michael Solomon  
331-0462  
174 Enfield Ave.  
Providence, RI 02908



#### WICKENDEN BUSINESS DISTRICT

Contact: Ed Fontaine  
273-7278  
PO Box 603081  
Providence, RI 02906



*Thank you for supporting the Neighborhood Markets Program located on Atwells Avenue, upper and mid Broad Street, Chalkstone Avenue, Charles Street, Cranston Street, Olneyville Square and Wickenden Street.*

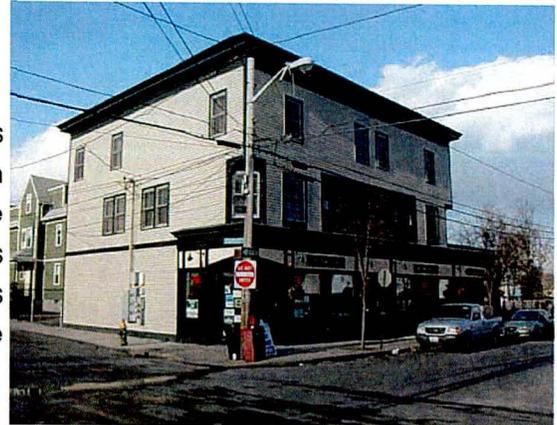


## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

### [Business Services – Providence Economic Development Partnership \(PEDP\) CDBG/108 loan portfolio](#)

The DPD and PEDP have a cooperative agreement that loans three DPD employees to the PEDP to staff the small business loan program. During the fiscal year 2005/2006, the Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) disbursed loans to thirteen (13) businesses. The economic development loans assisted these businesses to retain 246 jobs and 48 new jobs are to be created.

Of the thirteen (13) loans disbursed during the fiscal year 2005/2006, two (2) loans were disbursed through the Section 108 loan pool, both of which were made to businesses located in low-income targeted areas of the City. The loans disbursed from the Section 108 funds have allowed for 76 existing jobs to be retained and 7 new jobs are to be created. Additionally, 8 (62%) were to minority enterprises, 3 (23%) went to women owned firms, and 6 loans (46%) were located in a low/moderate income census tract.



### [Providence Connects/First Source](#)

Providence Connects is a program created under the leadership of Mayor Cicilline. Providence Connects implements City Ordinances 21-93 and 21-94 (circa 1985) (also known as the First Source Ordinance) that require businesses in the City of Providence who receive aid in cash or in-kind from the City to enter into an agreement with the City to hire Providence residents from a list to be maintained by the Department of Planning and Development.

The twenty year old ordinance was designed 'to encourage the retention of working, home owning families, who live and work in Providence'. The ordinance was also 'seen as an effective tool to persuade employers to come to Providence with the assurance that a trained and motivated work force will be in place'. Providence Connects builds from the principles of the ordinances.

During Fiscal Year 2006, Providence Connects was retooled to meet the requirements of a court order relative to legal action initiated by advocacy groups and certain members of the City Council. This resulted in a First Source Coordinator being hired, a more robust First Source agreement being created and increased efforts at populating the First Source list.

## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



### Providence Connects/First Source (continued)

#### To Date:

- ✧ 78 First Source Agreements have been prepared and delivered to a total of 78 organizations/businesses obligated under the First Source Ordinance. This includes community based organizations that receive federal dollars from the city, companies with active Tax Stabilization Agreements (TSA), and also a developer in connection with a major land development project approval; Streuver Brothers Eccles and Rouse (SBER).
- ✧ 33 Agreements have been executed.
- ✧ The First Source list has a confirmed 225 city residents. There are approximately 50 additional applications being reviewed for completeness and to insure they are not duplicates.
- ✧ Since the signing of the agreements, the First Source coordinator has processed 11 job vacancy requests, referring 22 residents for jobs.
- ✧ There were three confirmed hires in FY2006.
- ✧ There has been one meeting of community based organizations to review the Providence Connects/First Source program, five individual TSA meetings, and a series of meetings to develop an agreement with SBER around First Source in connection with the initial master plan approval of the American Locomotive development.

### **2007 Goals**

#### Housing

In conformance with the City's Housing Plan Create, Preserve, Revitalize: A Housing Agenda for Providence DPD will strive to:

- ✧ Produce Rental Units for persons and Families at the Lowest Income Levels (0-30%) - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Rental Units for persons and Families at the Low and Moderate Income Levels (30-80%) - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Permanent Supportive Housing Units for Individuals and Families for Special Needs - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Affordable Homeownership Units for Moderate Income level Persons and Families - 20 new units
- ✧ Produce Rental and Homeownership Units in Underserved Neighborhoods where Affordable Housing is lower than the City average - 10 rental/10 homeownership



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

### 2007 Goals

#### Housing (continued)

- ◇ Adopt an Incentive Development Program that will bring ensure that a predictable supply of affordable housing as a part of new housing developments that trigger the proposed regulation.
- ◇ Work with Rhode Island Housing to have at least one Low Income Housing Tax Credit Project per year sited in Providence
- ◇ Work with community partners to Preserve Rental Units with Expiring Use Restrictions
- ◇ Continue to Promote the Providence Housing Trust Programs
- ◇ Work with Artist Groups to produce additional affordable housing/work space

#### Neighborhood Markets

- ◇ Launch Round 2 of the Neighborhood Markets Grant Program for streetscape Improvements
- ◇ Continue to Provide and Design Technical Assistance to Merchant Associations
- ◇ Launch Neighborhood Markets website
- ◇ Continue the *Taste of the Neighborhood Events*
- ◇ Introduce Promotional Material for each of the Eight Neighborhood Markets

#### Business Services

- ◇ Continue to Promote and Encourage the Use of Programs in the PEDP Toolbox throughout the City
- ◇ Continue to Work with RIEDC, Civic and Business Groups to Promote the City and State as a great place to live and do business
- ◇ Renew/expand Enterprise Zones
- ◇ Work with Artist Groups to produce additional affordable work space

#### Providence Connects/First Source

- ◇ Continue to refer Providence residents to businesses and organizations obligated under First Source agreements with a goal of 100 Providence residents being employed through the Providence Connects/First Source program.
- ◇ Collaborate with other City departments and non-City agencies to catalog existing training programs and fund training programs to meet gaps with a goal of placing 50 Providence residents in such programs.

## Objective: Thriving Urban Center



*Use the tools of planning to ensure that Providence is a thriving urban center in which a diverse population can earn a living, have a home and enjoy a rich cultural life.*

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Tax Stabilization Agreements

The Development Division is responsible for monitoring compliance with existing tax stabilization agreements (listed at left). These agreements set goals for employment of Providence residents, MBE/WBE participation and participation in *Buy Providence*, a program designed to encourage developers to purchase goods and services from Providence vendors. Additionally, the agreements also establish schedules for contributions to the City's Housing Trust. The following tables summarize goals and/or compliance to date for various agreements:

#### Housing Trust Contributions

Project	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Intercontinental	136,000	36,000	36,000
Capital Cove	50,000	18,000	18,000
Jefferson at Providence Place*	31,680	31,680	31,680
Pearl Street Lofts	25,000	12,500	12,500
Promenade Garage	22,000	11,000	11,000
Rising Sun	60,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>324,680</b>	<b>119,180</b>	<b>119,180</b>

\*Payments to Smith Hill Community Development Corporation

Project	Providence Jobs		MBE Participation		WBE Participation		Buy Providence
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	
Hotel Providence	6	18	10%	4.37% (inc WBE)	10%	—	\$706,500 (Providence Contractors)
G-Tech	65	5 of 14	10%	20.93%	10%	2.52%	\$11,459,340 (34.66%)
Masonic Temple	See Note	—	10%	9%	10%	4%	—
Rising Sun Mills	30	50	12.5%	12.06%	12.5%	9.06%	—
Promenade Garage	—	—	12.5%	4.03%	12.5%	0%	—

Note: Masonic Temple Hotel not yet open



## Objective: Thriving Urban Center

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Federal Grant Monitoring and Compliance

The Development Division is responsible for monitoring organizations that receive federal funding to ensure that they comply with federal regulations. To that end, in FY 2006 the Division:

- ✧ Prepared and executed 100 contracts for the CDBG, ESG and HOPWA programs
- ✧ Completed 55 monitoring site visits
- ✧ Monitored 12 construction projects for compliance with federal labor laws
- ✧ Performed 227 environmental reviews for CDBG, HOME, Lead and EDI funded activities

Additionally, the Division is responsible for working with various organizations that receive CDBG funding for providing public services. With an 80% reporting rate for FY20-06, there have been 19,584 people directly served by 29 public service programs. Eleven community based organizations provided programming that reached out to another 23,704 people in their service area. A total of \$1,451,880 in CDBG funds were allocated for these programs.

### 2007 Goals

#### Tax Stabilization Agreements

- ✧ Develop an affordable housing program with the Housing Trust contributions received under Tax Stabilization Agreements.
- ✧ Continue quarterly monitoring of all Tax Stabilization Agreements.

#### Federal Grant Monitoring and Compliance

- ✧ Continue monitoring of all organizations receiving federal funding through the department.
- ✧ Implement Performance Measures for all federal funding received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development according to newly promulgated regulations.

**City of Providence  
Department of Public Works**



**Annual Report  
FY - 2006**

## *Preface*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is established under Article X of the City of Providence Home Rule Charter as adopted March 13, 1997. Under the Charter, the DPW is assigned specific responsibility for “the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways and bridges; operation of drawbridges and other movable bridges; snow removal; sidewalks and curbing; street cleaning; garbage and refuse collection and disposal, including operation and maintenance of incinerators and dumps; and street lighting.”

In accordance with Article XII of the Charter, each Department is required to prepare, for the Mayor with a copy to the City Clerk and each Council member, an annual report of their operations.

This report will provide an overview of the operations of the Department of Public Works for FY 2006 and include a few of the highlights for each of the operational divisions of the Department.

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## *Introduction*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is established under Article X of the City of Providence Home Rule Charter as adopted March 13, 1997. Under the Charter, the DPW is assigned specific responsibility for "the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways and bridges; operation of drawbridges and other movable bridges; snow removal; sidewalks and curbing; street cleaning; garbage and refuse collection and disposal, including operation and maintenance of incinerators and dumps; and street lighting." Several of these functions are no longer applicable; specifically the City no longer operates any drawbridges or other movable bridges, and no longer operates any incinerators or dumps.

With the transfer of the ownership and maintenance responsibility for the Providence sewage treatment plant to the Narragansett Bay Commission, DPW was assigned responsibility for the operation, maintenance and necessary reconstruction of the sanitary sewer and storm drain collection systems in the City.

Also DPW has been assigned the Traffic Engineering functions described under §1017 (a-c) of the Home Rule Charter. The traffic engineering duties include providing advice to the Mayor and the Council related to parking, to traffic movements, studies, and traffic growth projections. The DPW is also responsible for the construction, inspection, and maintenance of traffic control devices including signs and traffic control signals, and parking meters.

The DPW presently consists of seven divisions, which will be further described in the following pages. The seven divisions are:

1. Administration
2. Engineering
3. Environmental Control
4. Garage Maintenance and Equipment
5. Highway and Bridges
6. Sewer Construction and Maintenance
7. Traffic Engineering

## ***Mission and Objectives***

### ***Department Mission***

The mission of the DPW is to efficiently maintain, preserve, and protect the City's infrastructure resources relating to roads, bridges, sewer and storm water collection, the operation of the hurricane barrier, solid waste collection and disposal, traffic movements control; to provide guidance and assistance to citizens/communities with the development and protection of property by implementing safe and uniform standards; and, to provide a safe environment through enforcement of environmental ordinances and regulations.

### ***Objectives***

The primary objectives of the DPW are:

1. Monitoring of public improvements by reviewing plans, designs, and engineering studies;
2. Oversight of solid waste collection and disposal;
3. Administration of the City's recycling program;
4. Maintenance and repair of streets, sidewalks, bridges, and sewer lines;
5. Cleaning of the City's streets;
6. Removal of snow and ice;
7. Maintenance of traffic control equipment and parking meters; and
8. The maintenance and operation of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier.

## *Administration*

The Administration Division of DPW is responsible for payrolls, controls and processing of billings, issuance of certain permits (dumpsters, trash haulers and utility). As the name implies this group of individuals provides administrative support to DPW. Administration provides telephone switchboard and reception services to DPW during normal business hours. It serves as the central receiving and distribution point for calls/complaints/concerns that are received from the public, the City's administration, or from elected officials.

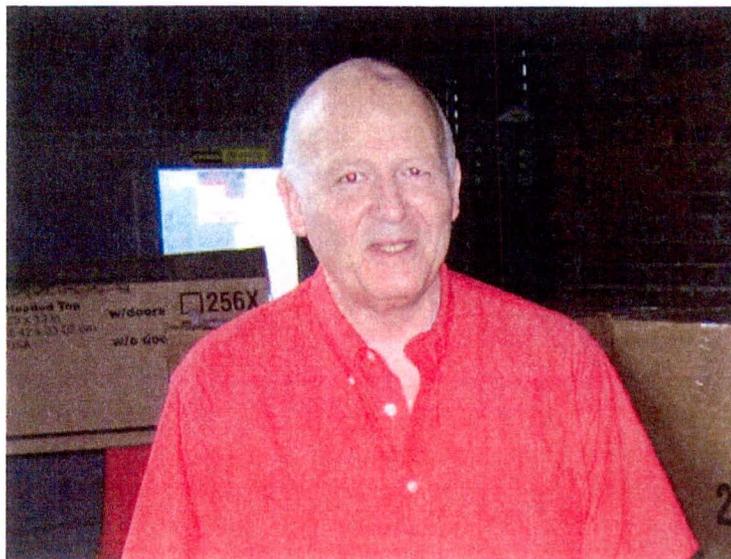
The Administration Division is headed by the Assistant Director General Services and staffed by five additional personnel. During FY 2006, DPW received/tracked and responded to 698 calls as distributed below:

- 168 direct calls from the public
- 320 calls from the Mayor's Office
- 210 calls from the City Council Office or directly from Council members

With the establishment of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services the Administration Division instituted a system for tracking the many complaints that are received during the course of the year. This tracking program has continued to focus on customer response, so that every complaint received is answered.

Payroll for the 100 plus employees of DPW (including overtime) is processed and tracked by the Administration Division, the payroll totals approximately \$5.3 million/year. Payments for all expenditures which vary from small miscellaneous items such as office supplies, to the payment for contracted waste removal services which total more than \$200,000 per month are prepared and processed through this office. For the most part, the Administration Division is directly involved in the preparation and tracking of payments from DPW's \$15,000,000 budget.

The end of FY 2006 marked the passage of an era with Mr. Robert Clarkin's departure from public service. Having served the City for eight years as a Councilman and an additional five years as the Assistant Director General Services at DPW, Mr. Clarkin has retired.



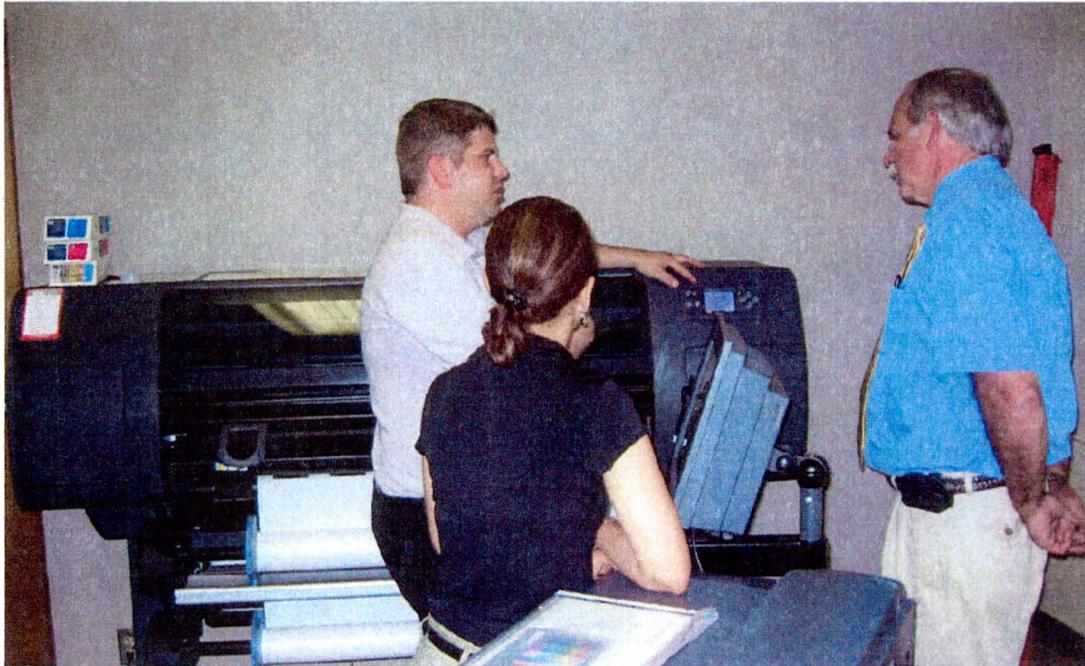
In addition to expending funds for infrastructure operations and maintenance, DPW also provides some offsetting income to the City for services provided. DPW collected fees or received reimbursement for the following services and materials:

\$9,943.00	for recycling bins
\$18,032.60	dumpster permits
\$14,990.00	curb openings
\$5,500.00	sidewalk construction licenses
\$4,200.00	sidewalk use license (sidewalk cafes)
\$4,450.00	trash hauler licenses
\$680.00	plan copies
\$49,124.00	sewer permit fee
\$139,925.00	utility permits (road openings)
\$2,655.00	lot cleaning program
\$683.00	Traffic Engineering - miscellaneous
\$7,120.29	Traffic Engineering Permits
\$712,697.61	Traffic – Parking meters
\$5,175	Sand and salt
\$37	Metals recycling
<b>\$975,212.50</b>	<b>total collected and remitted to City</b>

## *Engineering*

Seven individuals working under the direction of the Chief Engineer staff the Engineering Division of DPW. Three new staff members were hired in the Engineering Division. Two of the new staff are recent graduates of the Civil Engineering program at the University of Rhode Island. The other individual is a clerical support individual who will assist the Department with the entry of permit and other data into newly created data bases.

The Engineering Division is responsible for reviewing site plans for new construction and reconstruction throughout the City and provides the Department of Inspection and Standards with a *Letter of Approval* prior to their issuing a building permit. Prior to issuing a *Letter of Approval*, a representative of the Engineering Division reviews in-house records and conducts a field examination of the property. Following completion of construction, another field examination is conducted and the Department of Inspection and Standards is advised as to whether the required site work was completed in accordance to the approved plan. During FY2007, 400 site plans were reviewed by Engineering.



The Engineering Division has made great strides in its efforts to modernize equipment and procedures. A sub-meter Global Positioning System (GPS) with data acquisition capability has been purchased and will be used to locate drainage outfalls and to inventory roadway features and appurtenances. Along with the GPS we have acquired Geographic Information System (GIS) software and AutoCAD® Automated Design/Drafting software. To make the systems more useful, the Department has purchased a Hewlett Packard Designjet 4500 large format inkjet plotter/scanner. The total package brings our Engineering Department up to par with current practice. Our staff is now able to provide full size copies of engineering prints to our customers. The new capacity will also allow the Department to accept project plans in digital format for ease of storage and reproduction. In addition to hardware, three of DPW's engineers attended

eight days of GIS training to learn digital mapping; with this we will better equipped to manage the City's infrastructure.

The Engineering Department was responsible for three projects which signal the advent of the restoration of the City's street network.

1. An engineering contract was awarded for the implementation of a Pavement Management System (PMS). PMS will provide the City the capability to project the outcome of various pavement funding strategies over a period of time. The PMS supplemented by engineering judgment will allow the City to choose the best approach to funding and selection of rehabilitation strategies and projects based upon objective measures of pavement condition and available funding.

2. The Engineering Department administered a contract to seal pavement surface cracks in several streets around the City. The crack sealing prevents water intrusion and subsequent premature pavement deterioration. A total of 185,911 feet of pavement cracks were sealed at a cost of \$53,812.97. The streets addressed under this crack sealing initiative included:



- i. Broad Street from City line to Elmwood Avenue
- ii. Admiral Street from Orms Street to City line
- iii. Mount Pleasant Avenue from Chalkstone Avenue to Smith Street
- iv. Park Street from Orms Street to Smith Street
- v. State Street from Orms Street to Smith Street

3. The City was fortunate to be the recipient of \$8,750,000 of "ear marked" funding under the recent Federal Transportation Authorization bill SAFETEA-LU. Of this funding \$6,250,000 is designated for pavement improvements; the remaining \$2,500,000 is for traffic signal improvements. The Engineering staff was able to advance two contracts through the consultant selection process, preparation of contract plans and documents, and received federal authorization for two construction projects. Six City streets are being paved under the first two contracts at a combined estimated cost of \$2,810,819.75:

- i. Cranston Street – Westminster Street to Huntington Avenue
- ii. Eddy Street – Thurbers Avenue to Broad Street
- iii. West River Street – Corliss Street to Charles Street
- iv. Hope Street – Fifth Street to Lloyd Avenue
- v. Woodward Road – Branch Avenue to City line
- vi. Hawkins Street – Branch Avenue to Admiral Street

The Engineering Division provides coordination and engineering review of the Citywide sidewalk and roadway improvement program between the consulting project manager and field inspection engineers, City Council members and their assistants, contractors and other City departments. During the past year construction contracts for work valued close in excess of three million dollars of City funds were commenced. The Engineering Division also provides input during the development of capital improvement projects typically initiated by the Department of Planning and Development. Projects of this nature include such work as traffic calming projects, roadway corridor enhancement and signalization of intersections. Review of projects being prepared by other agencies and private developers is also provided. Some of these projects are:

- ≡ Traffic Calming on Gano Street
- = Smith Street Enhancement
- ≡ Broad Street Pedestrian Improvements
- ≡ Reconstruction of Aleppo Street
- ≡ Silver Lake and Niagra St
- ≡ Improvements to Thayer Street
- ≡ Bond projects – various wards

Engineering services are provided for work proposed by DPW, the City Council, other City Departments, or other public or private projects. The Division provides assistance to the Law Department with the investigation and review of claims against the City.

Engineering staff review planned utility work and issue permits for the installation/repair of utilities within the public right-of-way. During the past year DPW issued 2,460 road opening permits generating income of \$185,775.

Engineering staff also review and issue *Physical Alteration Permits* (PAP) for work within the public right-of-way, including alteration of curbs and sidewalks for driveways; 192 PAPs were issued during the past year.

This office issues permits for connections, as well as extensions, alterations, and modifications to the sewer system; 291 sewer permits were issued last year. All sewer work is inspected to insure compliance with City standards; field measurements are taken to update records maintained by this office. In addition to the permitting process, the Engineering Office issues Drain Layers Licenses.

The Engineering Division assists the Board of Licenses with the issuance of table and chair licenses on the public sidewalk. Field inspections are performed and recommendations are made regarding the area available for use without adversely impacting pedestrian movements.

The issuance of permits results in generated revenue of a little more than two-hundred thousand dollars.

The Engineering Division is the custodian of all engineering records for City Public Works infrastructure including sewers, street lines, benchmarks, highway sections and other archival records - many of these original documents including plans and field books date to the early 1900's and some to the 1850's. The staff accommodates inquiries

from the public to acquire these records; approximately ten inquiries occur each day, photocopy services are provided. The Engineering Division maintains records related to survey layout of lots at the North Burial Ground. During FY2005 computers were distributed to all engineering staff, this was the first step toward digitizing the Department's plans and records. With computers now available DPW staff have created and are utilizing data bases to store and process information related to road opening permits, site plans, and sidewalk repair requests. DPW is now preparing for the installation of an on-site server that will significantly increase data processing capabilities, the new server is expected during FY2007.

The Engineering Division prepares plans for abandonment of road and other public property, as well as plans for easements within the public ways. As well as being made part of the permanent records maintained by Engineering, these plans are used by the City Clerk's office; 23 plans of this nature were processed during the past year, 18 plans were prepared in-house and plans were prepared by others.

To supplement the records maintained by this office, the Engineering Division conducts research in other City departments, including the Office of the City Clerk, The Recorder of Deeds, the Tax Assessor's office and the City Archives.

The City Engineer, in cooperation with RIDOT, local utility providers, and the consulting firm Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. is coordinating the numerous construction projects which are on-going and/or planned throughout the City. Information is coordinated so that all interested parties are knowledgeable about lane closures and other work that will impact traffic. The information is provided to motorists by RIDOT through their Traffic Operations Center and to the media for publication and traffic advisories.

In addition to traditional engineering functions, this group is responsible for the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. During the past year repairs were completed on pump number 3 which is the last of the five pumps to be overhauled in a program which began in 1994. For the first time in many years, the pumping capability at the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier is 100% operational.



The Engineering Division coordinates the operational tests of this important structure with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers along with its maintenance and repair. The Engineering Division performed operational tests observed by the Corps of Engineers on December 3, 2005, and June 1, 2006; "in-house" tests were performed on September 24, 2005, and March 25, 2006. The barrier was staffed and prepared for service in anticipation of a storm surge created by Tropical Storm Ophelia on September 16-17, 2005. DPW staff were able to provide assistance to the WaterFire event by closing the river gates twice during August 2005; staff provided tours to interested groups on four occasions during the past fiscal year.

The Engineering Division is continuing with efforts toward the replacement of the electrical control system at the Barrier. Engineering is working with a consultant to develop a Scope of Work and an RFP for a consultant to prepare engineering plans and estimates for the replacement of the electrical control systems at the Fox Point Barrier.

The Engineering Division is responsible for coordinating the City's Storm Water Management Plan in conformance with the requirements of Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES). During FY2006 DPW purchased an ExStik EC500 pH/Conductivity/Salinity/Temperature Meter. The formation of the Storm Water Committee has commenced with great enthusiasm by public and non-profit organizations and citizens.

## *Environmental Control*

Reporting through the Deputy Director, the Environmental Division is headed by the Associate Director for Environmental Services. The goal of the eleven member staff of this Division is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Providence by providing a cleaner, healthier environment.

The Environmental Division of DPW provides highly visible, direct-to-the-customer services for the City. The areas administered by the individuals in this Division include:

- Waste/rubbish removal contract
- Vector control
- Environmental outreach – education and training
- Cooperation with Attorney General's Nuisance Task Force
- Recycling
- Lot "clean and lien" program
- Enforcement of environmental regulations

The programs administered by the Environmental Division account for more than half of the City's \$15 million DPW budget.

Among the most important activities during the past fiscal year was the beginning of the program to provide a BigGreen Can to each of the City's 62,500 residential households. The "roll-out" follows last year's pilot program when DPW staff in



cooperation with WasteManagement provided four hundred 96-gallon waste carts to households in the Manton/Olneyville area. As the result of the successful pilot program, specifications were prepared and the City opened bids for the furnishing and delivery of 15,000 waste carts to City households. Delayed by material shortages which were the result of Hurricane Katrina delivery began in

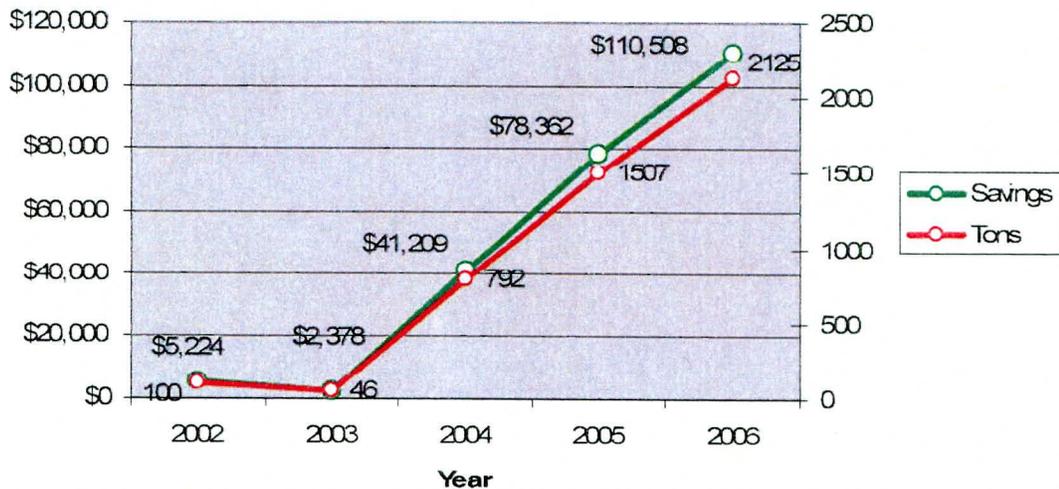
December 2005. The first 15,000 trash carts signaled a new beginning to handling waste in Providence. The semi-automated waste collection program is one component of a multi-faceted effort to manage and reduce the City's waste stream, reduce rodents, reduce litter, and reduce the tipping fees by increasing



recycling. With the evident success of the first phase of the program, DPW staff successfully negotiated with the BigGreen Can supplier to supply and deliver the remaining 47,500 waste carts at the 2005 bid price. We anticipate completion of the program before the end of calendar year 2006.

A continuing success in FY2006 was the Department's Leaf and Yard Waste (L&Y) Collection. Under the latest contract for waste collection, L&Y collection has been extended throughout the year. The separate collection of L&Y during FY2006 increased by more than 40% over last year's tonnage. The savings in tipping fees as the result of separating L&Y from the waste stream totaled \$110,508.

### Leaf and Yard Waste Diversion



Our efforts to control rodents in the City now focus on the control of the food supply by improving waste handling and the reduction of harborage by stricter code and environmental enforcement. The final area of rodent control is the timely application of vermicide by DPW staff. Three employees are now assigned to fulltime duties in rodent control, we have this year purchased a four wheel drive truck with a utility body which the rodent control staff use to carry their equipment and materials to the worksites around the City – the truck is also equipped with a plow to provide assistance during winter operations. During this past year, DPW staff received 766 rodent complaints and addressed 702; 64 complaints remained outstanding at the end of the year. Staff baited 344 properties and 1091 sewer manholes.

The improper storage and disposal of solid waste allows the proliferation of rats and detracts from the quality of life in the area. One of the tools to improve waste storage and disposal practices and to advance recycling efforts is the enforcement section of this division. Staff from our Environmental Division patrols the City to issue environmental violations (tickets) and then follow through with the Municipal Court system. In FY 2006 DPW staff documented violations and wrote 3,017 tickets - fines totaled \$552,225; fines paid totaled \$117,309.00. Sometimes tickets may be withdrawn by DPW for a variety of reasons; the municipal court dismisses some tickets, and a number of tickets remain outstanding.

During the past year DPW working with several other Departments including the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Solicitor's Office, the tax Collector's Office, and the Mayor's Office have initiated a program with greater enforcement leverage. Instead of cleaning scofflaw properties and placing a lien against the property, it has been determined that under Rhode Island General Laws clean-up costs may be levied against the property and billed with the property taxes. In this manner it is not necessary to wait for an owner to try and sell the property to collect the clean-up costs, the charges become due immediately with the next tax bill and follow the tax bill collection process.



In addition to waste management activities, DPW is also responsible for coordination of the City's recycling activities. The inclusion of recyclable materials in the waste stream results in unnecessary spending for disposal of solid waste. The recycling rate Citywide remains less than 9%. Efforts are being made to increase recycling including educational programs at City schools. Our Environmental Division is actively involved in community outreach; staff involvement includes providing workshops on proper waste management and recycling. DPW staff expect increased recycling in conjunction with increased enforcement which will follow the citywide distribution of BigGreen cans; we are providing the tools to clean-up the City and will be following these actions with additional education/enforcement.



The Environmental Division coordinates DPW's efforts to assist with a wide variety of cleanup programs throughout the year. In the pictures above DPW basin cleaning truck pulls a shopping cart from the Woonasquatucket River during the Narragansett Bay Commission's annual river clean-up.

### *Garage Maintenance and Equipment*

The equipment operated by DPW is maintained by a staff of eight that is made up of one supervisor and seven mechanics (various titles). Along with the DPW fleet of 113 pieces of equipment which includes 26 heavy plow trucks; 30 light trucks, pick-ups, and vans; 14 automobiles; and 43 assorted other equipment; the DPW staff repairs and maintains vehicles assigned to the Mayor's Office, the Recreation Department, Public Property, the City Solicitor, and the City Sergeant.

The average age of the DPW *heavy* plow trucks is now 5.1 the average is down from last year as the result of purchasing 2 new trucks during FY2006 and also "scrapping" the last of the old ten-wheel plows that were no longer serviceable.

The age distribution of the fleet is moving in the right direction but the program must be continued with equipment purchased on a regular basis. The DPW was fortunate during the past year and received good support in our efforts to rejuvenate the fleet. The Master Lease program provided funding for several new pieces of equipment including:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Assigned</u>
One	Street Sweeper	Highway and Bridge
One	Bucket Truck	Traffic Engineering
One	Ten-wheel dump truck	Highway and Bridge
One	Six-wheel dump truck	Highway and Bridge
One	Crew-cab pick-up truck	Highway and Bridge
Two	Extended-cab pick-up truck	Highway and Bridge Sewer
Three	Landscape dump trucks	(2) Highway and Bridge (1) Sewer
One	4WD Utility truck	Environmental/rodent control
One	All wheel drive sedan	Administration

In addition to the heavy truck fleet, the DPW relies on light trucks and automobiles to support the activities of inspectors and technicians who provide service to citizens around the City. Many of the Department's automobiles were purchased used and are now more than ten years old. In fact the average age of the Department's fourteen automobiles is 10.4 years, of the fourteen vehicles, nine are serviceable, four are in poor condition, and one is out of service and due to be "scrapped". During FY2006 DPW purchased one new car and one used automobile from the Providence Water Supply Board; this is a help but in order to avoid excessive repair costs and to provide reliable equipment to field personnel replacement of these vehicles must be planned.

## *Highway and Bridges*

The Highway and Bridge Division staff of DPW is among the more visible, more frequently seen group of City employees. This group is made up of 49 employees (including foremen) under the direction of the Highway Superintendent and the Assistant Highway Superintendent. is responsible for the maintenance of 370 miles of roadway and 50 City owned bridges; they provide typical roadway related direct service to the public in such areas as winter snow plowing and sanding, pothole repair, sidewalk cleaning and repair, and litter removal.

During FY2006 new initiatives were initiated to provide an immediate evaluation of complaints related to roadway or sidewalk safety concerns. If the complaint is deemed to be a hazard, the work is scheduled to address the problem; immediate needs receive an immediate response. Work crews have been adjusted to maximize workforce efficiency. Every member of the Highway and Bridge staff is provided an opportunity to work "on the road".

The Highway and Bridge Division assists with contracted street sweeping by providing trucks to haul the material that is picked up by the sweepers. Supervisory staff from Highway and Bridge is responsible for monitoring the sweeping contractor's operation to insure that work is efficient and productive. Payments to the sweeping contractor totaled \$418,090.50 for FY2006 - street sweeping operations totaling 3,944.25 hours of work. The City purchased a new sweeper this fiscal year and has been able to provide services which have been done for the past several years by the vendor.

The Highway and Bridge Division is involved in a wide variety of functions related to streets – and sometimes for other agencies. This group is responsible for the emptying of street waste receptacles that are placed in commercial areas throughout the



City. It is notable that the number of on street waste receptacles has been increased from 289 two years ago to 437 at the end of FY2006 – a 41% increase in this area. We provide clean-up after special events such as neighborhood/organization/ethnic festivals. DPW staff also provides clean-ups of lots when owners do not respond to the City's requests;

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FY 2006

the property owner is then billed for the costs. DPW crews provide regular clean-up of the City's "gateways" including Doan Street, Fruit Hill Avenue, Manton Avenue, Branch Avenue, Industrial Drive, Smithfield Avenue, and other roadways that carry traffic into the City of Providence.

In our effort to cooperate with neighborhood community groups, we have provided roll-off containers for neighborhood clean-up activities. The Highway and Bridge staff assists the Environmental Division by providing the workers and equipment that do the work.

Included in the mix of workers in the Highway Division are four cement finishers who repair sidewalk slabs along the 370 miles of City streets – there are nearly twice this many miles of sidewalk. During the past year our catalog of complaints has increased to more than 1500 sidewalk locations. Repairs to locations with a fault in excess of three inches have been given priority. Sidewalk repairs were accomplished at 116 locations in FY2006 (85 concrete and 31 asphalt) compared to 56 locations during FY2005 and none in FY2004. In addition to sidewalk work the asphalt crew is responsible for road restoration after sewer work by the DPW Sewer Department and failed utility patches (more than five years old). Patches were installed at 35 sewer work sites and 19 defective utility patches were replaced.

The employees of the Highway and Bridges Division assist the Engineering Division with the operation and testing of the Hurricane Barrier as needed. The staff from this division provided assistance with the closure of the street and canal gates. They also clean the trash racks to remove debris from in front of the barrier pumps on a weekly basis.

Among the very visible functions provided by DPW are winter storm operations - plowing and sanding during snow and ice events. The 2005/2006 winter season was mild compare to last year but nevertheless brought 12 events that required plowing and sanding. November 23, 2005. Providence held its first Snow Plow Rhodoe. The event at Roger Williams Park was well attended despite very cold weather. More than 50 employees who operate plow equipment represented several City Department and exhibited the skills that would bring the City safely through another winter. The cold weather of the Snow Plow Rhodoe presaged the first snow event of the season – snow Thanksgiving morning of 2005.

In the mix of storms was an unusual event or particular intensity which occurred on December 9, 2005. Described in ProJo as "Thunder-snow and bona fide "bombogenesis" whipped up near-blizzard conditions across New England yesterday. Winds gusted up to 70 mph, thunder boomed, lightning cracked, and snow flew furiously at a rate of up to 5 inches an hour.

Ice and high winds prompted the rare closure of T.F. Green Airport's runway for nearly two hours. For only the second time in 14 years, authorities closed the Claiborne Pell Bridge -- for 90 minutes during the height of the storm. A plane was struck by lightning as it circled for a landing at Logan International Airport in Boston.

"Wow! What a storm!" a forecaster said at the normally understated National Weather Service center in Taunton."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Providence Journal - December 10, 2005

A second significant storm occurred on February 10, 2006 – with a forecast in the morning calling for "...BLIZZARD WATCH NOW IN EFFECT FROM THIS EVENING THROUGH SUNDAY AFTERNOON...SNOW WILL BEGIN ON THE SOUTH COAST AND ISLANDS BETWEEN 8 PM AND 11 PM TONIGHT...AND SHOULD REACH THE INTERSTATE 95 CORRIDOR BETWEEN 10 PM TONIGHT AND 1 AM SUNDAY. THE HEAVIEST SNOW WILL FALL OVERNIGHT INTO EARLY SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

TOTAL ACCUMULATIONS WILL RANGE FROM 6 TO 10 INCHES ON NANTUCKET AND BLOCK ISLAND...TO BETWEEN 8 AND 15 INCHES ELSEWHERE. THE 15 INCH TOTALS ARE MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR FROM PROVIDENCE AND BOSTON TO THE SOUTH COAST. DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE STORM SUNDAY...BLIZZARD CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE WITH SNOWFALL RATES NEAR 3 INCHES PER HOUR. NORTHEAST WINDS GUSTING AS HIGH AS 50 MPH MAY PRODUCE WHITE OUT CONDITIONS WITH NEAR ZERO VISIBILITY."<sup>2</sup>

The storm began on Saturday and lasted into the afternoon Sunday. Based upon forecast volumes and conditions, the only parking ban of the season was instituted in advance of the scheduled snowfall. With twelve inches of snow on the ground vendors with loaders and dump trailers were hired to remove snow from the downtown area. By Monday morning streets were in good shape throughout the City.

The last snowfall of the 2005/2006 winter season occurred on March 2, 2006. The total cost of winter operations for the winter of 2005/2006 was \$1,051,349.55 which included personnel, materials, and hired equipment.

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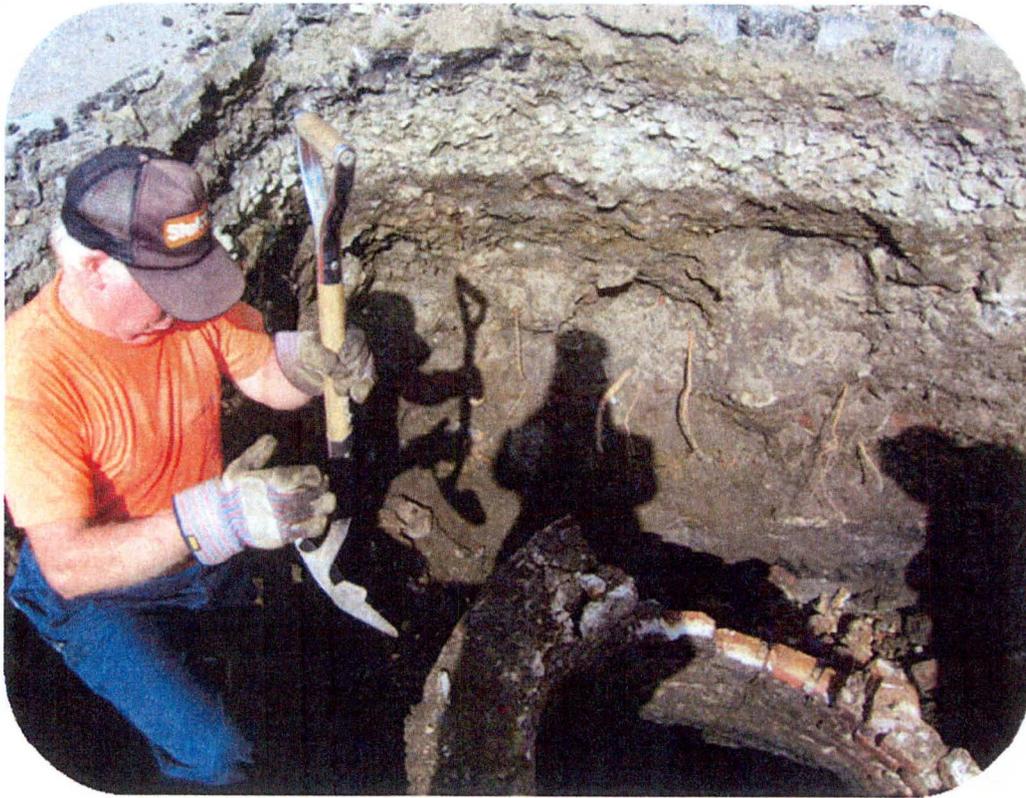
<sup>2</sup> National Weather Service zone forecast February 10, 2006

## *Sewer Construction and Maintenance*

Sometime in the mid-nineteenth century the City of Providence began construction of a vast system for the collection of sanitary waste with outfalls into urban rivers and the Providence Harbor. By the beginning of the 20th century, the local sewage collection systems were tied into trunk lines that carried the waste to a sewage treatment plant in the Field's Point area of the City. Providence continued to grow and the sewage collection system was expanded; the treatment plant was "modernized" to improve its operation. After more than a century of operation by the City, the sewer trunk lines and the treatment plant were turned over to a quasi-public agency, the Narragansett Bay Commission that operates the system today.

The City retained the responsibility for approximately 415 miles of storm, sanitary, and combined sewer lines. The maintenance and repair of the sewer systems is accomplished under the direction of the City Engineer by the Superintendent of Sewers and ten workers. This Division also maintains some 20,000 manholes, 4,000 inlets and 12,000 catch basins. Included in the maintenance program for the 12,000 catch basins is regular cleaning to remove sand and debris from sumps of the storm sewer catch basins – depending on the area, cleaning should be accomplished on a regular basis once every one to five years.

The original drawings for the sewer and street plans which show the lateral connections to houses along the City streets are still on file and available in the Engineering Office at DPW's facility on Allens Avenue.



During FY2006 the following activities were accomplished:

<b>Activity</b>	2004	2005	2006
Catch basins cleaned & traps cleaned	1530*	2904	3633
Chutes cleaned	129	232	505
Main lines flushed	115	217	162
Color tests performed	31	11	11
Inlet stones repaired	12	18	52
Inlet stones replaced	4	18	16
Grate frame and cover repaired	8	13	15
Basin frame and recover repaired	9	21	28
Manhole frame and cover repaired	4	24	19

\*Both of the basin cleaning trucks were down for a period of time

## ***Traffic Engineering***

A City Council Ordinance authorized the formation of the Traffic Engineering Department in October 1948, and the Department was activated on March 1, 1949, with the appointment of a Traffic Engineer, the reassignment of other maintenance personnel, and the administration of a separate budget. In 2003, Traffic Engineering became a division of the Department of Public Works under the direct supervision of the Director of DPW. The Mayor, with confirmation of the City Council, appoints the Traffic Engineer. During the spring of 2005 a new Traffic Engineer was appointed to oversee the operations and administration of this important division.

The primary goal of the Traffic Engineering Division is to provide for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods on roadways within the City. This division is responsible for the maintenance of 198 signalized intersections, 1,753 stop controlled intersections and 101 yield controlled intersections. This division is responsible for all regulatory, warning and guide signs on 2,094 streets and 370 miles of roadway within the City. We also assist various groups in installing signs for Crime Watch, hospitals, churches and, most recently, signs directing the public to evacuation sites throughout Providence.

The division is responsible for street/sidewalk closing permits for the closing of City streets and sidewalks for various events and construction, such as detouring traffic for events such as road races, *WaterFire*, parades and neighborhood block parties. During FY2006 Traffic Engineering staff posted 751 *No Parking* zones and provided temporary closure of 282 streets.

This division assists with the review of all plans going before the Zoning Board of Review and Building Inspection with regard to off-street parking and curb openings. The Traffic Engineering Division is responsible for the review of all commercial curb openings. This division works closely with the Department of Planning and Development and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation in reviewing and approving all plans related to traffic control devices and parking on City streets. Staff investigates complaints from parking violators to determine if an area was properly signed.

The division maintains, installs and collects monies from the City's parking meters. The collected monies are dropped off with Brinks in locked steel canisters where they are counted and then deposited to a City account. Under the contract with ACS, additional new meters have been installed at locations throughout the City. The new meters accept coins or "smart cards" and provide improved usage tracking capabilities. In addition to the standard pole top meters, "multi-spot" kiosks are also being installed at selected locations.

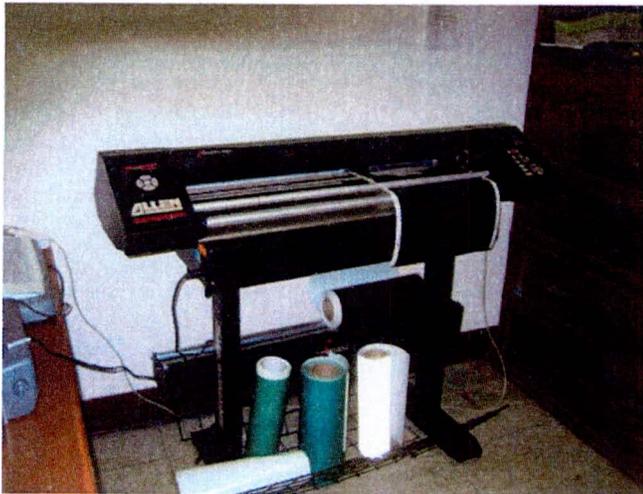
## Collections



The Traffic Engineer attends meetings with contractors and consultants for review and approval of construction or development projects in the City.

The Traffic Engineering Division staff is occasionally asked to assemble accident records from the Providence Police Department for traffic studies and/or to prepare a "collision" diagram to review "spot" locations and perform traffic and pedestrian counts as required.

At this time, two employees are responsible for the maintenance and repair of 198 signalized intersections; the work includes replacing burned out signal and pedestrian lamps, repair of traffic signal controllers, and replacing equipment that has been knocked down or damaged. The individuals handling traffic signal repairs have gone so far as to construct new traffic signal systems from used equipment to keep the signalized intersections in operation.



The Traffic Engineering Division is also responsible for the installation and maintenance of all traffic signs throughout the City. The Sign Maintenance Section has five employees, one Traffic Sign Foreman, and four "traffic sign maintenance men". In addition to sign installations, the sign installers fabricate signs as needed and will occasionally be called upon to fabricate portable cement bases for temporary sign installations. In an effort to improve efficiency and production a new state-of-the-art computer driven sign cutter was purchased to make signs. The new sign

system has been instrumental in efforts to replace street-name signs which are produced using high-intensity reflective sheeting for improved night-time visibility. More than 1,000 sign work-orders were generated and completed during the second half of the fiscal year.

The Traffic Engineer is responsible for the installation of pavement markings throughout the City. Through the services of a private contractor we have continued our program of epoxy markings in an effort to provide added durability and longevity. During the fiscal year the following markings were applied to City streets:

≡ Double yellow centerline	98,050 feet
≡ Hand work (parking, etc)	49,990 feet
≡ Long line (edge, skip, etc)	116,520

additional X-walks and stop bars were installed by City staff.

The decorative lighting that was formerly owned and maintained by the City has been privatized and is now maintained by Johnson Controls.



# RECORDER OF DEEDS

City of Providence

David N. Cicilline, Mayor

Annual Report  
FY 2006

## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

### HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

The original deed granted to the City of Providence and signed in the form of a bow and arrow came from two Indians Canonicus and Miantonomi of the Narragansett Indian tribe, was given to Roger Williams on arch 24, 1638 and “not a penny was demanded by either” said Roger Williams. That deed was proudly hanging in the Recorder of Deeds office for many years but to secure it’s posterity it has been transferred to the Archives where it is set between sheets of mylar.

Providence became incorporated in 1832, and the City’s Chamber at that time made a provision for the Recorder of Deeds office. The Mayor should appoint, subject to the approval of the City Council a Recorder of Deeds who will serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

The Recorder of Deeds has the status of a department head with the responsibility to maintain a safeguard all land evidence records. Originally the demands for recording real estate were very different from which they are today, in as much as large tracts of land were not platted. For example, a good potion of the east side of Providence was at one time the “Moses Brown Farms”. As the population grew more tracts of land were divided into various sections to become building lots. Such plats and lots are impressed on large cardboards which until recently could be found in the Recorder of Deeds office.

As the Recorder of Deeds, I must be Knowledgeable and available to offer my expertise whenever necessary. It is my responsibility to promote good customer relations, make the daily deposit reports, handle all purchasing functions, prepare weekly payroll, and submit a fiscal budget report.

The department’s primary function is to record, index, and scan all daily real estate transactions. We must accurately up date our indexes, and maintain land evidence books and recorded maps. Our records are kept in multiple means; using hardcopy indexes, microfilmed land evidence books, and computers. Our land evidence books date back to 1861 going forward to the current day.

## **RECORDER OF DEEDS STAFF AND PRIMARY FUNCTIONS**

Since the inception of our ACS 20/20 Imaging System the department's function has improved in speed and accuracy. Once a document is entered and scanned anyone coming into the office can view and print any document of their choice. Another valuable asset of the system allows us to return original documents at once.

The office is budgeted for eight employees and the Recorder of Deeds. We have four Senior Record Clerks, and three Land Record Clerks. Senior Clerks record and edit all documents. Upon entering the document she must count all the pages accurately, print the assigned book and page number on each page and be sure to print the recoding information on the last page of the document. Each document must be edited at the end of the day to be sure the documents have no typing errors and are properly indexed.

Land Record Clerks scan, open, and prepare the mail for recording. The Scanning Clerk must prepare a daily inventory report to be sure there is an image for each page of every recorded document. If an image has been lost the clerk must retrieve it from the original owner. The Land Record Clerks also print, and edit Land Evidence books and burn CD for each book. CD's are sent to ACS to be processed into film; therefore, before burning it is the responsibility of the clerk to be sure that each page has produced a perfect image.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2005-2006**

Since the implementation of the ACS 20/20 Imaging System in July 2005, we have received positive feedback from my people including title companies, researchers and attorneys. The recording system is now using sophisticated technology so that we dramatically improve our service level with our existing workforce. This dramatic change in service was accomplished with considerable help from Charlie Hewitt in the IT department. It allows us now to be a first-class service provider and positions us for future cutting edge developments.

Since the system allows us to record, scan and return each document concurrently, it has allowed us to focus our attention to the backlog. Daily inquiries and requests mailed into the office have all been expeditiously handled and we have no remaining backlog of mail.

In the fiscal year 2005-2006 we recorded 49,145 documents and collected \$7,222,220.44 in revenues.

### GOALS 2006-2007

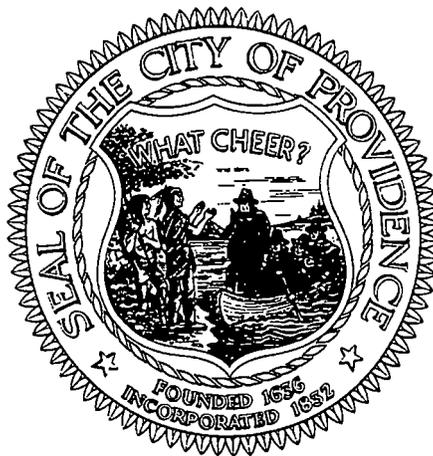
As I tackle the challenges of this fiscal year my foremost objective is to expand the image database of the ACS system. I will be sure to advance my attempts to have ACS complete our database for the last two years.

The ideal database should cover a fifty year span of recordings which allows a complete title search from an off site location. The Recorder of Deeds office will be responsible to identify in this year the approach of advanced technological endeavor and to begin a portion of the procedure within this fiscal year.

When our recording fees were increased in 2004, certain documents were not included in the statute I would recommend to increase their recording fees in the future. There is additional work to be done improving electronic storage and retrieval of military discharges and execution liens.

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# Department of Recreation



## City of Providence

Annual Report 2006

Frank Santos Jr. Director  
401-421-7740 (Ext. 723)

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Mayor David N. Cicilline

The Honorable David N. Cicilline  
Mayor  
City of Providence  
Members of Providence City Council

It is my privilege to submit this report for your review and information. We continue the effort to present as many recreation activities and programs for both youth and adult citizens of the City of Providence. Our effort to increase partnerships has continued and the support of the Providence After School Alliance has been both beneficial and important. We continue to experience greater opportunities to learn, grow, and present higher qualitative programs with community input.

Through the support of PASA we have engaged the services of nationally recognized consultants Herbye White from Dynamic Management Consulting and Reco Bemby from Bemby Consulting Services to assist in the development of a five year strategy or blue print for the department that will inform and support our vision into the future. This will blend with the overall Strategic Plan developed by the city to support our collective goal of strengthening and maintaining vibrant neighborhoods. This will be completed and reported on in the upcoming fiscal year. As part of the center director's previous participation in extensive training offered through the PASA initiative (via Reco Bemby) we have encouraged their direct input in this process.

An important part of the overall strategy is our intent to continue the pursuit of additional training opportunities for all staff to seek National Certification. We still feel this is important. It would create pride for the department and the city giving us an opportunity to seek funding nationally for new opportunities.

The department is a work in progress and continues to evolve and enhance services to residents of this city. Although we suggested a revision for our mission we must follow up and have this adopted officially and posted in all Recreation Centers, and on our website.

Programs and services provided through our recreation centers have been ongoing and are addressed in the body of this report. With the continued support of recreation administration those centers are challenging themselves and counterparts to think in a non-traditional manner to offer new and exciting opportunities while strengthening what they already do well for the youth who visit those centers. The major challenge will be to expand opportunities for citizens who may opt not to join our centers and provide similar exciting opportunities in an increased capacity.

As I have indicated in previous reports, it is the initiative and efforts of the employees in this department who go above and beyond to make the activities presented on the following pages worth of participation. It is also a credit to have this staff employed by the city. I am immensely proud of their work, and grateful to accept their confidence as we look forward to expanding responsibility.

Sincerely,

Frank Santos, Jr.  
Director of Recreation

## *History*

- *Created in 1942 as a part-time summer only department.*
- *In 1947 became a full-time department offering both summer and winter programs.*
- *Oldest centers are the Davey Lopes and Zuccolo built in 1949.*
- *Rogers and Joslin centers were built around 1964.*
- *All other centers were built in 1994 or thereafter.*
- *Previous locations of Administrative office:*
  - *Roger Williams Park*
  - *One Reservoir Ave.*
  - *West End Recreation Center*
  - *Current location One Recreation Way*



## *Mission Statement*

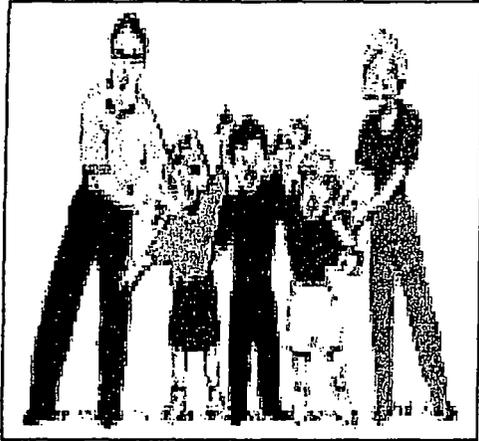
*As established by  
the City Charter*

*“The Department of Recreation shall be responsible for the planning and recreation programs in the city for all age groups, and for other programs and services that from time to time may be placed under its jurisdiction”*

*As proposed by staff  
of all Recreation  
Centers after this  
years training  
sessions via/PASA*

*“The Providence Recreation Department will provide diverse recreational and educational opportunities which will strengthen individual characteristics, improve the quality of life, and create a safe environment for every resident in the City of Providence”*

# Introduction



*This report covers the recently completed fiscal year 2006 from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The Department of Recreation continues its progress to develop greater trust and build relationships to accomplish the goals set forth in providing recreation to the citizens of the City of Providence. As always, continued encouragement and support provided by the Administration and City Council has been very important.*

*We continue to establish ongoing and healthy relationships both internally and externally, and this effort includes all departments in service to the city. Some of these relationships have been experienced with but not limited to:*

- *Department of Operations*

*The Operations Department continues to provide support through direct assistance in problem solving with community groups and sharing information with other departments at regular meetings. Having the opportunity to discuss and consider options related to presenting problems or new ideas is both reassuring and very helpful. Providing advice on budget, personnel, strategy or community concerns is something this department is grateful to receive. An example of this was the support provided to get our website active & current by using the assistance of a Mayor's Fellowship Student to provide the technical support necessary. Without direct support from the staff of Operations and Administration, it would be challenging to resolve community differences, consider new opportunities or think about personal related issues from multiple perspectives.*

- *Office of Neighborhood Services*

*The Office of Neighborhood Services is invaluable and is always available to lend support or bring to our attention concerns of residents we are attempting to provide services to. There have been numerous occasions through which we have collaborated during the course of this past year.*

- *Parks Department*

*Our relationship and dependency of the Parks Department is important. Their willingness to collaborate and provide increased opportunity for the youth of the city continues to be extremely important. For the third year consecutively we appreciate the use of Roger Williams Park to host Adventure Camp. Attendance continued to average 100 youth per day, and to keep the youth cool we decided to get them back to one of our swimming pools (Rogers) weekly. Parks also was supportive of the Urban League/Recreation Department Playground initiative.*

- *Department of Arts & Culture*

*As demonstrated through their successful efforts to provide wonderful new experiences in the downtown district, our department must develop stronger efforts to include them in attempts to enhance even greater experiences directly in the neighborhoods surrounding our recreation centers. We host about 15 "Evenings in the Neighborhood" around our pools and water parks, attendance could be stronger at these events with their involvement and or promotion. This is an area, which could be improved, and remain committed to working with Arts & Culture to improve this participation.*

- *ProvStat*

*Provstat was created to raise accountability, provide greater opportunities to review programs, and make decisions more accurately on services we provide through the collection of data and information for planning purposes. Through the efforts of PASA we were provided computers for all of our recreation centers. All the Recreation Centers computers are operational, however, there continues to be various problems associated with service, but with the help of PASA, and ITT this will be resolved. All relevant staff has been trained on Youth Service.Net and input is taking place.*



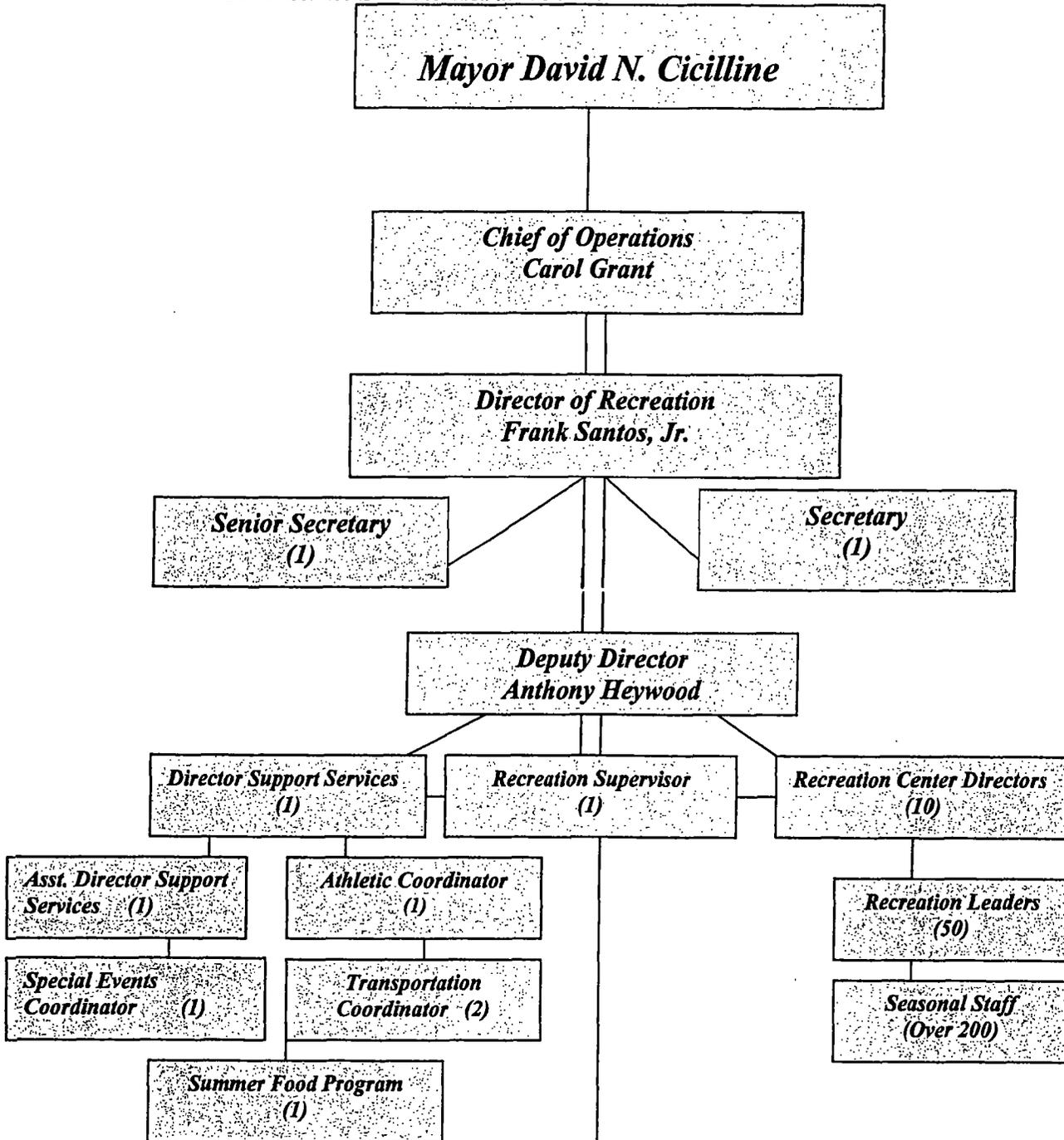
- *Providence Police Department*

*The relationship with the Providence Police and Recreation is a natural one and all of our centers continue to interrelate very well with them. The feeling is one of support and mutual respect, and they continue to be a very important presence at our pools, water parks, and other summer programs. An area of challenge for both departments is getting more police officers involved during their off duty times. The Pals initiative had good signs of worthy activities and will be continued with support of PASA.*

**Organization Chart**

**Proposed – Recreation Organization Chart**

\* Note Senior Service is not included in this chart



# *Department Overview*

*The Department is divided into the following main areas of function:*

- 1. Administrative*
- 2. Recreation Centers*
- 3. Transportation*
- 4. Programs*
- 5. Summer Food Services*
- 6. Summer Jobs*
- 7. The Camp Cronin Experience*

*A major goal of this department is to plan, develop, and increase recreational programs and opportunities that are responsive to the community needs.*

*This department continues to seek alternative means to supplement our budget and services in an effort to support the Mayor's directive to work smarter and provide more services. Our collective effort in working with Administration, City Council, other community groups, and the private sector has and will continue to produce higher quality programs and reach more youth and residents of the city.*

*We continue to experience progress in this area and we are happy to provide a review of the activities in this report that will validate this. This department has not only continued existing activities, but has in some instances increased them. We are also committed to but must do a better job of continued efforts in creating non-traditional opportunities for the youth of the city.*

## **Short Term Goals**

- Strive to create higher standards for employment in particular for full time employment.*
- Strengthen and make better use of the ProvStat/Youth Services.net process*
- Implement voice mail*
- Develop clear lines of communications, supervisors, and support*
- Work to create an Advisory Board at each Recreation Center and re-establish the city wide Recreation Advisory Board*
- Work to assure that fun and learning is the most important goal of all youth activities.*

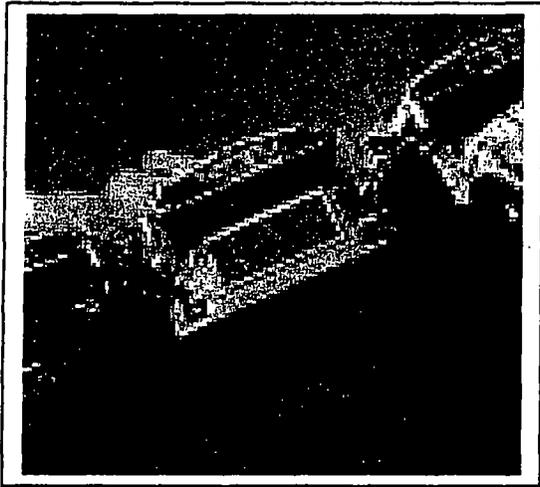
## **Challenges**

- Improve services to community*
- Completion of computers/technology to Recreation Centers*
- Continue the development of all staff through training*
- Continue the effort to create non-traditional opportunities for youth*
- Work with the city to improve the fleet of vehicles in our service.*



## *Transportation*

*The Providence Recreation Department's transportation program continues to be a cornerstone activity for the residents of the city. This past season the program expanded services by re-establishing a third passenger bus to the fleet of vehicles. With the assistance of ProvStat the department was able to monitor daily trips and schedules and develop statistics that have been used at quarterly ProvStat meetings highlighting the impact on the residents of the city.*



*The program continues to offer services to the following organizations:*

- Senior Citizen Groups*
- Neighborhood non-profit organizations.*
- Providence Schools*
- Various other groups*

*The destinations for the field trips that are scheduled vary depending on the time of the year. Winter destinations include LaSalette Shrine while summer trips are geared toward South County.*

*The department has 16 passenger vans and two buses that are assigned to the ten recreation centers and central office. These vehicles also transport thousands of recreation center children to various venues around the state for leagues, tournaments and hundreds of special events. The department strives to continue these services in the future and hopes that the city has the resources to upgrade the fleet of vehicles that need to be replaced. The department has made a conscious effort to provide more transportation opportunities for recreation-sponsored programs. With more plans for the future in place, this trend will continue for the next few seasons. If you are a Providence based youth organization or a Senior Citizen program, feel free to call the department for further details.*

## ***Field Permits***

*The 2005-2006 field permit season was one of change and transition. During this season, permit fees were raised for the first time in five years. Many organizations felt these new fees were not fair for the entire season. After reviewing what other municipality's fees were, each group understood that the fees were still very fair and affordable.*

*With over thirty fields under the jurisdiction of recreation, filling the hundred or so request for field space is a very tedious process. For the most part, the season was an overall success with the department generating approximately \$14,000.00 to \$16,000.00 in annual revenue from the collection of permit fees. There was a 100% collection rate of fees for the first time in three years.*

*Field space continues to be an issue regarding the lack of available soccer fields in the City of Providence. Each year, more and more soccer leagues are forming, and are requesting space.*

*So far, the department has been able to accommodate all request for field space-time. In the next few years, the demand will pass the supply of fields available with scheduling conflicts resulting. Leagues have been very forthcoming and have even discussed shared field space and league mergers to try to alleviate the problem. Leagues have also shown a willingness to assist with the general maintenance of some of the complexes.*

*Overall the partnerships between recreation and the permit holders continue to expand as the organizations become educated with the policies of the process and support changes when they are instituted. The department issued over 75 permits for the season.*



# 2006



During the winter season the Department of Recreation sponsored six citywide leagues. Four youth boys leagues which contains 10 and under Alfred Tavares League, 12 and under Joe Hassett League, 14 and under Marvin Barnes League, and 17 and under Roosevelt Benton League and two youth girl's leagues, which contains 13 and under league and 16 and under league. These divisions have Playoff and Championship, with leagues playing for 18 games scheduled, on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. All leagues were played at Providence College Alumni Hall and girl's played at Neutaconkanut Recreation Center with award ceremonies and pizza parties. This year there were 560 youth that participated in basketball leagues.



### **Boys 10 and Under League**

Champion: Vincent Brown  
Runners-Up: West End

### **Joe Hassett League (12 & Under)**

Champions: Neutaconkanut Recreation  
Runners-Up: John Hope

### **Marvin Barnes League (14 & Under)**

Champions: Joslin Recreation  
Runners-Up: John Hope Settlement House

### **Boys 16 & Under League**

Champions: John Hope  
Runners-Up: Zuccolo Recreation Center

### **Girls 13 & Under League**

Champions: Zuccolo Recreation Center  
Runners-Up: Vincent Brown

### **Girls 16 & Under League**

Champions: Zuccolo Recreation  
Runners-Up: Met School

# *Boys High School Summer*

# 2006

*The Providence Recreation Boys High School Basketball League played twelve regular season games, plus playoffs and a championship game. The games were held at the Johnson & Wales University on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings from 5:30- 9:00 pm. Listed are teams who participated in the league.*

*Saint Rays, Central High, Classical High, Cranston East, Feinstein, Bishop Hendreken, Hope High, Mount Pleasant High, Moses Brown, Wheeler, North Smithfield High, and Exeter/West Greenwich. The teams were coached by high school coaches and officiated by certified referees. The winner of this year's championship game was Feinstein High School.*



2006

## Girls Summer Basketball League

*The Providence Recreation Girls High School Basketball league played a twelve game schedule, with playoffs and championship games. Girls from all over the state came to compete at the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center on Monday's and Wednesday's evenings from 5:30 – 10:00 pm. The following is a list of teams that participated in the league:*

*Central High, Classical High, Cranston West & East High Schools, LaSalle Academy Mount Pleasant High, North Kingston High, Ponagansett High, Saint Mary's Bay View, Saint Raphael, Tollgate High and Smithfield High School. Like the boy's league, the coaches were from the high schools, and all games were officiated by certified referees. Saint May's Bay View won the league champions.*



## ***Summer Lunch Program:***

*The Federal Summer Lunch Program continues to be one of the largest summer food programs in the state. The program is 91% of the state's entire summer program. The program offers lunch each day during the course of July and August for over 120 sites all over the city. The daily averages for the program year were: 3000 breakfasts and 6300 lunches served daily. This is approximately 47,000 meals served weekly during the summer.*



*The department is able to employ well over two hundred youth and adults to assist with the overall facilitation of the program. This includes: meal preparation, meal packaging, meals boxed and shipped to the various sites around the city. This program is sponsored by the State Department of Education and the Federal Government and is 100% reimbursable for the service provided.*

*The department has expanded services to include the city of East Providence in 2004 and Pawtucket and Cranston have also requested our services in times of need. The program has been recognized locally by the State Department of Education and has also received regional recognition in 2002.*

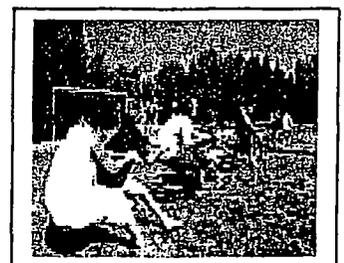
*Overall, the program is an extension of the school meal programs. The meals provide for all children and could be the only nutritious meal they receive on a daily basis. The program has to meet strict federal guidelines that mandate essential elements that each lunch must have. In order to be reimbursed for the meals, all meals must meet these guidelines. The program's main operating facility is located at Bridgham Middle Street School.*

## ***Camp Cronin:***

*The Providence Recreation Department had another successful summer season at the city owned facility located in Point Judith. During the months of July and August of 2005, the camp was scheduled weekdays for the Senior Citizens, neighborhood non-profit and various organizations that participated. A normal camp experience could include arriving at the facility at 10:00 am and taking a nice walk down to the oceanfront for a glimpse of Block Island on a clear day. This view is worth the trip alone.*

*After a morning on the oceanfront, the staff at the camp will greet you with a daily cookout that includes hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and soda. After lunch depending on the age of the group, numerous activities can be arranged. These include:*

- *Scenic tour of Galilee and Narragansett*
- *Trip to the beach*
- *Field activities at the camp(spacious open green space)*
- *Special trip to the ice-cream stand*



*For the summer of 2006, the facility has additional groups scheduled to use Camp Cronin in hope to expand the overall use of the facility for various city departmental functions.*

*Overall, the camp had a daily average of 35-40 participants. For this summer season, the department has impacted over 1600 city residents who have visited the camp. For some, this field day is something they experience on a yearly basis, for inner-city children, this trip leaves a lasting impression.*



*It is our intent to test a pilot rental program for use of the camp on Saturdays and Sundays when there are no scheduled activities. The idea is to begin thinking of ways to add general revenue to our budget, which can be used at the camp for items needed currently. The long-range plan (and part of our Strategic Plan) is to develop a committee that will formulate definite plans to regenerate interest in Camp Cronin.*

## **NFL/JPD**

*The Providence Recreation Department held it's Third Annual National Football League/Junior Player Development Camp at Bryant University, July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>. Each participant received two weeks of fundamental instructions, equipment and a trip to the New England Patriots Training Camp at Gillette Stadium.*

*The camp had over 90 participants, and was held daily from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Transportation was provided each day. The highlight for the participants, was a group photo with the Patriots running back Cory Dillon.*



## **College Fairs**

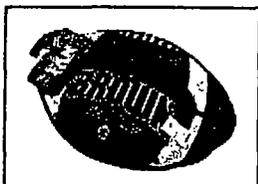
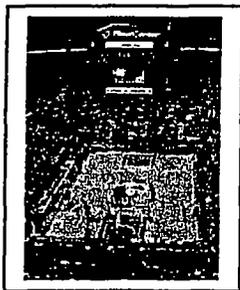


*Youth in all our sport leagues were invited to attend College Fairs and campus information at: URI, CCRI and RIC.*

## *Events*

*Youth in many of our Recreation Centers were the recipients of tickets and attended various events such as:*

- *Celtic Regular*
- *Playoff basketball games at the Fleet Center in Boston*
- *URI, Brown, CCRI and RIC basketball and football games*
- *Golf at Buttonhole*
- *Theatre at Trinity*



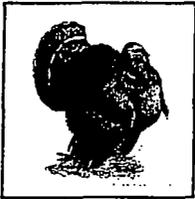
## ***Special Events and Activities 2006***

*Evenings in the Neighborhood cookouts were held throughout the summer at the municipal pools, as well as Fox Point Boys and Girls Club, Billy Taylor Park, Regent Avenue Playground, George J West Park and Fagnoli Park.*



*Residents enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and chips provided by the Recreation Department. Entertainment included: Twyce, Puppet Shows, Face Painting, Young Fish Drumming School of Music, Lane Acres Petting Zoo and Twin Willow Stables. (Pony Rides)*

### ***Thanksgiving***



*Due to the generosity of Administrative Staff of the Recreation Department, once again this year the families that reside in the Sutterfield(Old Arbor Glen) and Maplewood Terrace Apartments will once again be given turkeys along with assorted food items to help make their holiday special.*

### ***Halloween & Christmas***



*In 2006, various centers will be making their annual trip to the Factory of Terror and will be holding their annual Halloween parties.*

*Again this year with the generosity of the Marine Corps Toy for Tots Program, the recreation centers will be able to pass toys out to inner-city children. Each of our 10 centers will host their annual Christmas party.*

### ***Easter Egg Hunts***

*Easter Egg Hunts were held at various sites across the city. Along with Easter Egg Hunts, children who attended these events were given toy and candy filled Easter Baskets.*



### ***Take a Kid Fishing***

*Under the direction of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association, the Providence Recreation Department was able to take 60 children from local recreation centers. This program is fairly new to the department and we look forward to continuing in the years to come.*



## ***Activities and Accomplishment since July 2005***

- ***Continued support to all recreation centers via regular visits and meetings both at those centers and the main office.***
- ***With the support of Bank of America - PASA completed the City Wide Youth Basketball Leagues at Providence College (Tavares, Barnes, and Benton Leagues.***
- ***We will name the 10 & under league after Roosevelt Benton.***
- ***All coaches attended the Principals of Positive Coaching Training.***
- ***Worked with Dr. Walker (RIC) to develop a coaches operations manual reflecting the attempt to put fun first for all youth.***
- ***Required attendance of all players to see and discuss the movie "Coach Carter" with the head coaches from the Providence Public High Schools.***
- ***Received a donation of a full sized handicapped school bus from the Free Wheelers Association. We are working with the City Arts Program to consider how to use this bus and create a mobile traveling arts program for youth in the Recreation Centers, and local Parks where centers are not located during the summer months.***
- ***Held meetings with little leagues to discuss and plan increased services to all youth of the city playing baseball.***
- ***For a fee, (\$10,000.00) worked with the North End Collaborative to set up a Providence Day Camp experience for their youth exclusively at Adventure Camp (Roger Williams Park). This money went into programs or equipment needed for the department.***

***With the above monies we purchased some of the following sorely needed items of which have been delivered or we are awaiting delivery:***

- 1. Freezer for storage of all delivered food for all the daily needs at Camp Cronin, Evenings in the Neighborhood, etc.***
- 2. Canopies and umbrellas for all the pools to provide shade to prevent skin cancer.***
- 3. Volleyball poles and nets, horseshoes, bocce, baseball gloves, bases, bats, table games and soccer balls for Camp Cronin***
- 4. Program support for possible City Sail (with North Providence Recreation Department) and soccer opportunities to be developed with Providence High School & RIC's coaches.***

*Annual Report Providence Recreation 2006  
Submitted by Anthony Heywood, Deputy Director*

*2006 for the department has seen continued emphasis placed on development and growth, in the areas of professionalism and infrastructure. In 06, all department staff were required to attend non-violence training provided by the Institute for the study of Non-Violence. Key staff members attended the (Building Exemplary Systems for Training), provided by the Best Initiative training institute, youth worker certification program.*

*The ten center directors and their support staff teams attended trainings for an internet based tracking tool called Youth Services. Net. This program allows staff to track participation of youth, measure program quality, and identify trends.*

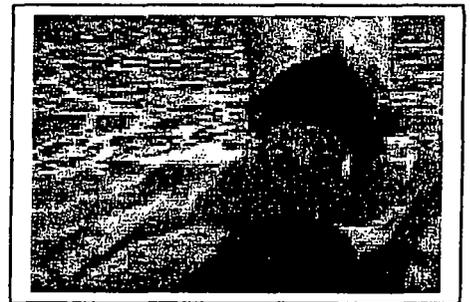
*2006 also saw an increase in programming directed at middle school youth in partnership with PASA (Providence After School Alliance). At two centers a collaborative effort with the Providence Police Department, PASA, and our department produced programming for youth that often fall through the cracks through no fault of their own; and more often experience a lack of choices. This program was called PAL (Police Activity League).*

*Moving forward the department is emphasizing branding and customer service at the ten recreation centers located around the city. In the weeks to come we will be launching a pilot program in five centers with the above mentioned goals in mind. Consistency in appearance, level of service, and program delivery are the benchmarks we intend to measure.*

*With a continued effort towards collaboration, new and non-traditional activities, and upgrades in quality and service; the citizens of Providence have lot's to look forward to from this department...*

# *Individual Recreation Center*

## *Reports*



# ***JOSLIN RECREATION CENTER***

***Director: William O'Brien***

*The Joslin Recreation Center is operated by William O'Brien. During the summer months hundreds of children can go swimming in the pool and receive free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program.*

*This winter the recreation center offered the following programs:*

*Basketball, Soccer, Hockey, Team Scatter, Wiffleball, Board Games and Field Trips between the hours of 3:00-5:00 pm.*

*One day a week the Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Program provided volley-ball and scatter for middle school children.*

*Joslin also had two basketball teams in the Providence Recreation Leagues, ages 12-14 and 15-16. The 12-14 year old division won the city championship the first time in 19 years.*

*The following organizations used our gym during the year:*

*PASA, Joslin Community Development Corporation (JCDC), St. Teresa's Church, Olneyville Community School, William Da'Bate School, Mexican Soccer League, Bolivian Soccer League and Joslin Kids Soccer.*

*The summer offered programs such as swim lessons, free swim, field trips to Camp Cronin and Wheeler Beach, Neighborhood Cook-Outs, Joslin Kids Soccer Program and free lunch provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program. Other groups that used the pool were: Joslin Community Development Corp., Manton Heights, Hartford Heights, Olneyville City Camp, Sackett Recreation Center and C.I.T.E. Handicap School.*

## ***Neutaconkanut Recreation Center***

***Director: Raymond Tessaglia***

*This recreation center serves the residents of the Silver Lake area of Providence, has open recreation Monday-Friday with activities such as basketball, soccer, whiffleball, kickball, dodgeball, and rollerblading.*

*The Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Program began activities at Neutaconkanut for middle school children. These activities include touch football, basketball, soccer and martial arts.*

*During the month of June, July and August, the facility, one of the busiest in the city, is host to hundreds of residents using the pool and water parks. The center is host to the department's Girls High School Summer Basketball League and Women's Adult Basketball League. Two neighborhood cookouts were held here this year.*

*The center is located in the heart of Silver Lake and accommodates several outside organizations. These groups include: Silver Lake Little League, Times 2 Academy, The Rhode Island Breakers, Silver Lake Young Men's Association, Providence School Department, and the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office to name a few.*



## ***West End Recreation Center***

***Director: Clifton Watkins***

*The West End Recreation Center located on the West Side of Providence, services youth and adults living in the West End and South Providence area.*

*Activities included cooking class, Saturday Morning Cartoon Breakfast Club, Ice Skating, Flag Football, Kickball and Arts & Crafts.*

*The West End Basketball Leagues are for boys and girls 8-18 years of age. West End also offers Co-Ed Softball, Cheerleading and Dance Team. Summer at the West End is busy with the pool being open seven days a week. Hundreds enjoy hot summer days by the pool, along with free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program. Summer comes to an end with the annual West End Evening in the Neighborhood Cookout where residents can enjoy food and live entertainment provided by the Recreation Department. Outside organizations that have used our facilities are, San Miguel School, Elmwood Community School, Intruders Cheerleaders, New Force Steppers and XNA Wrestling, just to name a few.*

## ***Angelo Zuccolo Recreation Center***

***Director: Jackie Poulios***

*The Zuccolo Recreation Center, located at 18 Gesler Street in Federal Hill, enjoyed a very successful year under Director Jackie Poulios and his staff. The center fielded 7 youth basketball teams for boys and girls ranging in age 7 -18 years of age. Three of those teams won city championships. The Girls Junior Division (11-13) and Girls Senior Division (14-16) teams won city titles. The Senior Girls finished undefeated at 10-0. The Boys Senior Division Team (17-18 years old) also finished undefeated at 10-0 winning their first city title since 1980! All three teams were treated to trophies, jackets, proclamations and a wonderful banquet. The Men's Alumni Wiffleball League continued its 13-year tradition with an exciting championship series and its First Annual All Star Game and Skills Competition. The center also enjoyed field trips, which have included a trip to see neighborhood boxing hero Peter Manfredo, Jr.'s knockout of Scott Pemberton at the Dunkin Donuts Center for "The Contender". Forty Zuccolo children saw the fight free of charge. Manfredo also treated the children to free apparel and more, as he was a lifeguard at the pool all summer.*

*Other programs included the Zuccolo Center/Federal Hill Gazette Student Athlete of the Month Scholarship, as well as a GED program called Zuccolo U-Turn. Outreach has included the successful Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Volleygirls Program as well as collaborating services with the John Hope Settlement House, the Federal Hill House and the Textron/Chamber's Academy. The center also enjoys its own sports page in the local newspaper called "Zuccolo Sports" in the Federal Hill Gazette.*

## ***Kennedy Recreation Center***

***Director: Steven Beraducci***

*Kennedy Recreation Center is located at the Robert F. Kennedy School, serving the Elmhurst Neighborhood. The Kennedy Center supports area activities involving the youth of the community. These activities include; Providence Intramural Basketball League and Elmhurst Little League registration and tryouts.*

*Hundreds of area residents once again enjoyed the Fagnoli Water Park this summer, along with free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program.*



## ***Madeline Rogers Recreation Center***

***Director: Karl Brown***

*The Madeline Rogers Recreation Center, located in the Smith Hill section of Providence, has a new outdoor volleyball court, walking track and a new play structure. This will compliment the recreation facility, and the outdoor pool. Hasbro Children's Hospital, Providence Schools, Allstate Foundation and Parks & Recreation Departments sponsored this project.*

*Smith Hill Community Development Corporation has collaborated this summer on extending services to the children of Smith Hill.*

*This year Madeline Rogers Recreation Center was the host for the Mayor's Cup Little League's presentation barbeque on August 28<sup>th</sup>.*

*The North End Community Learning Collaborative used the outdoor pool during the summer and was provided with swimming lessons.*

*Gospel Tabernacle Outreach Ministries Inc. used the facility for a week for sporting activities for the children in summer camp.*

*Glory Dei Lutheran Church used this facility for two weeks for their summer camp utilizing the pool and the gym for their day camp.*

*The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Joe Hassett Sr. Day on July 15, 2006, a day of food and beverages, live entertainment and sporting events.*

*The following is a list of other youth organizations that used:*

- Mount Hope Summer Camp (pool)*
- Vincent Brown Recreation Center (pool)*
- Capital City Community Center (pool)*
- Sackett Street Recreation Center (pool)*
- Goodwill Industries (gym class)*
- Catholic Youth Organization (winter basketball league)*
- Saint Patrick's Church (pool)*
- Urban League summer program working in Regent Ave. Park*
- Providence Housing (pool)*
- Smith Hill Day Care (pool)*

*Madeline Rogers Recreational Facilities is the focal point of the majority of positive recreation activities in the Smith Hill neighborhood and will continue for the up-coming year.*

## ***Vincent Brown Recreation Center***

***Director: Thomas Spann***

*During the school year the Vincent Brown Recreation Center offered the children in the Mount Hope/East Side community an after school program from 2:30-5:30 pm. This program was for boys and girls ages 6-12. Activities offered were homework help, swimming at the East Side/Mount Hope YMCA, table-top games, arts and crafts and movies. In the gym the children played basketball, soccer, scatter, kickball, relay races, and capture the flag.*

*In the summer months the center offers an eight week day camp for boys and girls ages 6-12. The camp hours were 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. We provided breakfast and lunch from the Federal Summer Lunch Program. We used the recreation center and Hope High School athletic fields, tennis courts, the pool at the East Side/Mount Hope YMCA and Rogers Recreation Center. Field trips were taken once a week, there were 50 campers enrolled in the program. The water park was open seven days a week, weather permitting, and the Urban League program was offered at Billy Taylor Park, Monday – Thursday, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.*

### ***Sports Teams:***

- *Boys Basketball ages 10 and Under (back to back city champions of the Providence Recreation League)*
- *Boys Basketball ages 11-12*
- *Girls Basketball 14 & under (city champions summer of 2005 and runner up winter 2006)*
- *Providence Cobras Track & Field/Cross Country for boys and girls ages 8-18 (two members qualified for the Outdoor Track & Field Junior Olympics in Baltimore, and two girls qualified for the Hershey National Meet in Hershey Pennsylvania)*
- *Practices were held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday's at 6:00 pm at Hope High School during the spring and summer, and at Moses Brown School during the winter*

### ***Special Events:***

*Christmas Party, Halloween Party and the Evening in the Neighborhood Cookout.*

*Services are provided for the following groups:*

<i>East Side YMCA</i>	<i>Mount Hope Head Start</i>	<i>Victory Christian Academy</i>
<i>Mexican Soccer League</i>	<i>Mount Hope Cowboys</i>	<i>Whitmarsh House</i>
<i>East Side Women's Basketball</i>	<i>Girl Scouts</i>	<i>East Side After Zone</i>

## ***Sackett Street Recreation Center***

***Director: James Clements***

*Youth participating in activities at Sackett Street Recreation Center are fortunate to be a part of the Kids Café Program. The goal of this program is to help with the nutritional needs for the kids in the Elmwood/South Providence community. As a member of the RI Community Food Bank, we have developed Kids Café, a program that provides wholesome, nutritious meals, evenings and Saturday mornings to needy children, supplementing the Federal School Breakfast and School Lunch Programs. Community Outreach Kids Café will serve between 70 and 100 children, Monday – Saturday each week. We feel that a healthy body will develop a strong mind and every little bit counts. Most of the people in the group volunteer at least three hours in a day working with the kids in the neighborhood and we know and see the importance of the programs that we have developed. We see the need to feed the kids that would most likely go to bed and wake up hungry, without the support of neighbors such as this group.*

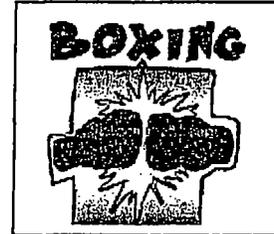


*The goal is to eradicate hunger and to support after school programs in the City of Providence or at least the South Providence/Elmwood Community section. We hope to encourage the kids to stay in school and become responsible for the growth and development of the community in which they live and play in. We have seen an increase in the number of kids participating in the after school program and athletic program at the Sackett Street/Elmwood Community Center. We feel by having a nutritional meal and safe educational environment the overall community will continue to grow, crime and drug use will decrease and kids will stay in school. As a bonus incentive we take the kids to the movies, skating, bowling or seasonal events. We pay for the entrance fee and snacks. We give out special awards to kids with high marks on their report cards and perfect attendance in school. We have a monthly birthday celebration for everyone that is born during that particular month. The staff at Sackett Street Recreation Center have set goals to provide the youth in the area with the opportunity to learn more about the cultural diversity of people that live in this neighborhood (past & present). Another goal is to maintain a safe and healthy environment. The parents that can't afford after school day care or work late, appreciate the effort of the center for providing not only the after school education program but especially the nutritional program.*

## **Davey Lopes Recreation Center**

**Director: George Lindsey**

*The Davey Lopes Center located at 227 Dudley Street provides year round programming to upper and lower South Providence and West End. Davey Lopes provides an After School Program (ASP) for youth 5-15 years old during the school year and enrollment is free. The ASP provides homework help and subject strengthening along with a ton of fun activities and trips throughout the school year. Supported by two different computer labs, the ASP also offers youth the opportunity to complete homework and access to high-speed internet from eight lap top computers donated by Brown University or from ten newly donated desk top computers from G-Tech Advantage Computer Lab. During the fall and winter months Davey Lopes offers a variety of activities to all city youth. August and September signals football season and South Side Saints Football and Cheerleaders are available for all youth from the city. October will bring the start of wrestling season and Providence Youth Boxing Club "Learn to Box" boxing program. A newly renovated former indoor pool provides space, over 3500 square feet for youth in the city to learn the art of boxing free of charge.*



*Also during this fall and winter Davey Lopes will be part of the "Upper South Side/West End Afterzone". The center will provide several Afterzone offerings this fall and winter including "Music One" music program. Music One is housed at Davey Lopes and provides year round opportunity for youth in and around the city to write, produce and perform original songs and poems. Music One has a studio in the center and records and produces several CD's a year. Davey Lopes Basketball Program begins early in November and provides several teams for boys and girls from 6-16 years old. All teams play in the City's recreation league.*

*During the summer months Davey Lopes converts from a gym to a pool throughout the summer. We hire over thirty teenagers from the city to help run our outdoor pool throughout the summer. The pool services between 200-300 children and adults daily. The hours of operation for the Davey Lopes Pool will be 2:00 – 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday for the 2007 summer season. In addition to the pool the Davey Lopes Summer Day Care runs an eight week camp for 30-40 children. The camp does some academic strengthening along with an array of activities and Friday all day trips.*

*Davey Lopes has plans to build several new programs this fall and winter in collaboration with several organizations and individuals. Things like dance and acrobatics as well as video production are great interest to the youth of the center and will be offered very soon.*

## ***South Providence Recreation Center***

***Director: Cedric Huntley***

*South Providence Recreation Center (SPRC) is marking 7 years of serving the residents of Ward 10 and host of community organizations throughout the city. As SPRC's site director I am privileged to work with a dedicated group of professional directors and seasonal staff that make this Center a safe and clean facility for our city youth and guest. We have worked hard as a team to develop structure in all the programs we provide and host. Trust, Honesty and Respect are SPRC's core qualities for personal success.*

*We are proud to host our 6<sup>th</sup> year of after school programming for 1-6 grade youth; where we provide a homework help program. Thirty-five youth participated in a successful City Arts program and displayed their work for the Mayor at a public sponsored program. Our youth worked with students from Brown and RISD and learned valuable art lessons, and personal life skills. We hosted five teams in Providence Recreation Youth and John Hope Basketball Leagues. Over thirty-five youth participated in a Bowling challenge with Sackett Street Recreation Center.*

*As site director, I supervised Al Carrington, and Harriett & Sayles water-park's summer staff and South Providence Camp summer staff. SPRC Summer Camp continues to be an integral part of our programming as we registered and served sixty youth this past season. Youth participated in our reading, City Arts Program and summer fun from bowling, movies, skating, water-parks, pools, and beaches. Our Tae Kwan Do Program has successfully trained 15 students to receive yellow, red and green belts. We hosted the Roosevelt "Bells" Benton Men's Basketball League. Eight teams and over 80 players participated in the winter and spring tournament. Providence Soccer League has over 30 teams and three hundred players participating in Indoor Soccer at SPRC. We have hosted the Dominican Games, Youth Baseball Opening Day, Rebound Foundation, Basketball Clinics, Workshops, PASA Trainings, Recreation Meetings, Yoga, Football Registration, South Side Saints, Muslim Community Organization, Oasis International Summer Bash, AAU Team Providence, New Wave Karate Organization, International Karate Tournaments, (2), Hhmong United Association of RI, Team Dances, Times 2 Academy, Community Prep School, and Woods Young Elementary School's Holiday Party. SPRC provides gym space for Woods Young School and use of our community room or art classes. We have had city and neighborhood meetings and provided space for baby showers, community cookouts and family reunions.*

*In the past year we have had over twenty thousand guests visit or participate in activities at SPRC. I am privileged and honored to be a part of the City Renaissance and look forward to another successful year in the Recreation Department as Director of the South Providence Center.*

**Department of Vital Statistics**  
**Annual Report Fiscal Year 2005-2006**

The Department of Vitals Statistics maintains records of birth, death, and marriage certificates for the City of Providence. The department also issues permits for people to marry. The department provides certified copies of these records for a fee.

The primary function of the department is to maintain copies of original documents of birth, death and marriage certificates. To file these records, we use microfilm for May 1903-1992, microfiche holds the records for May 1974-1992. Binders are used for the hard copies of these documents. The Department currently has 1,452 binders for these records.

**Budget**

The Department of Vital Statistic's budget for the fiscal year **2005-2006** was **\$218,197**. **\$197,296** was expended on salaries, sick leave, vacation, and longevity; the remainder of the budget **\$21,000** was expended on department supplements such as postage, printing, office equipment repairs, office equipment rentals, stationary, chemical laboratory supplies, dues, and miscellaneous services.

**Revenues**

The Department of Vital Statistics revenue's collection was **\$314, 592**. This revenue was generated during fiscal year **2005-2006**. According with the Finance Departments data, all those revenue was generated from the issuance of the following: marriage licenses, birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage certificates and other certified certificates. Below you is a chart that categorically details the revenue for each of these items.

Year	Month	Customers	Revenue	Birth-Full	Birth-Wallet	Death Certificates	Marriage Certificates	Marriage Licenses
2005	July	1382	\$36,983.00	1023	83	1398	175	127
2005	August	1702	\$41,959.00	1320	109	1299	187	194
2005	September	1294	\$34,412.00	988	42	1397	150	132
2005	October	1192	\$31,337.37	954	32	1277	115	103
2005	November	1149	\$33,622.00	892	45	1511	120	89
2005	December	1167	\$34,176.50	960	41	1532	106	74
2006	January	1392	\$37,435.00	1112	79	1441	194	83

2006	February	1282	\$33,855.00	1064	35	1265	124	89
2006	March	1552	\$42,412.00	1282	60	1671	159	103
2006	April	1218	\$35,187.00	884	69	1653	149	84
2006	May	1369	\$38,085.00	957	67	1575	211	126
2006	June	1414	\$37,192.00	1033	70	1366	209	138
Total		16113	\$436,655.87	12469	732	17385	1899	1342

### **Staff**

The Staff of the Department of Vital Statistics is as follows:

City Registrar-Director  
 Chief Clerk-Supervisor  
 Senior Clerk II-Staff Member  
 Senior Clerk-Staff Member  
 Clerk Bilingual-Staff Member

### **Accomplishments Fiscal Year 2005-2006**

1. **The department has increased in technology:** We have put in computer all the forms that normally we use for the issuance of our records. We have the birth, death and marriage certificate forms on a template in the computer, that template help us to issue the records quickly and more accurate as well eliminate the use of the obsolete typewriters.
2. **The department has improved the delivery of customer service:** A voice mail system has been implemented for after hours request for documents. An express pick up advance line has been instituted for documents that are requested through the voice mail system. All order forms have been translated to Spanish. The Department of Vital Statistics has a bi-lingual web site on the cities main web site. Parking permit fliers are available for Funeral Home customers. This permit allows these customers to be able to park for 15 minutes on the side of City Hall without incident. The staffs have attended a 6-hour customer service training that was sponsored by the Department of Labor and Training.
3. **The department has increased its network with the State Department of Vital Statistics:** The VR-2000 Program connects the State Department of Vital Statistics and all 39 Cities and Town in the State of Rhode Island. Through this network program we are able to issue birth certificates for children who are born in other cities and towns in the State of Rhode Island. That program has been in operation since April 28, 2004

4. **Board of Canvassers:** The department has collaborated with the Board of Canvassers by providing the board with a list of deceased residents. During this fiscal year 2005-2006. This information enables the Board of Canvassers to update the voter rolls on a regular schedule. Significantly reducing the margin for error during and election cycle that is already here.

### Conclusion

In conclusion this report is designed to present a comprehensive overview of the Department of Vital Statistics for the administration to review and provide feedback for improvements in any areas of which they see fit. The staff and I have worked diligently to meet the goals that were set at the beginning of fiscal year 2005-2006. Some items remain outstanding and will continue to be part of the development plan for fiscal year 2006-2007. I have managed my department with the belief that there is always room for improvement and growth. This year I hope to exceed the expectations, which I have outlined for the Department, and continue to provide quality service to the residents that access this office for the documents, which they need.

# Operations Department

**Annual Reports  
2006 Fiscal Year**

# Operations Department

## Annual Reports for FY 2006

Letter to the Mayor

Parks Department

Department of Planning and Development

Department of Public Works

Recorder of Deeds

Recreation Department

Department of Vital Statistic

CAROL GRANT  
Chief of Operations

DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Mayor



## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

January 12, 2007

Mayor David N. Cicilline  
Executive Office  
Providence City Hall

Dear Mayor Cicilline,

With this letter are submitted the Annual Reports for the 2006 Fiscal Year prepared by the Department Heads of the following City Departments:

- Parks
- Planning and Development
- Public Works (Including Traffic Engineering)
- Recorder of Deeds
- Recreation
- Vital Statistic

These Departments all contribute significantly to your strategic goals of strengthening the neighborhoods of Providence and growing its economy. The enclosed reports show highlights of their results in FY 2006. In the two prior years, these Departments had invested in building capacity, in professionalizing their operations, in new systems, in energized partnerships and in new ways of approaching their work. That focus does not stop. Every day the people in the Departments are looking for ways to innovate and improve.

The results in FY 2006 attest to the wisdom of those ongoing investments. It was a year of firsts, including the first community garden, the first phase of the Big Green Cans, the first off-leash dog park, the first on-the-spot service in the Recorders office, and the first solar-powered lighting system.

The year was also one in which the City's core functions and services got better. The City's roads benefited from pavement sealing, striping and a pavement replacement program. The City's neighborhood commercial markets were enhanced by streetscape grants. The City's Community Development Corporations assisted by strong support from Planning and Development had their best year on record for producing housing for low and moderate-income families. Recreation programs for the City's youth grew both in numbers and quality. New woodlands trail and a full street tree inventory were created in partnership with community volunteers.

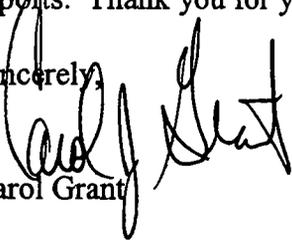
Mayor Cicilline 2

Just as important, 2006 saw the City launch a new approach to planning its future. Under your leadership and in collaboration with City Council, the Planning Department announced a first-in-the nation initiative entitled Providence Tomorrow. Updating the Comprehensive Plan could be a dry, technical endeavor. But with Providence Tomorrow, our City is using the process to build relationships. Residents are invited to conversations in multiple charettes and online comments are made easy. People from many departments collaborate with each other and with residents. Lively creative concepts and active debates about our future are anticipated and encouraged throughout the City. The plans that emerge from Providence Tomorrow will reflect the energy and diversity of our collective best thinking.

The accomplishments of our people don't stop with the end of the fiscal year. As you know, exciting and tangible results are added all the time. But the delivery of these annual reports provide you a snapshot of the good work and proud service of the men and women of these Departments.

I know you will talk with the Department Heads to let them know of any questions on these annual reports. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

  
Carol Grant

Cc: City Clerk  
Department Heads

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# Parks Department

Alix Ogden, Superintendent

# *Providence Parks*

## Annual Report/Fiscal Year 2006



# Providence Parks Department

## *Board of Park Commissioners*

July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

**Mayor David N. Cicilline, Chairman**

**Councilman Patrick K. Butler**

**Ms. Elizabeth Gordon-Martin**

**Ms. Jill Jaffe**

**Mr. John Kelly (resigned May, 2006)**

**Ms. Sara McConnell (effective June, 2006)**

**Dr. John McCray**

**Councilman Peter S. Mancini**

## *Superintendent of Parks*

**Alix R. Ogden**

Providence Parks Department  
Dalrymple Boathouse  
Roger Williams Park  
Providence, Rhode Island 02905

401-785-9450  
agoden@providenceri.com

# **Providence Parks Department**

Annual Report

July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

## **Table of Contents**

**1/Street Trees**

**2/Neighborhood Parks**

**3/Roger Williams Park**

**4/Citywide Park Facilities**

# *1/Street Trees*

The Providence Parks Department is responsible for all of the street trees in the City in addition to trees in City parks. The street tree program is managed by the Forestry Services division which is responsible for tree removals and maintenance and by the City Forester who heads up street tree planting, the young tree care program, and other street tree management programs. A key partner in the street tree planting program is the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program (PNPP) which is funded by the Mary E. Sharpe Tree Planting Endowment.

## **Street Tree Planting**

Street tree planting occurs in Providence in the spring and in autumn months. The primary continuing funding source for street tree planting in Providence is the PNPP program which is funded equally by the Sharpe Endowment and by Parks Department funding as provided by the City Council. For the past several years, this program has funded 350-400 trees per year.

As seen in the accompanying exhibit, the number of street trees planted in Providence in the past fiscal year was down from FY 2005 by about 18 %, but was still significantly higher than two years ago. The primary reason for the decrease in planting was a major tree planting program done by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation as part of several road projects in the City in FY 2005. There were no tree plantings done by RIDOT in the City in FY 2006.

A major funding source for street tree planting in the past two years was the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. The CDBG program funded tree planting along major commercial streets as part of the *Mayor's Neighborhood*

**Market Initiative.** Trees were planted in the past year along Charles Street, Douglas Avenue, Chalkstone Avenue, Cranston Street, Reservoir Avenue, and in Olneyville Square.

Under the direction of the City Forester, two important initiatives were accomplished in street tree planting in the past year. *Species diversity in tree planting was increased* from typically 12 species per year to 39 species in FY 2006. Species diversity is important in defending against specific species blights that can devastate an urban forest. And for the first time in decades, *"bare root" planting was done*. The first effort looks promising and this program could substantially cut future tree planting costs, thereby allowing more trees to be planted.

## **Forestry Services**

The Forestry Division is responsible for tree removals, tree pruning, stump grinding, and removal of fallen branches from street trees along Providence's 400+ miles of streets. The 14 person division also handles requests for putting up a variety of banners and other decorations in the City that require a bucket truck. The division staff also provides the key staff to plant the street trees in the PNPP program.

The total numbers for tree servicing were down this year from FY 2005 due to several reasons: 1) funds for contractor services were allocated in FY 2006 for tree planting as a policy decision to increase tree plantings in the city; 2) there were two months of down time for the Division's two bucket trucks that needed repairs and servicing; and finally, 3) the service demands for incidental services for hanging banners and using the Division's bucket trucks for park light repairs increased significantly this year.

## Providence Tree Tally



*Trained volunteers conducting the citywide tree inventory*

For the first time in almost twenty years, Providence is counting its street trees—all of them. Under the direction of the City Forester and with funding from the Helen Walker Raleigh Tree Care Fund managed by the Rhode Island Foundation, a “tree tally” was begun in May, 2006 and continued throughout the summer. Results will be available in January, 2007.

Almost 100 volunteers were recruited, trained, and armed with palm pilots, clipboards, tape measures, and t-shirts to conduct the inventory of every city street tree. When the results are completely tabulated, the survey will provide invaluable data on future tree planting needs and sites, species diversity, and tree care needs in the city.

## Tree Rescue & Young Tree Care

A new program started this past year by the City Forester was the Tree Rescue program. This program focuses on improving the immediate surroundings of trees threatened by undersized tree pits, ill-advised tree grates, and pavers and pavement too close to trees. A pilot program on Smith Street removed constricting infrastructure around 29 trees and similar efforts are underway in other parts of the City.

With funding from Helen Walker Raleigh Tree Care Trust, over 700 trees planted in the last several years received some “TLC” in the past year. The work included removing weeds from tree pits, adding mulch, and fertilizing. Other newly planted trees also received special watering to help them survive in their early years.

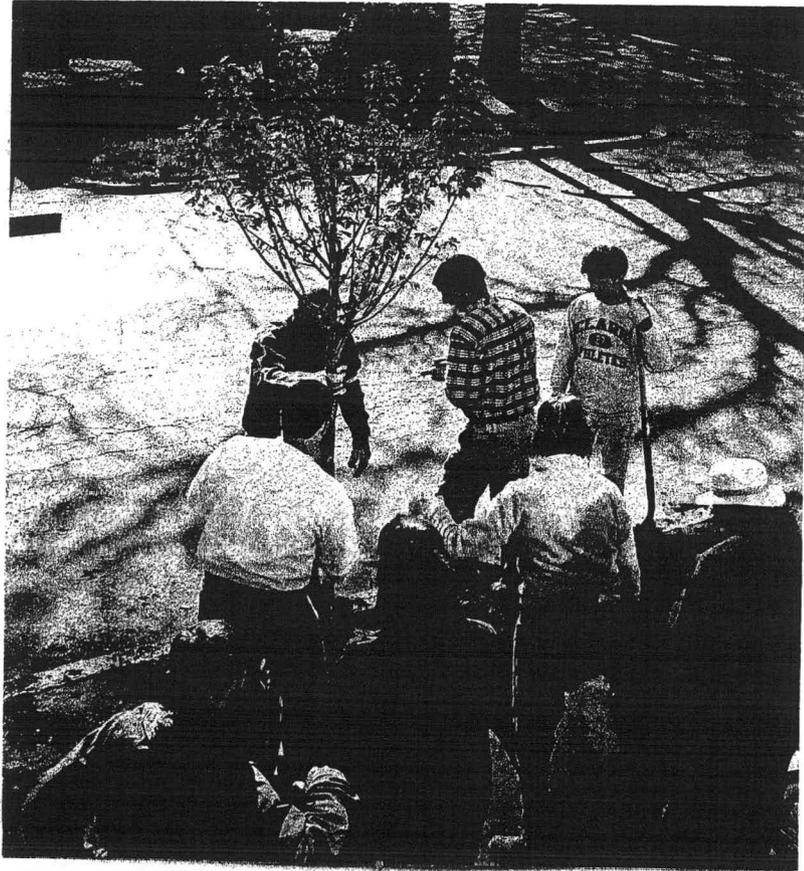
## Downtown Tree Management Plan

With an America the Beautiful grant via Rhode Island DEM, the Parks Department completed this past year a comprehensive tree management plan for the Downtown trees. The trees in the Downtown area face unique challenges because of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, infrastructure conflicts, and lack of space both above and below ground. Using volunteers and 6 high school students employed by Groundwork Providence, the inventory portion of study counted 1,182 street trees and 718 future planting locations.

The Plan outlines future design standards for Downtown tree planting and management strategies to provide a healthy and more continuous canopy on Downtown streets.

### **STREET TREES PLANTED IN PROVIDENCE**

PNPP	421	318	341
City Bond Funds	69	25	23
Brown University		49	25
Rhode Island DOT		249	
Neighborhood Groups	66	84	
Community Development Block Grant		363	417
Individual Residents	49	39	50
Parks Department		23	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>937</b>



### **TREES SERVICED BY FORESTRY DIVISION**

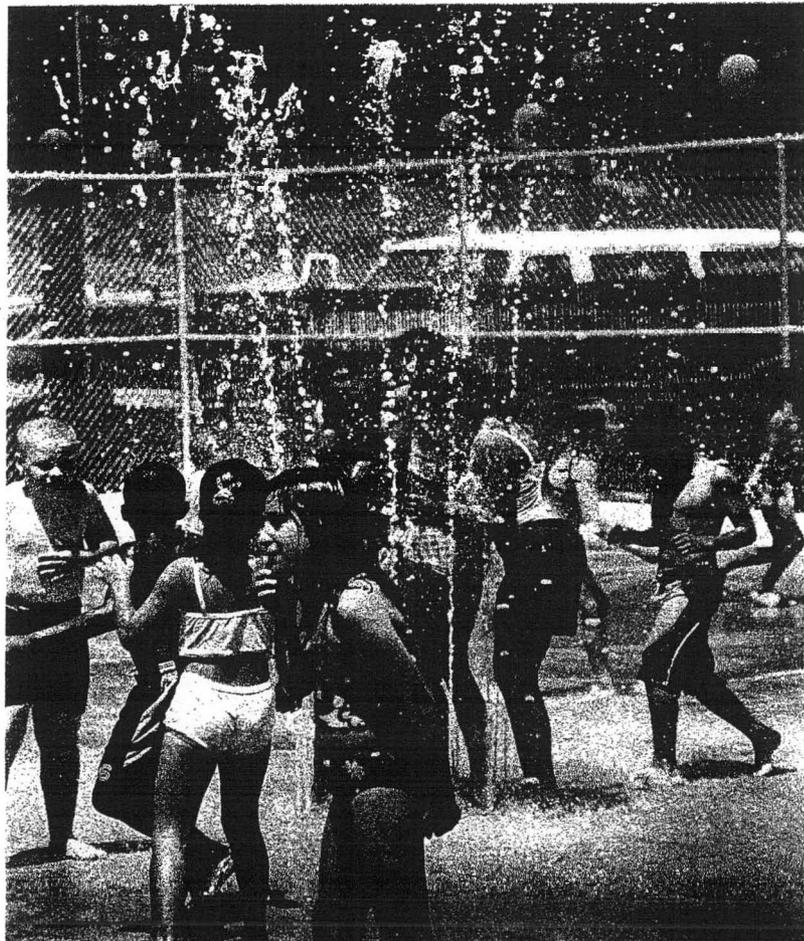
Activity	FY 2004	FY2005	FY 2006
Tree Removals	1074	1,257*	896
Trees Pruned	799	1,129	749
Stumps	244	554*	301
Misc. (primarily pickup of fallen branches)	385	391	432

\*Funds were allocated for private contractor services for these activities in this fiscal year.

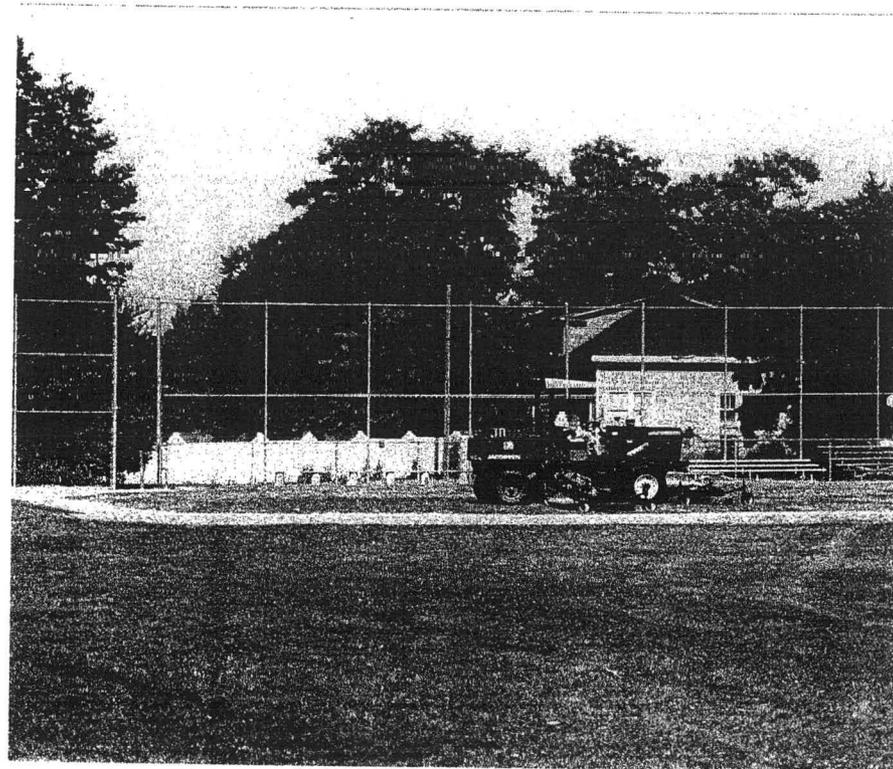
## *2/Neighborhood Parks*

### **Neighborhood Park Services**

The Neighborhood Park Services division provides maintenance and support services for the City's 112 neighborhood park spaces. It is a daunting task given the tremendous diversity in the park system. There are 62 playgrounds, 50 baseball and softball fields, 8 water parks, 37 basketball courts, 8 soccer fields, and 22 tennis courts.



Full-time crews are supplemented by seasonal workers from April-October to provide routine park maintenance: grass cutting, cleaning parks, emptying of trash barrels, removing leaves, and repairing park facilities. Given the hundreds of park lights, hundreds of benches, and more than 3 miles of fences, park repair is a daily challenge for NPS.



## Community Partners

The Parks Department has traditionally depended on support from a variety of community groups to help with park programming. In the past year, the Department worked closely with the following organizations that provide organized *youth athletic opportunities* to approximately 3,200 youth in the City's park system:

### PROVIDENCE YOUTH SPORTS: PARK PARTNERS

- +Providence Recreation Department
- +Fox Point/East Side Little League
- +North End/Wanskuck Little League
- +Elmhurst Little League
- +Mt. Pleasant Little League
- +Silver Lake/Olneyville Little League
- +Elmwood Little League
- +South Providence-Washington Park Little League
- +Cal Ripken League
- +Providence Babe Ruth League
- +West Elmwood Intruders
- +Mt. Hope Cowboys
- +South Side Saints
- +North End 49ers
- +Capitol Youth Soccer
- +Community Boating of Providence

Besides youth sports activities, neighborhood and citywide groups have partnered with the Parks Department in many ways to improve neighborhood parks. These community partner roles range from simply being a "park watchdog" to organizing a neighborhood park cleanup, providing neighborhood volunteers for a park renovation, planning park improvements, and even raising money for park improvements. See accompanying exhibit for a list of neighborhood park community partners. Several of these groups were particularly instrumental in the past year in helping the Parks Department.



*Neighborhood volunteers help to install new playground at Lennon Park*

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS: ACTIVITY IN PAST YEAR**

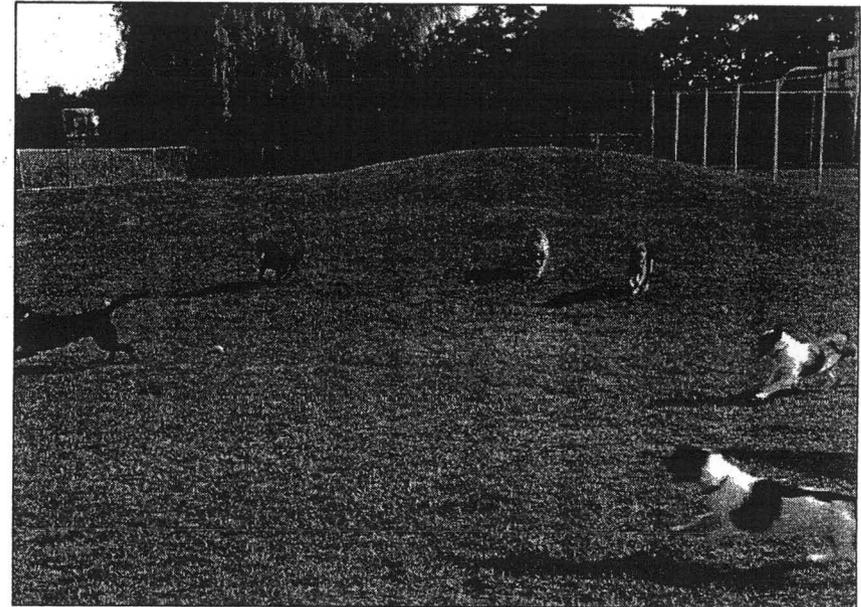
Group	Park Interest	Activity in the Past Year
Blackstone Park Improvement Assoc.	Blackstone Park	Spring cleanup; monitored York Pond detention pond
College Hill Neighborhood Association	Prospect Terrace	Park watchdog
Citywide Green	Citywide parks	Hosted neighborhood park conference; advised on park signage
Downtown Improvement District	Downtown parks	Park watchdog
Elmwood Foundation	New park on Peace Street	Advised on a proposed new park on Peace Street
Fox Point Neighborhood Association	Fox Point parks	Held neighborhood event at Brassil Park; advised on proposed boat ramp
Friends of Ardoene Park	Ardoene Park	Provided advice and community volunteers for Ardoene playground renovation
Friends of Blackstone Boulevard	Blackstone Boulevard	Funded new benches and on-going new planting efforts
Friends of Donigian Park	Donigian Park	Park watchdog
Friends of India Point Park	India Point Park	Installed community bulletin board; planted 3,000 flower bulbs; monitored RT 195 project
Friends of Neutaconkanut Park	Neutaconkanut Park	Partnered on trails renovation project; recruited community volunteers for trail clearing
Groundwork Providence	Burnside Park; Gano Street	Coordinated volunteer day at Burnside Park and new Gano Street community garden
Hartford Park Tenants Association	New Melissa Street Park	Advised on remediation and park plan for proposed new Melissa Street Park
Jewish Community Center	Sessions Street	Park watchdog; hosted meetings for proposed community garden
Mount Hope Neighborhood Assoc.	Billy Taylor Park	Park watchdog; hosted community events at the park
Morris Avenue Residents	Morris Avenue Park	Advised on improvements to the park
North End/Wanskuck Crime Watch	Iola French Park	Park watchdog
Olneyville Housing Corporation	New Riverside Park	Planned proposed housing/community center in proposed park
Providence Dog Park Association	Gano Street Dog Park	Helped develop operating rules for new dog park
Providence Foundation	Downtown Parks	Park watchdog; helping to coordinate revitalization plan for Burnside Park
Rhode Island Injury Prevention Council	Safe playgrounds/citywide	Funded and coordinated community assisted renovation of Lennon Park playground
Rhode Island School of Design	Providence Riverwalk	Help to maintain the Riverwalk
S.Providence Neighborhood Ministries	Southside parks	Helping to promote fitness by using southside parks
Southside Community Land Trust	Community gardens	Advised on the new community garden at Gano Street Park
Summit Neighborhood Association	Lippitt Park; Summit Ave. Pk	Park watchdog
Trust for Public Land	New Melissa Street Park	Coordinated neighborhood meetings for proposed new park
West Broadway Neighborhood Assoc.	Dexter Training Ground	Funded new tree planting in park; advised on proposed dog park
Woonasquacket Riv. Watershed Assoc.	Riverside Pk; Neutaconk. Pk.	Coordinated community input for proposed new park; managing Neut. Trails project

## New in the Neighborhood: Park Improvements

The Parks Department was very active in the past year with neighborhood park improvements. As seen in the accompanying exhibits, park improvements were completed or begun in many neighborhoods parks. Most of the projects were small in scale. Significantly, however, many park improvements were marked by neighborhood involvement in the actual renovations. In particular, the cost of the new playground at *Lennon Park* was reduced by 50% by using community volunteers to do the installation of the new equipment.

The past year also was significant for many “firsts” in neighborhood park improvements:

- The first *community garden* in a neighborhood park was developed at the *Gano Street Park*.
- The first official *off-leash dog park* was established also at the *Gano Street Park*.
- The first *solar-powered lighting system* in a Providence park was installed at *Earley Park* in Elmwood.
- The first *woodland trail system* in 50 years was cleared at *Neutaconkanut Hill* (see picture below).



*New off-leash dog run at Gano Street Park*



*A Fox Point family enjoys the new playground equipment at Brassil Park*

# NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RENOVATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN THE COMING YEAR

<b>PARK</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD</b>	<b>WORK TO BE COMPLETED</b>
Ardoene Park	Reservoir Triangle	Basketball court re-paving re-striping
Donigian Park	Valley	New lighting system around the walking track
Earley Park (Cadillac Drive)	Elmwood	New soccer field turf
Gano Street	Fox Point	Conversion of old softball field to little league field
General Street Park	Wanskuck	New water park
Locust Grove Cemetery	Elmwood	New lighting
Lower Prospect Terrace	College Hill	Site improvements: new retaining walls and turf improvements
Neutaconkanut Park	Silver Lake	Phase II of trail improvements; new off-leash dog run area
Riverside Park	Olneyville	New park opened
Roger Williams Landing	Fox Point	Site Improvements: fencing, landscaping, lighting
Sackett Street Park	Elmwood	Ballfield improvements
Sessions Street Park	Blackstone	New community garden
George West Park	Mount Pleasant	Water park
Iola French Park	Wanskuck	New paved walking track

# NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RENOVATIONS COMPLETED IN THE PAST YEAR, FY 2006

PARK	NEIGHBORHOOD	WORK COMPLETED
Ardoene Playground	Reservoir Triangle	New playground equipment installed with community volunteers
Blackstone Boulevard	Blackstone	Tree planting with community volunteers; new benches installed
Brassil Playground	Fox Point	New playground and site improvements
Cabral Park	Fox Point	New community mural painted on Wickenden Street wall
Davis Park/Baseball Field	Valley	New dugouts
Earley Park(Cadillac Drive)	Elmwood	First solar powered lighting installed*; site improvements;new community mural*
Gano Street	Fox Point	New community garden; first official off-leash dog run
General Street Park	Wanskuck	New fencing and safety surfacing at the playground
Hopkins Square	Charles	Extensive tree pruning and new tree planting
India Point Park	Fox Point	New community bulletin board; community planting of 2,500 flower bulbs near playground*
Lennon Park	Smith Hill	New paved walking track; new community built playground
Neutaconkanut Park	Silver Lake	Three miles of woodland trails opened on Neutaconkanut Hill*
Preston & Ives Playground	Fox Point	New lighting installed
George West Park	Mount Pleasant	New building erected for future water park facility
Ruth Williams Playground	Upper South Providence	Memorial installed at re-named playground in honor of the late Ruth Williams*

\*These improvements were completed in the summer, after the official end of FY 2006

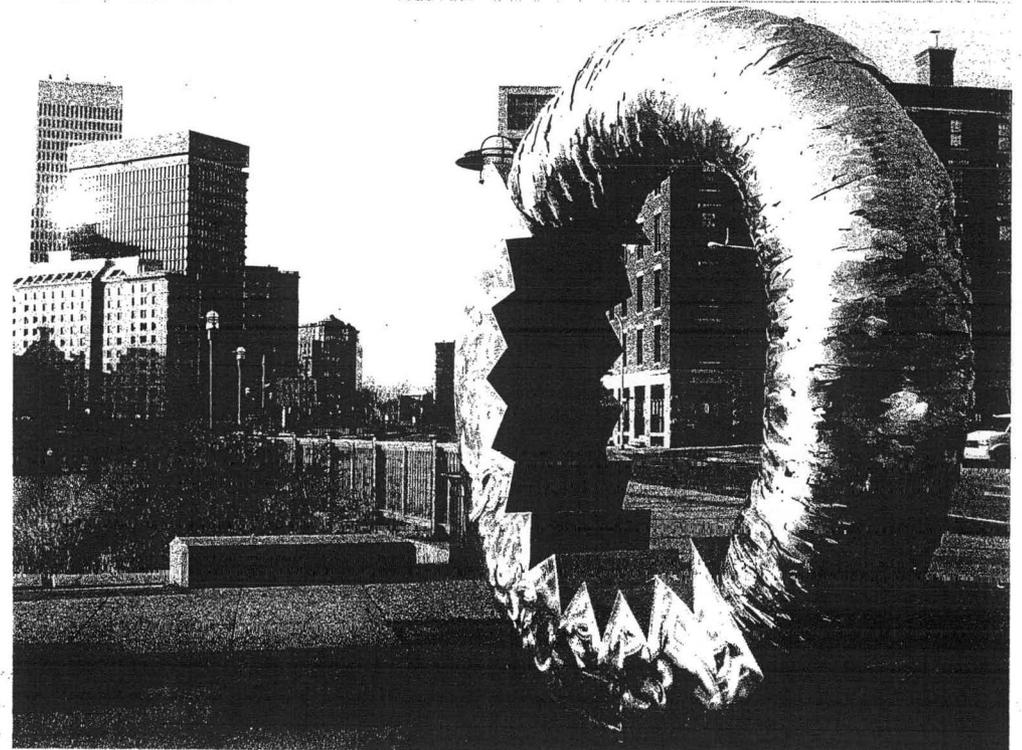
## New in the Neighborhood: Park Art

Providence neighborhood parks are blessed with an incredible amount of public art that ranges from simple murals completed by neighborhood youth to historic bronze sculpture done by famous sculptors.

Much of the bronze public art in our parks are “hidden treasures”, hidden because we generally don’t notice them. But some of the traditional bronze sculpture in our parks does engage us, such as *The Spirit of Youth* (see below) on the **Blackstone Boulevard**, which engages the walkers and runners who pass her by.

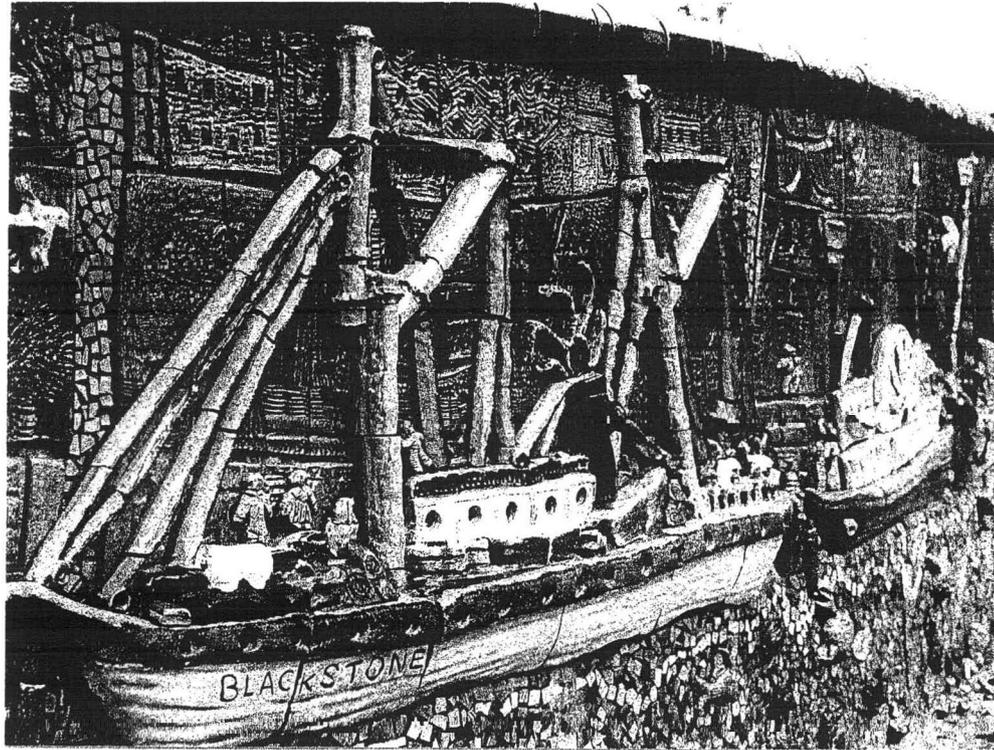


More recent public art in our parks is less commemorative and sentimental than the bronze sculptures of the past; rather these contemporary art pieces simply grace a park space and engage park users to provide their own meaning and feelings about the work. The work shown below on the Providence Riverwalk is such an example.

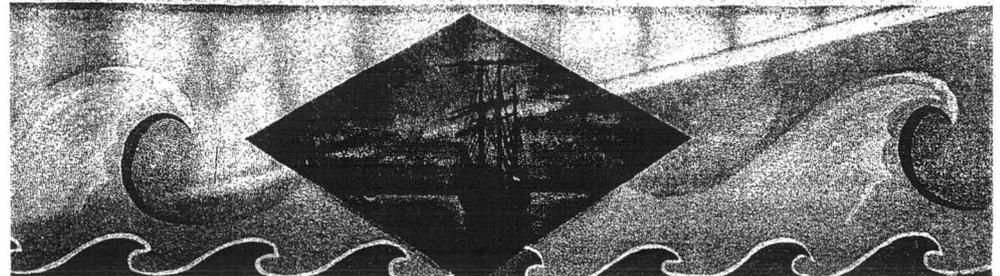
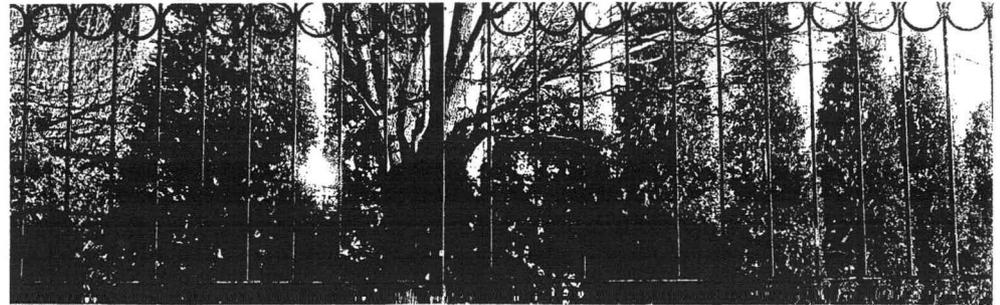
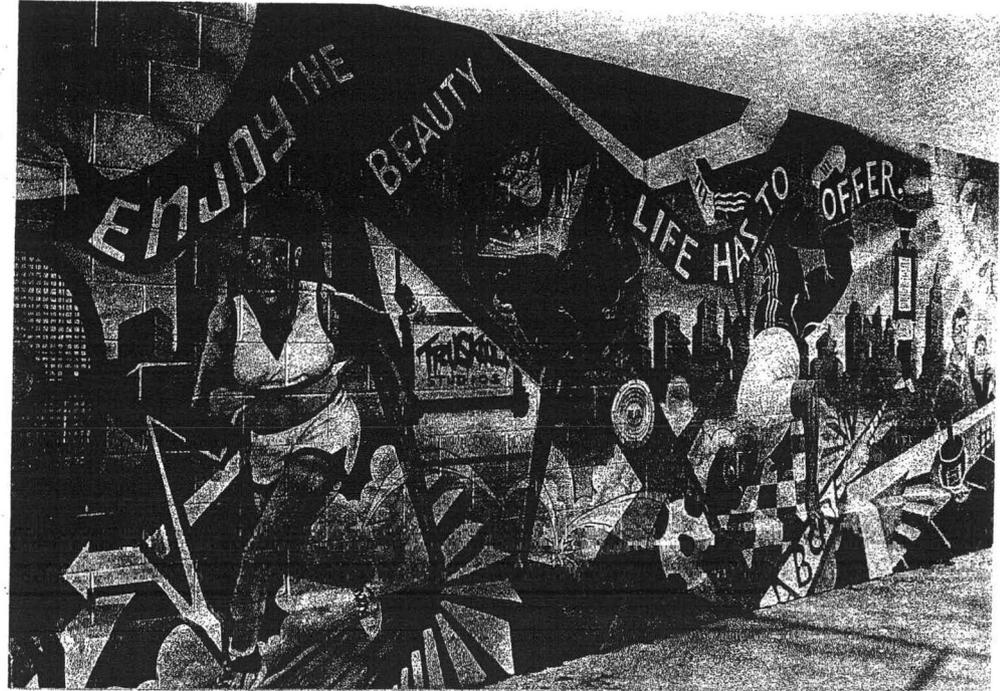


## Park Art Completed in the Past Year

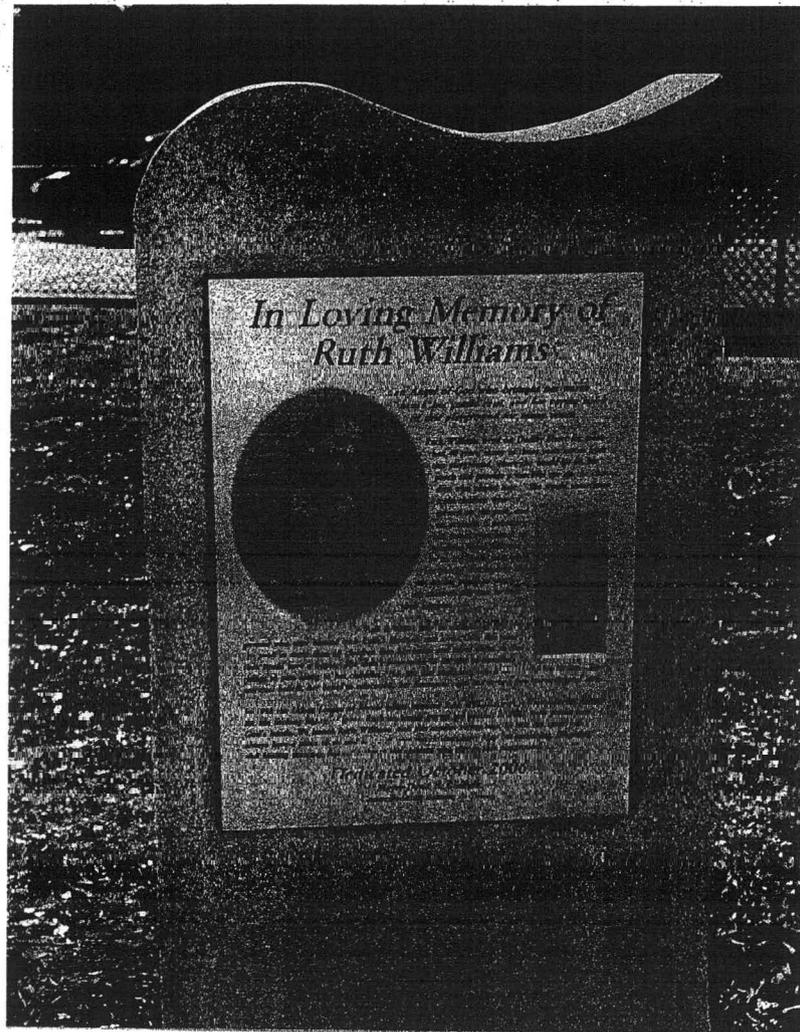
An encouraging trend in Providence neighborhood park art is the use of art to “stamp neighborhood ownership” on the park. The recently completed wall mural at *India Point Park* is a great example.



The new murals at *Earley Park* in Elmwood and at *Cabral Park* in Fox Point are also good examples of neighborhood expression



In the past year new commemorative public sculpture monuments were erected.

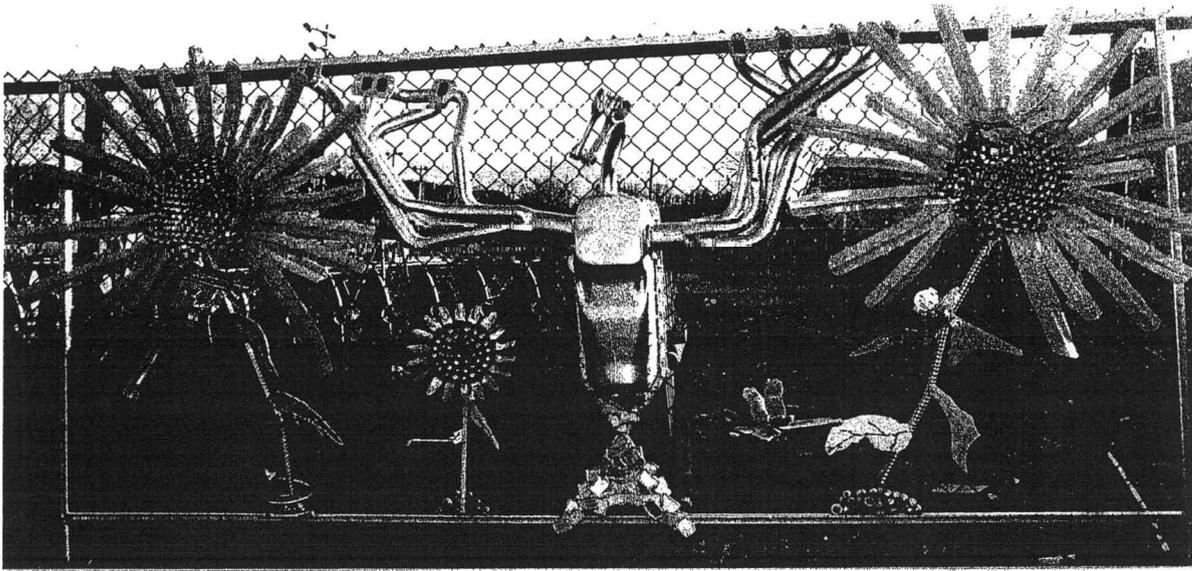


*New sculpture at Ruth Williams Playground that commemorates the memory of a beloved neighbor.*

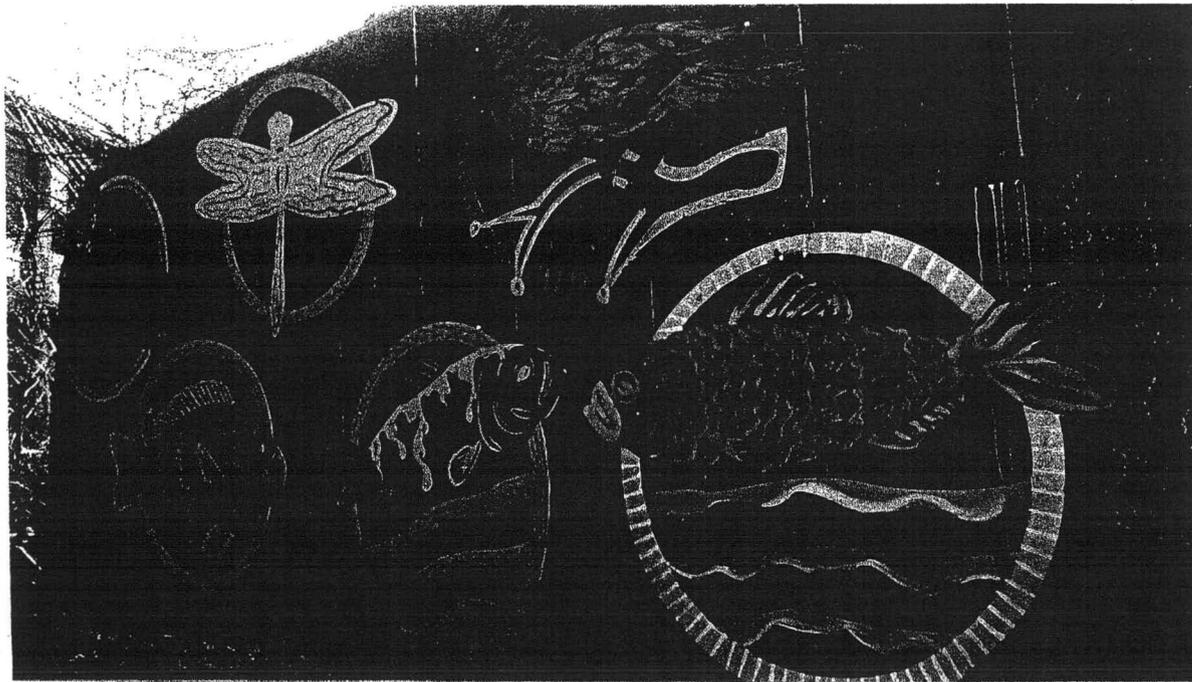


*The Festa Italiana Society monument at Garibaldi Park*

Finally, this past year saw the installation of some delightful and playful public art in neighborhood parks.

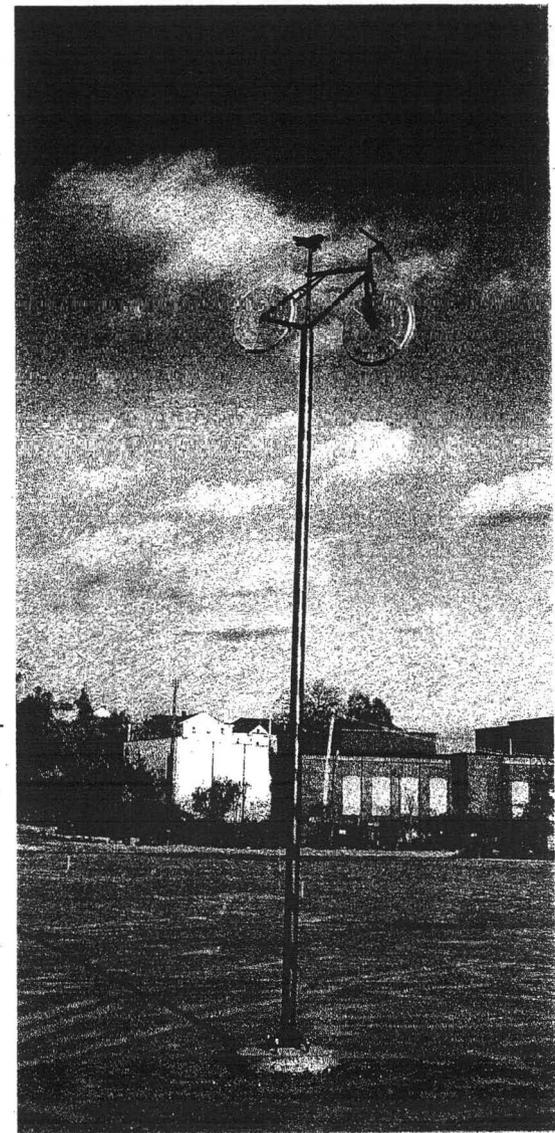


*The fence line at the Gano Street Park community garden*



*One of five "bike pole sculptures" along the bike path under construction at the new Riverside Park(above)*

*New fence mural at Riverside Park(left)*



## Now Playing in the Park...

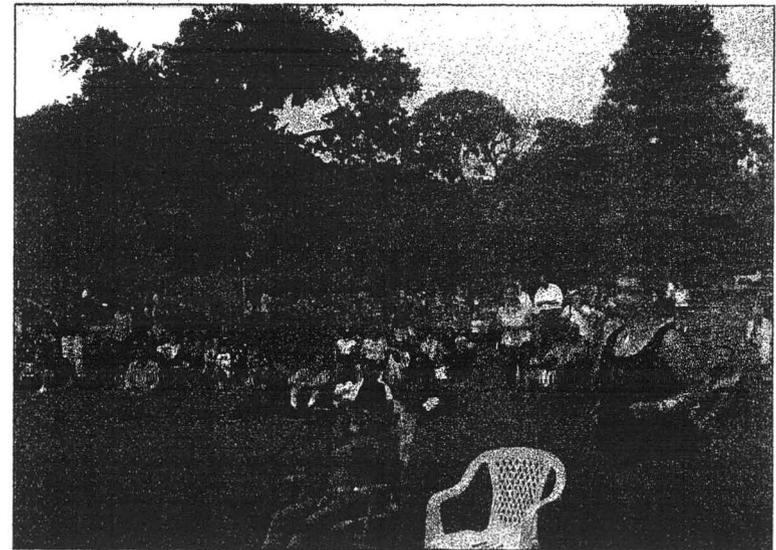
The Providence Parks performing arts scene encompasses more than just WaterFire and weekend concerts at Waterplace Park. Neighborhood parks this past year were alive with performing arts and neighborhood festivals attracting thousands of neighborhood residents. The Parks Department teamed up once again with the Art, Culture, & Tourism Department to co-produce a performing arts program in a dozen neighborhood parks. These events were supplemented by more than 50 large neighborhood festivals and events held in neighborhood parks, Roger Williams Park, and the Bank of America City Center.



*Neighborhood Festival at Earley Park*



*Mayor Cicilline joins the fun at the community festival at Lippit Park*



*Movie Night at Merino Park*

## *3/Roger Williams Park*

### **There's Always Something Happening at the Park**

This past year was an active one as always at Roger Williams Park. The **Park Casino** was a favorite place to party and meet with 160 events in FY 2006. The grounds of the Park were also active with another 60 major outdoor events, including walkathons, neighborhood festivals, and for the first time, the **National Cyclocross Championships**. This event drew hundreds to the Park in the snow last December and will once again be held in the Park this coming December.



## **The Museum of Natural History and Planetarium**

Since the 1890's, the park Museum has been a leader in the community in informal science education for students and the general public. The Museum collects natural history specimens and cultural artifacts from around the world. These collections have educational value beyond their scientific significance. They provide Providence children with opportunities to learn about plants, ecological patterns, cultures and astronomical phenomena. In the past fiscal year, approximately 24,000 visitors experienced the Museum's collections, exhibits, or educational programs. Repairs and reconstruction to the cornice and gutter system in the rear of the building also began this year, aided by a grant from **RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission**.

### **Programs/Exhibits**

*Structures of Nature: Photographs by Andreas Feininger*, featured 50 photographs by this world-renowned photographer that captured the pattern and texture of natural forms.

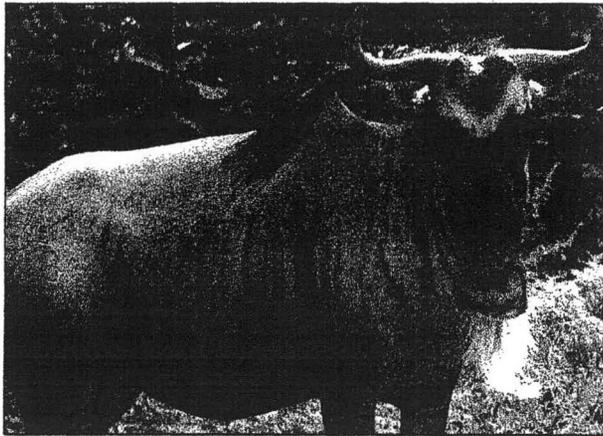
*Into the Unknown: The Spirit of Exploration* highlighted the common issues in exploring the vastness of space; in collaboration with NASA.

*"Dead or Alive"* was an after school program developed with the Providence After School Alliance. The Museum programs included planetarium shows and behind-the-scene collection tours.

*Space Camp* was once again a sold out summer program.

*Astronaut Academy* was a popular after school program for older kids.

## The Zoo: Lots of Creature Features



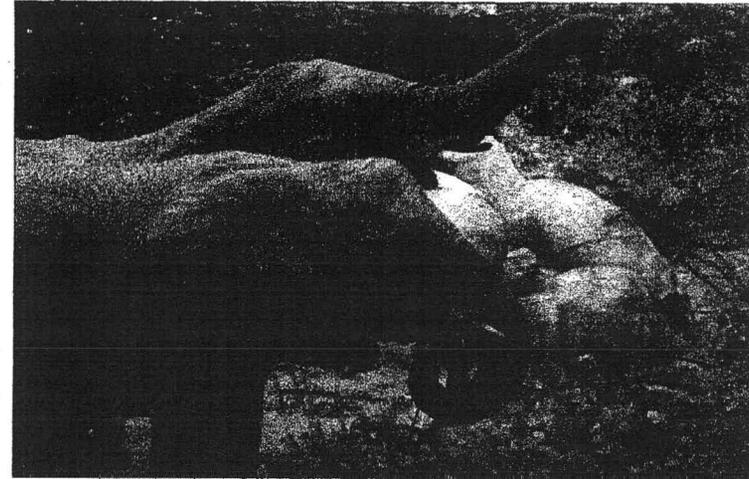
School kids and families once again enjoyed Providence's favorite place to visit, the Roger Williams Park Zoo as seen by the statistics below. Three hundred docent volunteers donated 19,184 hours of volunteer time in the education programs. Over 500,000 visitors enjoyed the Zoo in the past year, with the Dinosaur Exhibit a special treat.

### Zoo Education Programs: By the Numbers

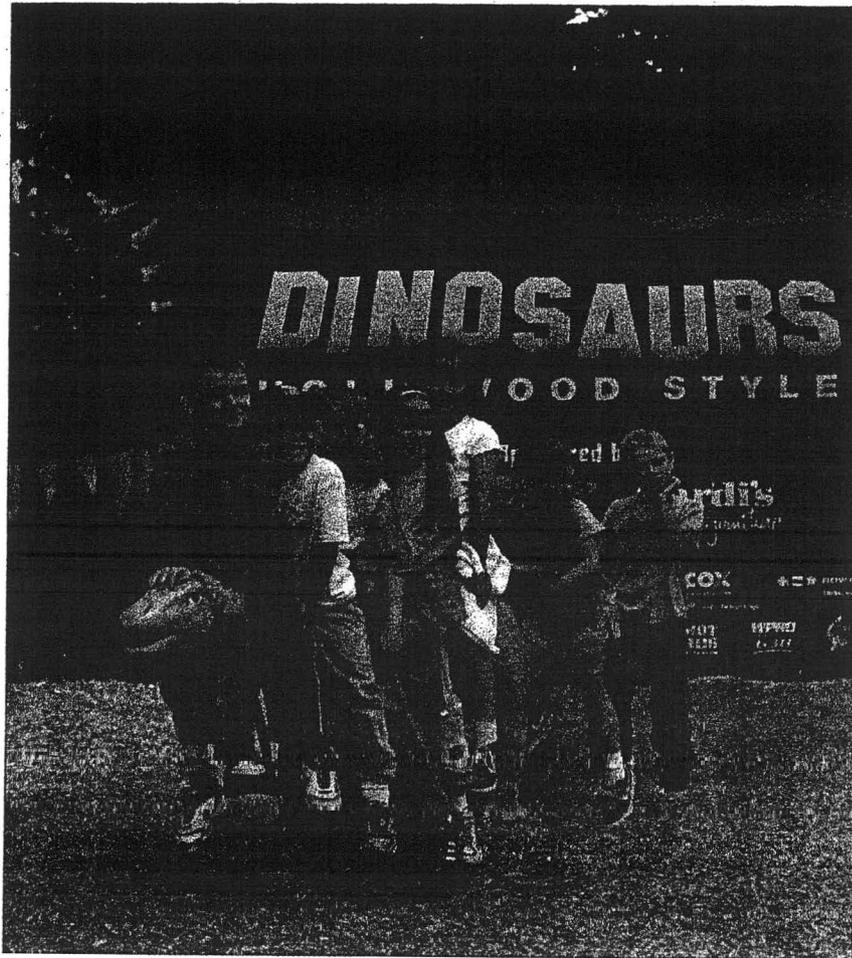
<i>Program</i>	<i># of Participants</i>
Early Education Programs	1,863
Family Programs	623
On-grounds Tours	926
Scout Programs	285
Zoo Overnights	1,233
Zoomobile Outreach	13,493
Zoo Camp/Travel Camp	1,034
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,457</b>

<i>Field Trips</i>	<i># of Participants</i>
Overall Groups (1,134)	62,366
Providence Schools (78)	3,384

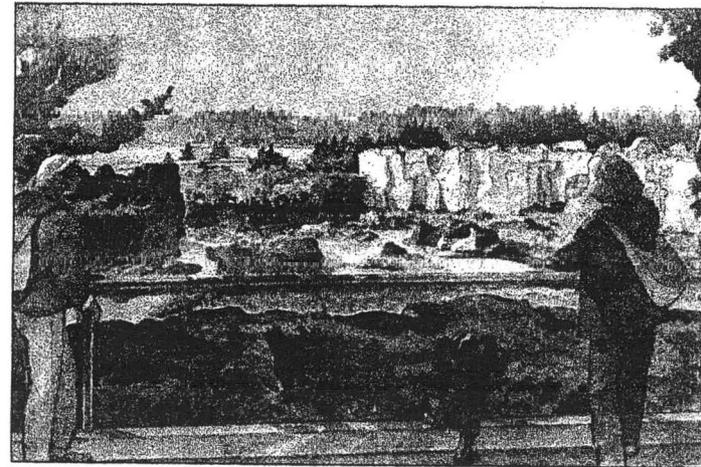
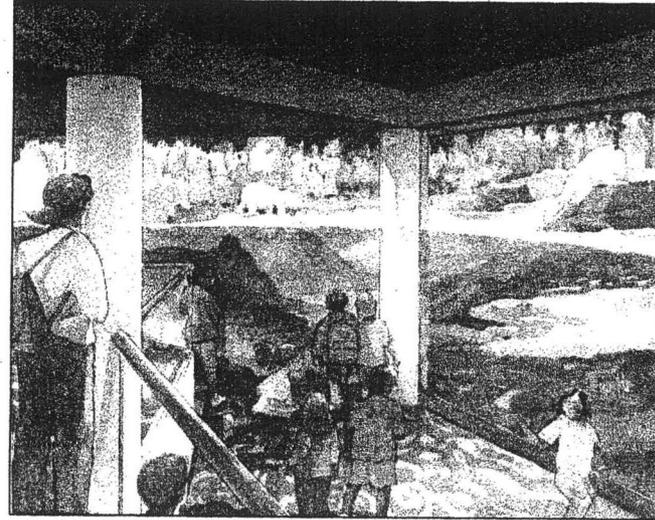
Work has also begun on expanding the Elephant holding building to allow first ever breeding for the Zoo's three elephants.



Dinosaurs may have finally gone extinct at the Roger Williams Park Zoo... at least for a few years anyway.



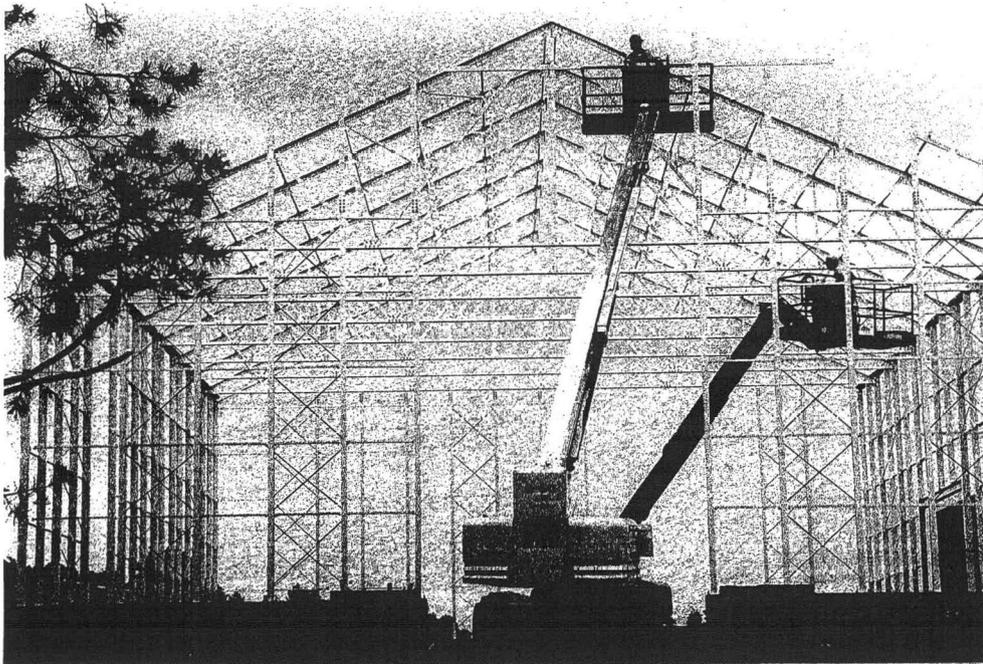
Coming Soon....Design has begun on a world class new North American exhibit area that will bring polar bears back to the Zoo and totally change several other exhibits in the area of the former polar bear exhibit. The accompanying illustrations provide a peek into what the new polar bear exhibit will look like.



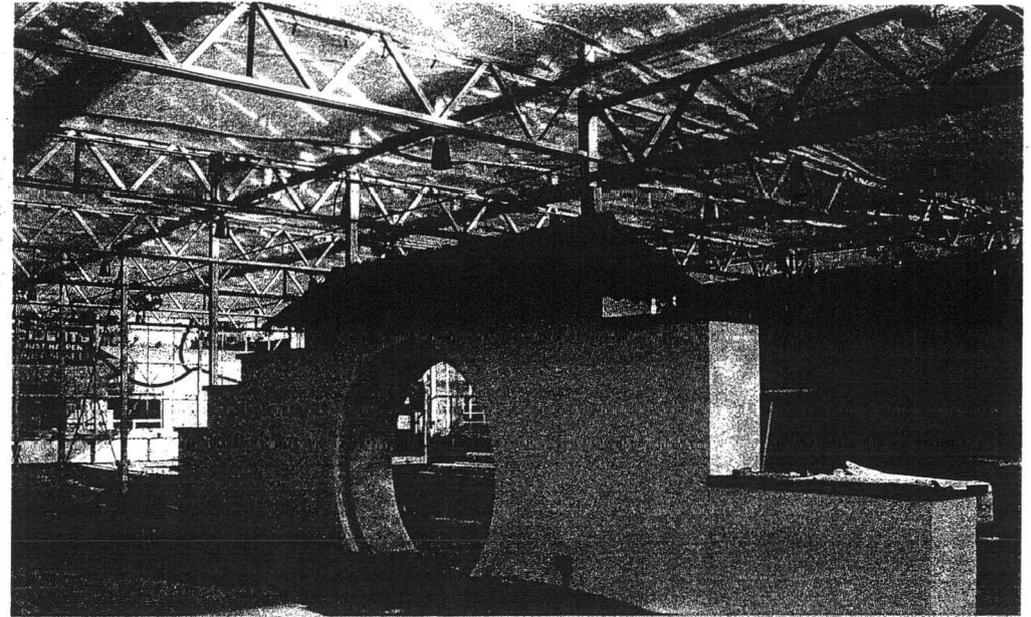
## The Botanical Center

Great progress was made in the last year in the construction of the new \$7.5 million Roger Williams Park Botanical Center. The construction is being managed by the Gilbane Company of Providence.

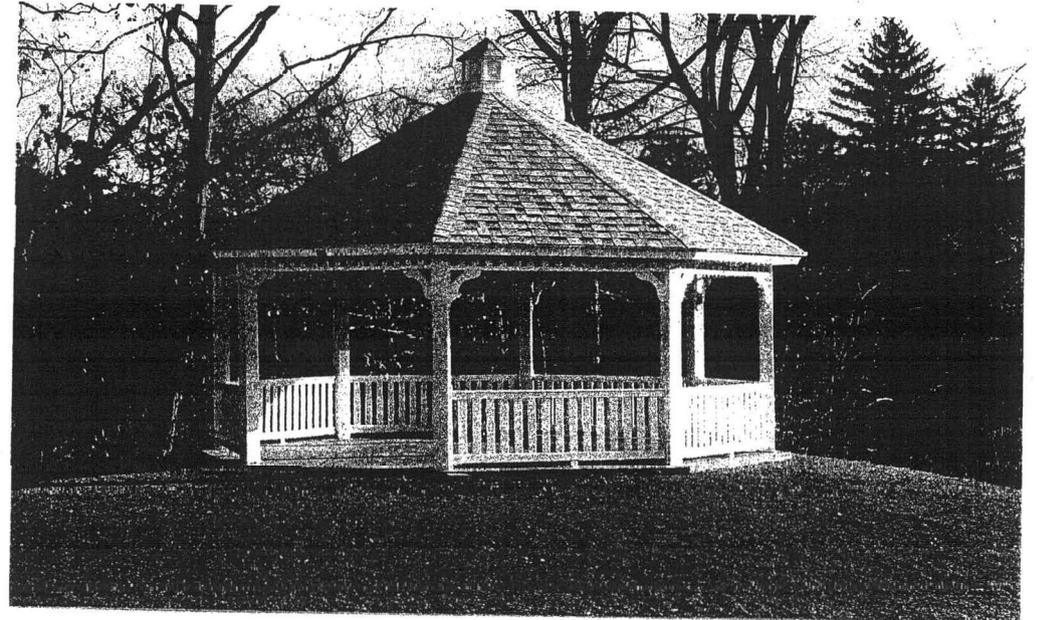
The first phase of the project when completed in January, 2007 will include a new Conservatory, renovated greenhouses to be used as classrooms and hands-on teaching areas, educational offices in the former blockhouse, a gazebo for wedding ceremonies, an area for tented events, extensive underground utilities, and a parking area. The installation of outdoor gardens, the next phase of the project, will begin in the summer of 2007.



*The new Conservatory taking shape*



*An interior view of one of the new Conservatory garden areas*



*The new outdoor gazebo—soon to be another landmark location for weddings in Roger William Park*

## *4/Citywide Park Facilities*

### **Bank of America City Center**

In its second year of joint operation by the Parks Department and Rink Management Services, the Bank of America City Center enjoyed a successful ice skating season in 2005/2006.

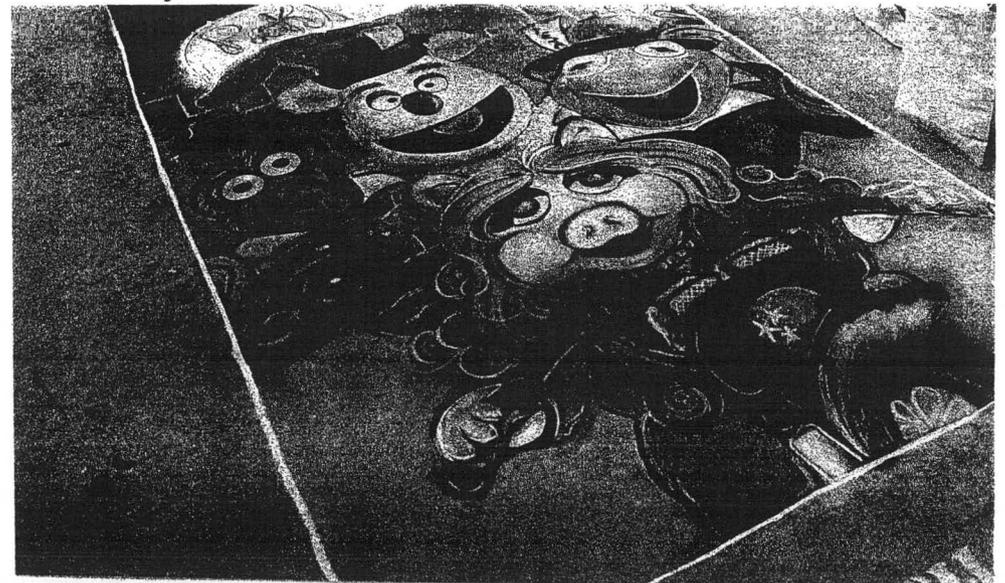


More than 50,000 skaters enjoyed the skating rink from Thanksgiving to St. Patrick's Day. In addition, the rink held a **"Providence Winter Olympic Fest"** during February which featured figure skating demonstrations, speed skating races, ice curling, and a special **"Cardi's Chair Race"** competition.

The City Center continues to expand its event offerings in the non-skating season. A second year of the Downtown Farmer's Market was held from June through October. And the second year of the **Providence Roller Derby** series enjoyed fan support from June to September.



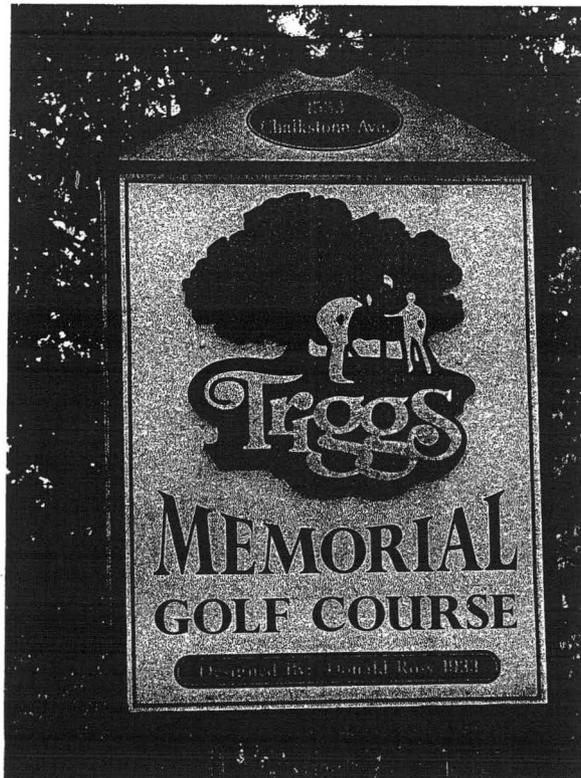
Special events, such as the **Providence Street Painting Festival**, provide additional activity on summer weekends at the City Center.



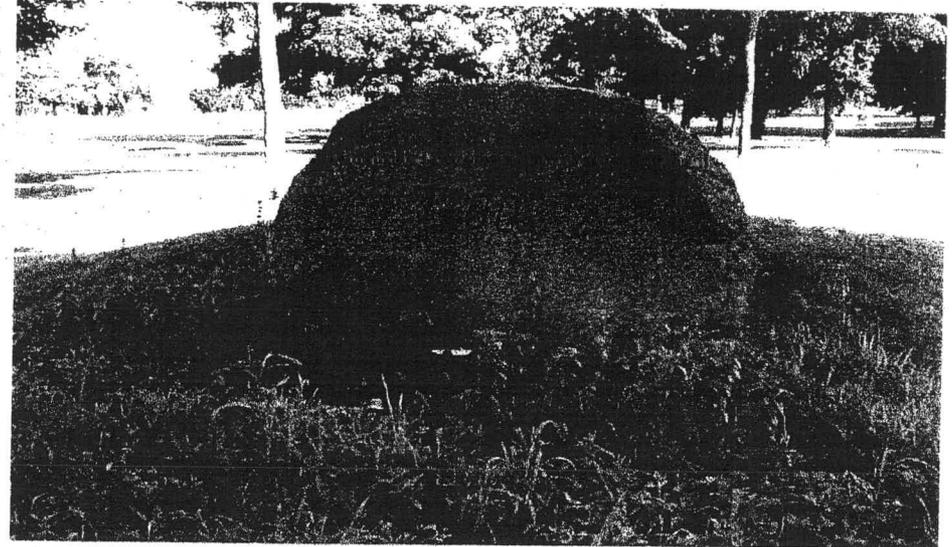
## Triggs Memorial Golf Course

Designed by world famous golf course architect Donald Ross in the 1930's, Triggs Memorial Golf Course continues today to be one of the most popular public golf courses in New England. In the past year almost 45,000 rounds of golf were played on the course. Located in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood and encompassing 161 acres, the golf course is a jewel of open space in Providence.

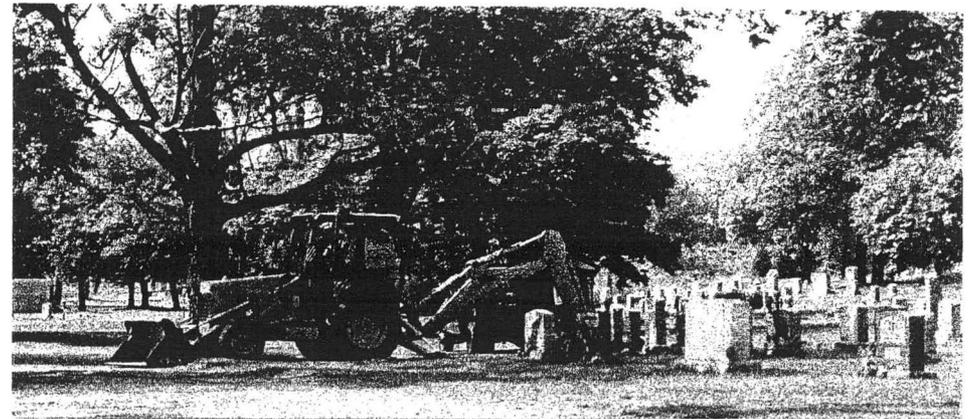
For the past 15 years, Triggs has been operated by FCG Associates for the City. The lease revenue streams provide an annual revenue stream for the Parks Department that is used for neighborhood park improvements. Triggs attracted a number of regional and state golf tournaments last year, including the New England Intercollegiate Championship and the Rhode Island Public Links Championship.



## North Burial Ground



Dating back to 1700, the North Burial Ground (NBG) at 109 acres is one of the largest public spaces under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. Last year there were 223 burials.



The maintenance of NBG is tremendous challenge, not only because of the size of the facility, but because of the number of gravestones and their proximity to each other. To facilitate grass-cutting operations, full-time employees are supplemented by seasonal staff from April to October each year.

## Waterfront Park Design Competition

The relocation of RT 195 by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation will have a major beneficial impact on one of the City's most important public spaces—India Point Park. It will also open 30 acres of land along the waterfront just south of Downtown for new development. And thanks to RIDOT, some of the land—6 acres on the west side of the Providence River and 2 acres on the east side of the Providence River—will be set aside for open space.



In order to ensure that these two parcels reflect the vision of Providence residents, Mayor Cicilline convened a panel of community leaders in the arts, business, and parks to hold a nation design competition to develop concept plans for these new parks. Twenty-six designs were received and the committee will announce a decision in December 2006. The parks will be built by RIDOT, based on the winning designs, in 2010-11.

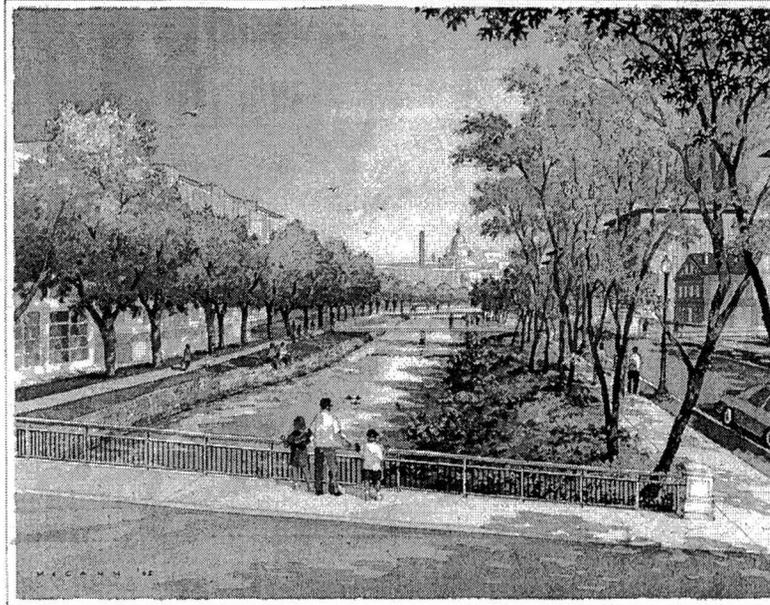
### Waterfront Design Selection Committee

Jill Jaffe  
Merrill Sherman  
Arthur Salisbury  
Howard Ben Tre  
Jenny Pereria  
Ano Cano-Morales  
Keith Oliveira  
Frank LaTorre  
Arria Bilodeau  
Barbara Petrarca  
Mary Ellen Flanagan

# Department of Planning and Development

Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Annual Report ✧ Fiscal Year 2006**  
*Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director*



*Working with the residents of Providence to create the vision  
for the city that Providence can become.*

**Mayor David N. Cicilline**





# DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

## Annual Report ✧ Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006)

Mayor David N. Cicilline



**MAYOR DAVID N. CICILLINE**

*CHIEF OF OPERATIONS*  
Carol Grant

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
*Thomas E. Deller, AICP, Director*

*FISCAL*  
Mark Merlino, Director  
Syneth Buor  
Russell Caramante  
Larry Mancini  
Brian Michela  
Denise Scittarelli

*ADMINISTRATION/MIS*  
Ann Fera  
Marcia Brown  
Clinton Goins  
Beverly Moreira-Schechtman

**PLANNING DIVISION**  
Linda M. Painter, AICP, Deputy Director

*Planning*  
Robert Azar, AICP  
David Everett  
Roberta Groch, AICP  
Bonnie Nickerson, AICP  
Mieke Stekelenburg

*Plan Review/Development*  
Paula Baron  
Christopher Ise  
Jason Martin

*GIS*  
Robert Enright  
Edward Grant

*COMPLIANCE AND MONITORING*  
Stephen Vadnais, Director  
Nancy Almagno  
Collen Dupre  
David Hochman  
Donna Miele  
Anastasia Williams

**DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**  
Amintha K. Cinotti, Deputy Director

*Housing Services*  
Barbara Barone  
Tom D'Amico  
Jameela Dunstan  
Bob Hallel  
David Johnston  
April Lape  
Paul Marandola  
Karen Marsella  
Nelson Rodriguez  
Pat Rossi  
Ken Schadegg

*BUSINESS SERVICES*  
Kathy Cosentino  
Chris Michailides  
Arthur Speaks

*REAL ESTATE*  
April Wolf, Director  
Monica Jerejian  
Michael Lepore

### CITY COUNCIL

*Ward 1*  
David Segal

*Ward 2*  
Rita Williams

*Ward 3*  
Kevin Jackson

*Ward 4*  
Carol Romano

*Ward 5*  
Patrick Butler

*Ward 6*  
Joseph DeLuca

*Ward 7*  
John Iglizzi

*Ward 8*  
Ronald Allen

*Ward 9*  
Miguel Luna

*Ward 10*  
Luis Aponte

*Ward 11*  
Balbina Young

*Ward 12*  
Terrence Hassett

*Ward 13*  
John Lombardi,  
Council President

*Ward 14*  
Peter Mancini

*Ward 15*  
Josephine DiRuzzo

## Department Overview



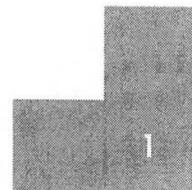
The people of Providence know the Planning Department in terms of their past interactions. Some people think of the department as the Historic District Commission, while others think it is the Redevelopment Agency. Still others think of the department as community development dollars or the housing programs or the business loan program. While all of these opinions are right, the fundamental responsibility of the department is to plan the city's future and develop the rules, regulations, and funding sources to carry out the plans.

*Working with the citizens of Providence, the Department creates the vision for the city that Providence can become and develops the plans and implementing programs that will make all of Providence's neighborhoods great places to live, work and play.*

It is clear from the Department's mission that there are two basic functions for the department: planning, the visioning arm of the department, and development, the implementing arm. The city charter and ordinances, state law and federal regulation further define the functions of the department by directing the department to:

- ✧ Advise the Mayor on any matter affecting physical development;
- ✧ Assist the City Plan Commission in the development of all city plans;
- ✧ Review and make recommendations regarding proposed action by the city council, the Providence Redevelopment Agency and other city agencies regarding implementation of city plans;
- ✧ Develop and periodically review the five-year Capital Improvement Program and annual capital budget;
- ✧ Provide staff services to the City Plan Commission;
- ✧ Prepare rules and regulations to govern subdivision of land;
- ✧ Develop and maintain the Zoning Ordinance;
- ✧ Oversee all matters which lead to improvement in: the type, distribution, intensity and treatment of land and building use; traffic circulation; and, the organization and effectiveness of economic activities and social systems; and
- ✧ Manage and monitor entitlement programs in accordance with regulations.

To achieve these responsibilities, the Department has established the following objectives:





## Objective: Progressive Planning Process

*Create a progressive and responsive planning process that will provide expert planning and implementation skills to advance the vision of the City's future to provide thoughtful and creative strategies for the revitalization of neighborhoods*

### 2006 Accomplishments

On May 31, 2006, Mayor Cicilline, in partnership with the City Council, announced the creation of *Providence Tomorrow: Our City, Our Neighborhoods, Our Future*—an innovative and inclusive planning process designed to create a framework for growth and preservation of Providence neighborhoods.

This planning process was developed by the staff of the Planning Division to meet the following objectives:

- ✧ Inform updates to Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance to ensure protection of neighborhood character and direct growth and economic development to desired areas
- ✧ Identify neighborhood specific objectives for use in review of proposed development projects
- ✧ Strengthen relationships with the neighborhoods/neighborhood leaders through an open, transparent, accessible and inclusive process
- ✧ Engage the interest and participation of a broader group of citizens that reflects the city's diversity

To ensure that everyone has a voice in the future of our city and our neighborhoods, the *Providence Tomorrow* initiative will focus public involvement through the use of charrettes, multi-day planning sessions during a one-week period where ideas expressed at the beginning of the week can be transformed into plans by the end of the week.

### 2007 Goals

- ✧ Host a citywide charrette in October 2006 to look at growth and preservation issues citywide and establish the framework for updates to the Comprehensive Plan and the neighborhood plans.
- ✧ Complete interim update to Comprehensive Plan by April 2007
- ✧ Begin neighborhood charrettes in the winter of 2007



## Objective: Expert Guidance



*Provide expert advice and guidance to boards and citizen groups who seek to develop and improve housing and commercial or industrial development, be it through new construction, historic restoration or neighborhood improvement.*

### 2006 Accomplishments

The Development Division provides staff support to the following:

#### ✧ *Housing Council (HC)*

The Providence Housing Council is an advisory group established by Mayor David N. Cicilline in 2004 to gather advocates, funders, and citizens to the table to create solutions for the City's housing affordability needs and review proposed housing policies and programs brought forth by the Department of Planning and Development.

The Planning Division provides staff support to the following Commissions/Committees:

#### ✧ *City Plan Commission (CPC)*

*Chair* Steve Durkee ◆ *Vice Chair* Harry Bilodeau ◆ Jennifer Cole ◆ Andrew Cortes ◆ James Leach ◆ Samuel Limiadi ◆ Bryan Principe

The CPC is responsible for the review and approval of all subdivisions, land development projects and institutional master plans and recommendations to City Council on: abandonment of easements and rights-of-way, the Capital Improvement Plan; and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Map and Comprehensive Plan.

#### ✧ *Downcity Design Review Committee (DRC)*

*Chair* Reverend Robert Brooks ◆ *Vice Chair* Clark Schoettle ◆ Richard Baccari Jr. ◆ Elizabeth Chace ◆ Glen Fontecchio ◆ Elizabeth Isaacson ◆ Barbara Macauley

The DRC is responsible for review and approval of new construction and alterations to existing buildings in the Downcity overlay district.

#### ✧ *Providence Historic District Commission (PHDC)*

*Chair* Glen Fontecchio ◆ *Vice Chair* Clark Schoettle ◆ Cornelius DeBoer ◆ Virginia Branch ◆ Erin Chace ◆ Neal Kaplan ◆ Catherine Lund ◆ Mildred Parillo ◆ Tina Regan ◆ Cecilia Searle

The PHDC is responsible for review and approval of new construction and alterations to existing buildings in designated historic districts, includes ±2,000 structures.



## Objective: Expert Guidance

### 2006 Accomplishments (continued)

Staff support includes scheduling meetings, preparing agendas and minutes, meeting with applicants and concerned neighbors, preparing staff reports and attending each meeting to provide assistance and advice. Each of the committees listed above meets on a monthly basis and holds special meetings as needed, including an annual workshop/retreat for each committee. As such, the staff of the planning division provides support for approximately 36 commission meetings annually. In addition, the Division also prepares written recommendations on all petitions acted on by the Zoning Board of Review.

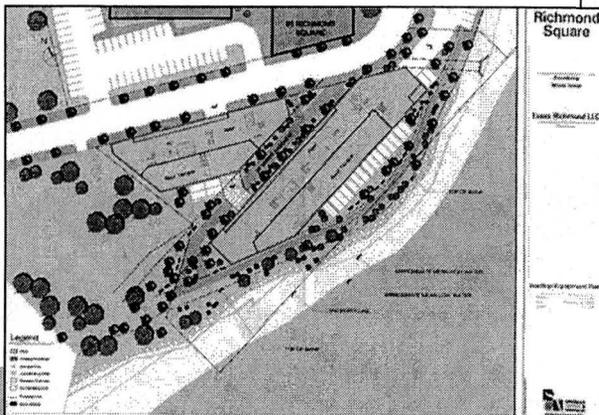
The following table identifies the number of applications reviewed during fiscal year 2006 for each of the commissions.

Board/Commission	2005 Applications	2006 Applications	Percent Change
City Plan Commission*	128	134	4.7%
Downcity Design Review Committee*	23	21	-8.7%
Providence Historic District Commission*	198	194	-2.0%
Zoning Board of Review	93	130	40%
<b>Total</b>	421	479	14%

\*Includes administrative reviews and referrals from the City Council

### 2007 Goals

- ✧ Work with the City Plan Commission to update the development review regulations
- ✧ Continue to review projects in a timely manner
- ✧ Work with the Chairs of the City Plan Commission, Historic District Commission, Downcity Design Review Committee and Zoning Board of Review to coordinate review of projects that require approvals from multiple commissions



Providence  
City Plan Commission

March 21, 2006

**AGENDA ITEM 14 • 281-285 PITMAN STREET**

**OVERVIEW**

<p><b>OWNER/APPLICANT:</b> Essex Richmond, LLC</p> <p><b>CASE NO./PROJECT TYPE:</b> 06-0150A Major Land Development Project (Master Plan Stage)</p> <p><b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b> 281-285 Pitman Street (AP 15, Lots 6 and 451)</p> <p><b>NEIGHBORHOOD:</b> Fox Point</p>	<p><b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION:</b> Redevelopment of an existing 2.1 acre site abutting the Seekonk River through the demolition of the existing office building and surface parking lot and construction of two four-story buildings that contain a total of 35 dwelling units and 5,547 square feet of commercial space.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> Approval of the Master Plan subject to the findings and conditions noted on page 14-...</p> <p><b>PROJECT PLANNER:</b> Roberta Groch, AICP</p>
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## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



*Promote neighborhood revitalization, housing, job development and business expansion by getting federal dollars quickly into development that will have a positive impact on the city's neighborhoods.*

The City of Providence has made great progress in recent years. We've witnessed tremendous growth in all areas, from arts & culture to economic development. But in order to ensure the continued success of our city, we need to redouble our efforts and commitment to strengthening our neighborhoods and revitalizing our communities.

The core of our society and the heart of our strong neighborhoods are our working families. The City of Providence is deeply committed to supporting families by working to make housing more affordable. Everyone deserves the opportunity to live in decent housing. This requires creating new affordable housing units, preserving existing units and providing leadership, support and homeownership opportunities for working families.

The condition of Providence's housing stock tends to reflect the condition of the city overall. When the city's fortunes were in the decline, the condition of Providence's housing stock and property values spiraled down as well. However, Providence is now in a sustained period of growth and revitalization. This city has transformed itself and is now one of the most desirable places to live in the Northeast. Nowhere is this more evident than in the housing market and the condition of the housing stock.

The number of housing units in the city has increased dramatically since 2000. There is unprecedented development throughout the City of Providence. Developers, using the Rhode Island Historic Tax Credit, are converting industrial and commercial buildings to residential uses as well as creating large scale new construction condominium developments. Rental units in our historic former department stores in Downtown Providence and The Foundry, and the condominiums at The Capital Center, The Westin, and One-Ten Westminster are just a few examples of this ongoing development activity which highlight the vitality of Providence as a strong urban environment.

Providence has a network of non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs) that are rehabilitating abandoned and/or substandard houses into affordable homes for city residents. The CDCs are also developing community based new affordable housing units for rental and homeownership. Between 2003 and June 2005, a period of 2 1/2 years, building permits were granted for over 2000 residential units in Providence. Compared to the previous *10-year period*, there were approximately 3,200 units constructed.



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

This increase in construction demonstrates the rapid pace of development in Providence today. The 2005-2006 production year was one of the best on record for the Community Development Corporations who receive Community Block Grants through the performance funding formula. 207 units for low and moderate income families were either constructed or preserved in seven neighborhoods.

To serve city residents in all neighborhoods, the city has developed a wide array of programs that assist first time buyers, preserve units through rehabilitation and serve the elderly through deferred loan products. For first time buyers, down payment and closing cost assistance is available for families/individuals with incomes of up to 120% of area median income; additionally the American Dream down payment program is available for families with incomes of up to 80% of area median. The Housing Repair program along with the Senior deferred and Emergency Repair program are available to assist with housing preservation and modernization. The Lead Hazard Reduction is also available citywide and serves city residents with lead poisoned children, children under 6 years of age and pregnant women residing in the unit.

While the increase in development is a benefit to the city as a whole, it has priced many low and moderate income families out of the city's housing market. The vast majority of new housing being produced in Providence is expensive housing which low and moderate income families cannot afford.

The City of Providence is on the cusp of undertaking some bold new initiatives that will not only ensure our economic health, but will also provide for new resources for affordable housing production in all neighborhoods of the City.

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Federal Grants

The Department is currently managing the following federal grants that are geared toward neighborhood revitalizations:

- ✧ Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): \$6,407,247
- ✧ HOME: \$2,750,458
- ✧ ESG: \$248,423
- ✧ Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA): \$764,000

## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



### Federal Grants (continued)

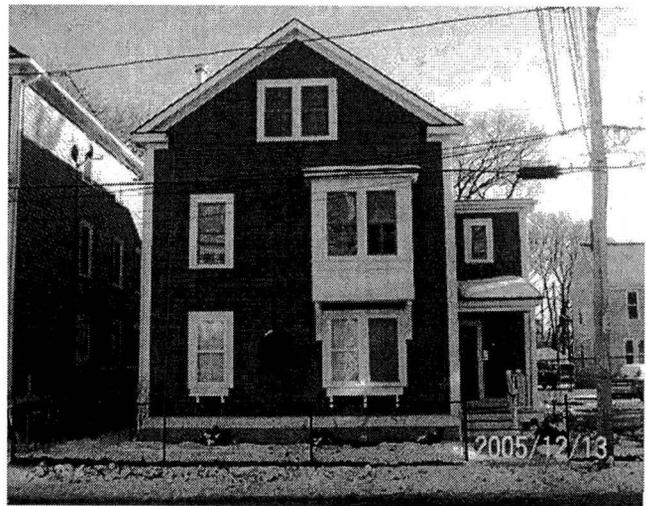
- ❖ HUD Lead Grant: \$3.9 Million (received 2005)
- ❖ HUD EDI-SP: \$250,000 for Commercial Revitalization Program
- ❖ EPA Brownfields Grants:
  - ♦ Louttit Laundry Clean-Up (West End): \$200,000 (received 2005)
  - ♦ Lincoln Lace and Braid Clean-Up (Hartford): \$200,000 (received 2006)
  - ♦ Brownfields Assessment: \$200,000 (received 2006)

Additionally, the Department prepared a successful application to have the expansion of CAPCO Steel listed on the State Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which will enable us to seek federal assistance for acquiring the needed land for expansion.

### Housing Programs

Fiscal Year 2006 was a very successful year for the City's Housing Programs, as evidenced by the following accomplishments:

- ❖ Completed and distributed Mayor Cicilline's **Housing in Providence** which contained *Create Preserve Revitalize: A Housing Agenda for Providence for 2006; Building on Our Strength: Realizing the Vision for Housing and the Providence Housing Investment Programs; Housing Trust Handbook*.
- ❖ Hosted *A Celebration of Housing* - Mayor Cicilline's first annual housing breakfast honoring the partnerships between the City, Congressional Delegation and the Community Development Corporations.
- ❖ Initiated two new housing programs into the Housing Trust portfolio: *City Home* which provides funding for medium income families of 81 to 120% of median to purchase homes in the City of Providence. These families are generally not eligible for any assistance and make up the majority of potential homeowners in the City. The program is available Citywide. The *Land Acquisition Program* sets aside funding to assist community development corporations acquire land for the development of affordable housing, with funds loaned for up to one year.



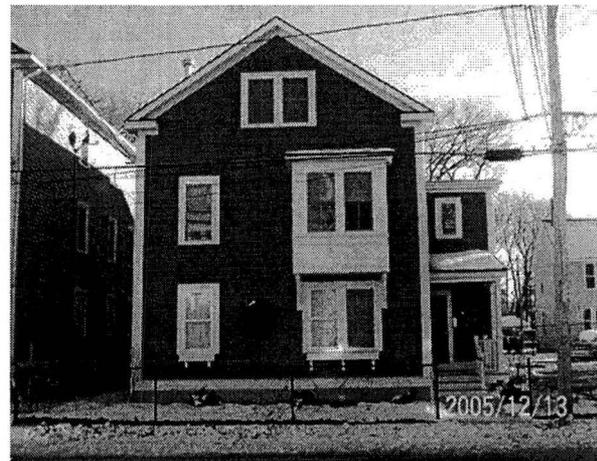
## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



- ✧ Recognized Stop Wasting Abandoned Property (SWAP) with the 2005-2006 Top Affordable Housing Producer Award.
- ✧ Recognized Clear Corp/West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation with the 2005-2006 Award for City Partnership.
- ✧ Participated in the production of the Statewide Affordable Housing Plan element and the Attorney General's Advisory Commission on Lead.
- ✧ Provided assistance to Providence residents in the acquisition and repair of housing units and financial assistance to Community Development Corporations in the development of affordable units as depicted in the following tables.

### Consumer Loan Programs for Providence Residents

Consumer Loan Product	FY 2006
Downpayment Assistance	68
Home Repair	0
Emergency Repair/Senior Deferred	2
Employee Advantage	2
Lead Mitigation	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>



### Housing for Persons with AIDS formula grant (HOPWA)

The service area for the HOPWA grant is the entire State of Rhode Island and Bristol County, MA. The numbers below represent individuals/households served under this program in 2005-2006.

Assistance Provided	FY06
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	59
Facility Based Housing Assistance	11
Short Term Rent/Mortgage/Utility Assistance	23
Housing Placement Assistance	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

Performance Formula Housing Units Produced (HOME)

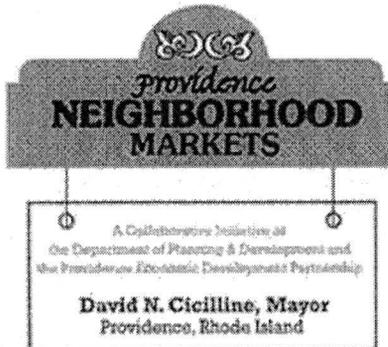
Community Development Corporation	Homeownership	Rental	Preservation	Total
Elmwood Foundation	2			2
Habitat for Humanity	2			2
Olneyville Housing	4			4
Providence Preservation Society	20	6		26
Smith Hill Development Corporation		11		11
SWAP	22	20		42
Women's Development Corporation			76	76
West Elmwood Housing Development	13	48		61
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>224</b>



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



Neighborhood Markets: A New Program for Fiscal Year 2006



### What is the Neighborhood Markets Program?

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

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

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

To date \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds have been awarded to six Neighborhood Market areas for streetscape improvements such as planters, permanent trash receptacles, gateway signage and benches. This is a merchant driven program with technical assistance provided by the Department of Planning and Development and the Providence Economic Development Partnership.

To learn how to get involved in one of the eight neighborhood markets contact the following:



**BROAD STREET MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION**  
Contact: Jose Brito  
351-4140  
Wesleyan St., Suite 1  
Providence, RI 02907

**CRANSTON STREET BUSINESS OWNERS GROUP**  
Contact: Paul Degaitis  
345-4461  
328 Cranston St., A-3  
Providence, RI 02907

**FEDERAL HILL COMMERCE ASSOCIATION (Atwells Ave)**  
Contact: Rick Simone  
480-6483  
Renaissance Restaurant  
242 Atwells Ave.  
Providence, RI 02903

**NORTH END BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (Charles St)**  
Contact: David Henault, Pres.  
791-4827  
c/o Ocean State Tackle  
430 Branch Ave  
Providence, RI 02904

**OLNEYVILLE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION**  
Contact: Michael Solomon  
331-0482  
174 Enfield Ave.  
Providence, RI 02908

**WICKENDEN BUSINESS DISTRICT**  
Contact: Ed Fontaine  
273-7278  
PO Box 603081  
Providence, RI 02906

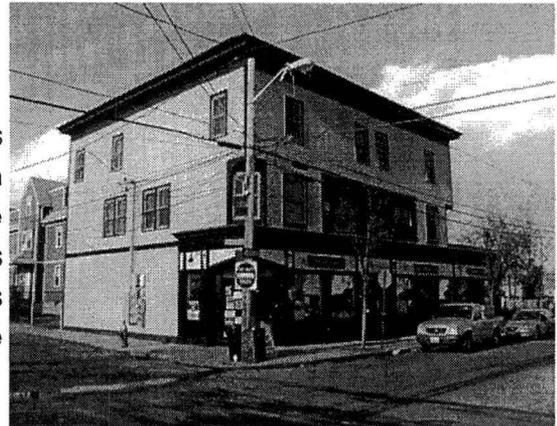
*Thank you for supporting the Neighborhood Markets Program located on Atwells Avenue, upper and mid Broad Street, Chalkstone Avenue, Charles Street, Cranston Street, Olneyville Square and Wickenden Street.*



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

### Business Services - Providence Economic Development Partnership (PEDP) CDBG/108 loan portfolio

The DPD and PEDP have a cooperative agreement that loans three DPD employees to the PEDP to staff the small business loan program. During the fiscal year 2005/2006, the Providence Economic Development Partnership, Inc. (PEDP) disbursed loans to thirteen (13) businesses. The economic development loans assisted these businesses to retain 246 jobs and 48 new jobs are to be created.



Of the thirteen (13) loans disbursed during the fiscal year 2005/2006, two (2) loans were disbursed through the Section 108 loan pool, both of which were made to businesses located in low-income targeted areas of the City. The loans disbursed from the Section 108 funds have allowed for 76 existing jobs to be retained and 7 new jobs are to be created. Additionally, 8 (62%) were to minority enterprises, 3 (23%) went to women owned firms, and 6 loans (46%) were located in a low/moderate income census tract.

### Providence Connects/First Source

Providence Connects is a program created under the leadership of Mayor Cicilline. Providence Connects implements City Ordinances 21-93 and 21-94 (circa 1985) (also known as the First Source Ordinance) that require businesses in the City of Providence who receive aid in cash or in-kind from the City to enter into an agreement with the City to hire Providence residents from a list to be maintained by the Department of Planning and Development.

The twenty year old ordinance was designed 'to encourage the retention of working, home owning families, who live and work in Providence'. The ordinance was also 'seen as an effective tool to persuade employers to come to Providence with the assurance that a trained and motivated work force will be in place'. Providence Connects builds from the principles of the ordinances.

During Fiscal Year 2006, Providence Connects was retooled to meet the requirements of a court order relative to legal action initiated by advocacy groups and certain members of the City Council. This resulted in a First Source Coordinator being hired, a more robust First Source agreement being created and increased efforts at populating the First Source list.

## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization



### Providence Connects/First Source (continued)

To Date:

- ✧ 78 First Source Agreements have been prepared and delivered to a total of 78 organizations/businesses obligated under the First Source Ordinance. This includes community based organizations that receive federal dollars from the city, companies with active Tax Stabilization Agreements (TSA), and also a developer in connection with a major land development project approval; Streuver Brothers Eccles and Rouse (SBER).
- ✧ 33 Agreements have been executed.
- ✧ The First Source list has a confirmed 225 city residents. There are approximately 50 additional applications being reviewed for completeness and to insure they are not duplicates.
- ✧ Since the signing of the agreements, the First Source coordinator has processed 11 job vacancy requests, referring 22 residents for jobs.
- ✧ There were three confirmed hires in FY2006.
- ✧ There has been one meeting of community based organizations to review the Providence Connects/First Source program, five individual TSA meetings, and a series of meetings to develop an agreement with SBER around First Source in connection with the initial master plan approval of the American Locomotive development.

### **2007 Goals**

#### Housing

In conformance with the City's Housing Plan Create, Preserve, Revitalize: A Housing Agenda for Providence DPD will strive to:

- ✧ Produce Rental Units for persons and Families at the Lowest Income Levels (0-30%) - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Rental Units for persons and Families at the Low and Moderate Income Levels (30-80%) - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Permanent Supportive Housing Units for Individuals and Families for Special Needs - 15 new units
- ✧ Produce Affordable Homeownership Units for Moderate Income level Persons and Families - 20 new units
- ✧ Produce Rental and Homeownership Units in Underserved Neighborhoods where Affordable Housing is lower than the City average - 10 rental/10 homeownership



## Objective: Neighborhood Revitalization

### 2007 Goals

#### Housing (continued)

- ✧ Adopt an Incentive Development Program that will bring ensure that a predictable supply of affordable housing as a part of new housing developments that trigger the proposed regulation.
- ✧ Work with Rhode Island Housing to have at least one Low Income Housing Tax Credit Project per year sited in Providence
- ✧ Work with community partners to Preserve Rental Units with Expiring Use Restrictions
- ✧ Continue to Promote the Providence Housing Trust Programs
- ✧ Work with Artist Groups to produce additional affordable housing/work space

#### Neighborhood Markets

- ✧ Launch Round 2 of the Neighborhood Markets Grant Program for streetscape improvements
- ✧ Continue to Provide and Design Technical Assistance to Merchant Associations
- ✧ Launch Neighborhood Markets website
- ✧ Continue the *Taste of the Neighborhood Events*
- ✧ Introduce Promotional Material for each of the Eight Neighborhood Markets

#### Business Services

- ✧ Continue to Promote and Encourage the Use of Programs in the PEDP Toolbox throughout the City
- ✧ Continue to Work with RIEDC, Civic and Business Groups to Promote the City and State as a great place to live and do business
- ✧ Renew/expand Enterprise Zones
- ✧ Work with Artist Groups to produce additional affordable work space

#### Providence Connects/First Source

- ✧ Continue to refer Providence residents to businesses and organizations obligated under First Source agreements with a goal of 100 Providence residents being employed through the Providence Connects/First Source program.
- ✧ Collaborate with other City departments and non-City agencies to catalog existing training programs and fund training programs to meet gaps with a goal of placing 50 Providence residents in such programs.

## Objective: Thriving Urban Center



*Use the tools of planning to ensure that Providence is a thriving urban center in which a diverse population can earn a living, have a home and enjoy a rich cultural life.*

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Tax Stabilization Agreements

The Development Division is responsible for monitoring compliance with existing tax stabilization agreements (listed at left). These agreements set goals for employment of Providence residents, MBE/WBE participation and participation in *Buy Providence*, a program designed to encourage developers to purchase goods and services from Providence vendors. Additionally, the agreements also establish schedules for contributions to the City's Housing Trust. The following tables summarize goals and/or compliance to date for various agreements:

#### Housing Trust Contributions

Project	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Intercontinental	136,000	36,000	36,000
Capital Cove	50,000	18,000	18,000
Jefferson at Providence Place*	31,680	31,680	31,680
Pearl Street Lofts	25,000	12,500	12,500
Promenade Garage	22,000	11,000	11,000
Rising Sun	60,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>324,680</b>	<b>119,180</b>	<b>119,180</b>

\*Payments to Smith Hill Community Development Corporation

Project	Providence Jobs		MBE Participation		WBE Participation		Buy Providence
	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	
Hotel Providence	6	18	10%	4.37% (inc WBE)	10%	—	\$706,500 (Providence Contractors)
G-Tech	65	5 of 14	10%	20.93%	10%	2.52%	\$11,459,340 (34.66%)
Masonic Temple	See Note	—	10%	9%	10%	4%	—
Rising Sun Mills	30	50	12.5%	12.06%	12.5%	9.06%	—
Promenade Garage	—	—	12.5%	4.03%	12.5%	0%	—

Note: Masonic Temple Hotel not yet open



## Objective: Thriving Urban Center

### 2006 Accomplishments

#### Federal Grant Monitoring and Compliance

The Development Division is responsible for monitoring organizations that receive federal funding to ensure that they comply with federal regulations. To that end, in FY 2006 the Division:

- ✧ Prepared and executed 100 contracts for the CDBG, ESG and HOPWA programs
- ✧ Completed 55 monitoring site visits
- ✧ Monitored 12 construction projects for compliance with federal labor laws
- ✧ Performed 227 environmental reviews for CDBG, HOME, Lead and EDI funded activities

Additionally, the Division is responsible for working with various organizations that receive CDBG funding for providing public services. With an 80% reporting rate for FY20-06, there have been 19,584 people directly served by 29 public service programs. Eleven community based organizations provided programming that reached out to another 23,704 people in their service area. A total of \$1,451,880 in CDBG funds were allocated for these programs.

### 2007 Goals

#### Tax Stabilization Agreements

- ✧ Develop an affordable housing program with the Housing Trust contributions received under Tax Stabilization Agreements.
- ✧ Continue quarterly monitoring of all Tax Stabilization Agreements.

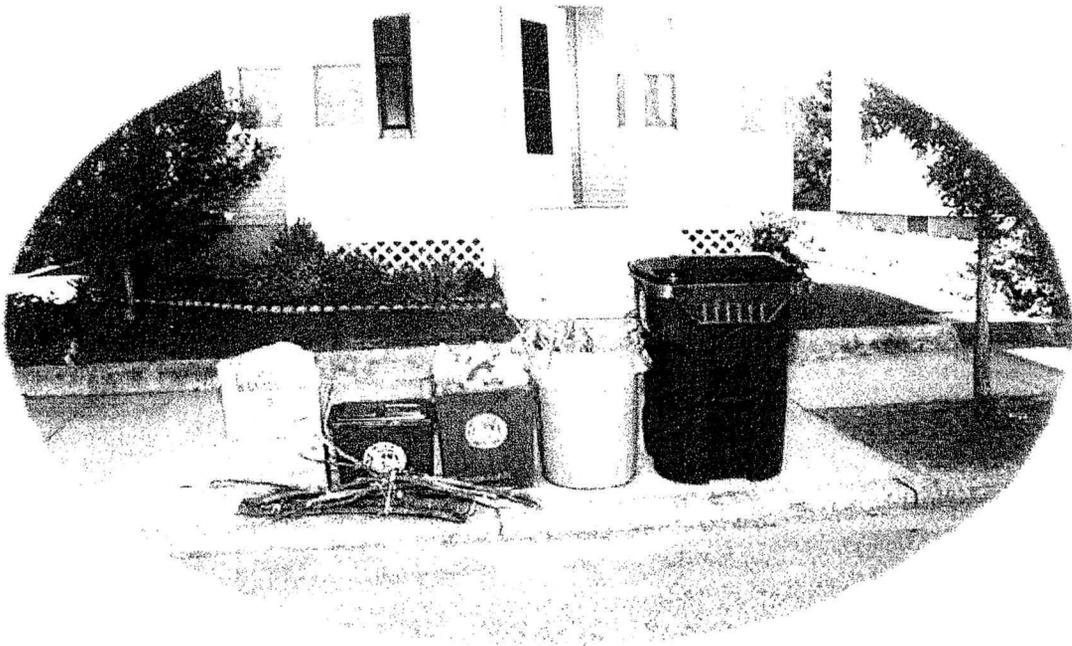
#### Federal Grant Monitoring and Compliance

- ✧ Continue monitoring of all organizations receiving federal funding through the department.
- ✧ Implement Performance Measures for all federal funding received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development according to newly promulgated regulations.

# Department of Public Works

John D. Nickelson, PE, Director

# **City of Providence Department of Public Works**



## **Annual Report FY - 2006**

## *Preface*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is established under Article X of the City of Providence Home Rule Charter as adopted March 13, 1997. Under the Charter, the DPW is assigned specific responsibility for “the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways and bridges; operation of drawbridges and other movable bridges; snow removal; sidewalks and curbing; street cleaning; garbage and refuse collection and disposal, including operation and maintenance of incinerators and dumps; and street lighting.”

In accordance with Article XII of the Charter, each Department is required to prepare, for the Mayor with a copy to the City Clerk and each Council member, an annual report of their operations.

This report will provide an overview of the operations of the Department of Public Works for FY 2006 and include a few of the highlights for each of the operational divisions of the Department.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

### ENGINEERING

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[wbombard@providenceri.com](mailto:wbombard@providenceri.com)

### ENVIRONMENTAL

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Assoc. Director – Environmental Control  
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[bgarcia@providenceri.com](mailto:bgarcia@providenceri.com)

### GARAGE MAINTENANCE

John Chirichella  
Shop Supervisor  
Tel: 401 467 7950, ext 49

### HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE MAINTENANCE

Sal Solomon  
Highway Superintendent  
Tel: 401-467-7950, ext 36  
[ssolomon@providenceri.com](mailto:ssolomon@providenceri.com)

### SEWER CONSTRUCTION

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## *Introduction*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is established under Article X of the City of Providence Home Rule Charter as adopted March 13, 1997. Under the Charter, the DPW is assigned specific responsibility for "the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of highways and bridges; operation of drawbridges and other movable bridges; snow removal; sidewalks and curbing; street cleaning; garbage and refuse collection and disposal, including operation and maintenance of incinerators and dumps; and street lighting." Several of these functions are no longer applicable; specifically the City no longer operates any drawbridges or other movable bridges, and no longer operates any incinerators or dumps.

With the transfer of the ownership and maintenance responsibility for the Providence sewage treatment plant to the Narragansett Bay Commission, DPW was assigned responsibility for the operation, maintenance and necessary reconstruction of the sanitary sewer and storm drain collection systems in the City.

Also DPW has been assigned the Traffic Engineering functions described under §1017 (a-c) of the Home Rule Charter. The traffic engineering duties include providing advice to the Mayor and the Council related to parking, to traffic movements, studies, and traffic growth projections. The DPW is also responsible for the construction, inspection, and maintenance of traffic control devices including signs and traffic control signals, and parking meters.

The DPW presently consists of seven divisions, which will be further described in the following pages. The seven divisions are:

1. Administration
2. Engineering
3. Environmental Control
4. Garage Maintenance and Equipment
5. Highway and Bridges
6. Sewer Construction and Maintenance
7. Traffic Engineering

## ***Mission and Objectives***

### ***Department Mission***

The mission of the DPW is to efficiently maintain, preserve, and protect the City's infrastructure resources relating to roads, bridges, sewer and storm water collection, the operation of the hurricane barrier, solid waste collection and disposal, traffic movements control; to provide guidance and assistance to citizens/communities with the development and protection of property by implementing safe and uniform standards; and, to provide a safe environment through enforcement of environmental ordinances and regulations.

### ***Objectives***

The primary objectives of the DPW are:

1. Monitoring of public improvements by reviewing plans, designs, and engineering studies;
2. Oversight of solid waste collection and disposal;
3. Administration of the City's recycling program;
4. Maintenance and repair of streets, sidewalks, bridges, and sewer lines;
5. Cleaning of the City's streets;
6. Removal of snow and ice;
7. Maintenance of traffic control equipment and parking meters; and
8. The maintenance and operation of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier.

## *Administration*

The Administration Division of DPW is responsible for payrolls, controls and processing of billings, issuance of certain permits (dumpsters, trash haulers and utility). As the name implies this group of individuals provides administrative support to DPW. Administration provides telephone switchboard and reception services to DPW during normal business hours. It serves as the central receiving and distribution point for calls/complaints/concerns that are received from the public, the City's administration, or from elected officials.

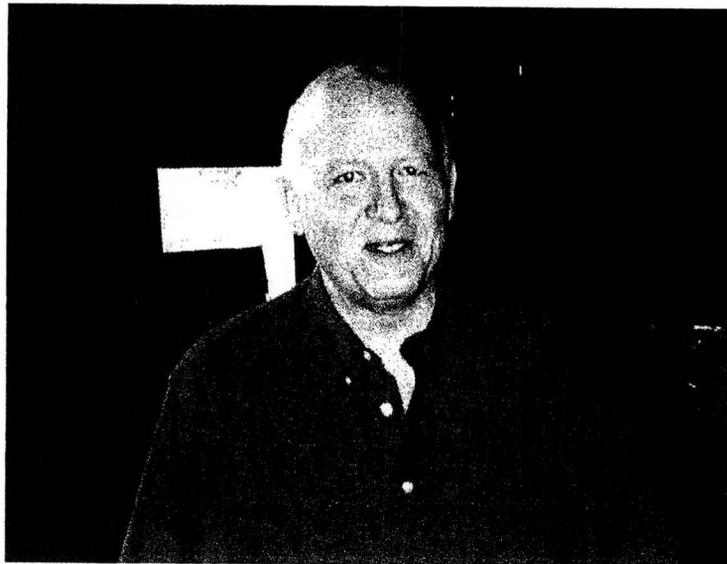
The Administration Division is headed by the Assistant Director General Services and staffed by five additional personnel. During FY 2006, DPW received/tracked and responded to 698 calls as distributed below:

- 168 direct calls from the public
- 320 calls from the Mayor's Office
- 210 calls from the City Council Office or directly from Council members

With the establishment of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services the Administration Division instituted a system for tracking the many complaints that are received during the course of the year. This tracking program has continued to focus on customer response, so that every complaint received is answered.

Payroll for the 100 plus employees of DPW (including overtime) is processed and tracked by the Administration Division, the payroll totals approximately \$5.3 million/year. Payments for all expenditures which vary from small miscellaneous items such as office supplies, to the payment for contracted waste removal services which total more than \$200,000 per month are prepared and processed through this office. For the most part, the Administration Division is directly involved in the preparation and tracking of payments from DPW's \$15,000,000 budget.

The end of FY 2006 marked the passage of an era with Mr. Robert Clarkin's departure from public service. Having served the City for eight years as a Councilman and an additional five years as the Assistant Director General Services at DPW, Mr. Clarkin has retired.



In addition to expending funds for infrastructure operations and maintenance, DPW also provides some offsetting income to the City for services provided. DPW collected fees or received reimbursement for the following services and materials:

\$9,943.00	for recycling bins
\$18,032.60	dumpster permits
\$14,990.00	curb openings
\$5,500.00	sidewalk construction licenses
\$4,200.00	sidewalk use license (sidewalk cafes)
\$4,450.00	trash hauler licenses
\$680.00	plan copies
\$49,124.00	sewer permit fee
\$139,925.00	utility permits (road openings)
\$2,655.00	lot cleaning program
\$683.00	Traffic Engineering - miscellaneous
\$7,120.29	Traffic Engineering Permits
\$712,697.61	Traffic - Parking meters
\$5,175	Sand and salt
\$37	Metals recycling
<hr/>	
\$975,212.50	<b>total collected and remitted to City</b>

## *Engineering*

Seven individuals working under the direction of the Chief Engineer staff the Engineering Division of DPW. Three new staff members were hired in the Engineering Division. Two of the new staff are recent graduates of the Civil Engineering program at the University of Rhode Island. The other individual is a clerical support individual who will assist the Department with the entry of permit and other data into newly created data bases.

The Engineering Division is responsible for reviewing site plans for new construction and reconstruction throughout the City and provides the Department of Inspection and Standards with a *Letter of Approval* prior to their issuing a building permit. Prior to issuing a *Letter of Approval*, a representative of the Engineering Division reviews in-house records and conducts a field examination of the property. Following completion of construction, another field examination is conducted and the Department of Inspection and Standards is advised as to whether the required site work was completed in accordance to the approved plan. During FY2007, 400 site plans were reviewed by Engineering.



The Engineering Division has made great strides in its efforts to modernize equipment and procedures. A sub-meter Global Positioning System (GPS) with data acquisition capability has been purchased and will be used to locate drainage outfalls and to inventory roadway features and appurtenances. Along with the GPS we have acquired Geographic Information System (GIS) software and AutoCAD® Automated Design/Drafting software. To make the systems more useful, the Department has purchased a Hewlett Packard Designjet 4500 large format inkjet plotter/scanner. The total package brings our Engineering Department up to par with current practice. Our staff is now able to provide full size copies of engineering prints to our customers. The new capacity will also allow the Department to accept project plans in digital format for ease of storage and reproduction. In addition to hardware, three of DPW's engineers attended

eight days of GIS training to learn digital mapping; with this we will better equipped to manage the City's infrastructure.

The Engineering Department was responsible for three projects which signal the advent of the restoration of the City's street network.

1. An engineering contract was awarded for the implementation of a Pavement Management System (PMS). PMS will provide the City the capability to project the outcome of various pavement funding strategies over a period of time. The PMS supplemented by engineering judgment will allow the City to choose the best approach to funding and selection of rehabilitation strategies and projects based upon objective measures of pavement condition and available funding.

2. The Engineering Department administered a contract to seal pavement surface

cracks in several streets around the City. The crack sealing prevents water intrusion and subsequent premature pavement deterioration. A total of 185,911 feet of pavement cracks were sealed at a cost of \$53,812.97. The streets addressed under this crack sealing initiative included:

- i. Broad Street from City line to Elmwood Avenue
- ii. Admiral Street from Orms Street to City line
- iii. Mount Pleasant Avenue from Chalkstone Avenue to Smith Street
- iv. Park Street from Orms Street to Smith Street
- v. State Street from Orms Street to Smith Street



3. The City was fortunate to be the recipient of \$8,750,000 of "ear marked" funding under the recent Federal Transportation Authorization bill SAFETEA-LU. Of this funding \$6,250,000 is designated for pavement improvements; the remaining \$2,500,000 is for traffic signal improvements. The Engineering staff was able to advance two contracts through the consultant selection process, preparation of contract plans and documents, and received federal authorization for two construction projects. Six City streets are being paved under the first two contracts at a combined estimated cost of \$2,810,819.75:

- i. Cranston Street – Westminster Street to Huntington Avenue
- ii. Eddy Street – Thurbers Avenue to Broad Street
- iii. West River Street – Corliss Street to Charles Street
- iv. Hope Street – Fifth Street to Lloyd Avenue
- v. Woodward Road – Branch Avenue to City line
- vi. Hawkins Street – Branch Avenue to Admiral Street

The Engineering Division provides coordination and engineering review of the Citywide sidewalk and roadway improvement program between the consulting project manager and field inspection engineers, City Council members and their assistants, contractors and other City departments. During the past year construction contracts for work valued close in excess of three million dollars of City funds were commenced. The Engineering Division also provides input during the development of capital improvement projects typically initiated by the Department of Planning and Development. Projects of this nature include such work as traffic calming projects, roadway corridor enhancement and signalization of intersections. Review of projects being prepared by other agencies and private developers is also provided. Some of these projects are:

- ≡ Traffic Calming on Gano Street
- = Smith Street Enhancement
- ≡ Broad Street Pedestrian Improvements
- ≡ Reconstruction of Aleppo Street
- ≡ Silver Lake and Niagra St
- ≡ Improvements to Thayer Street
- ≡ Bond projects – various wards

Engineering services are provided for work proposed by DPW, the City Council, other City Departments, or other public or private projects. The Division provides assistance to the Law Department with the investigation and review of claims against the City.

Engineering staff review planned utility work and issue permits for the installation/repair of utilities within the public right-of-way. During the past year DPW issued 2,460 road opening permits generating income of \$185,775.

Engineering staff also review and issue *Physical Alteration Permits (PAP)* for work within the public right-of-way, including alteration of curbs and sidewalks for driveways; 192 PAPs were issued during the past year.

This office issues permits for connections, as well as extensions, alterations, and modifications to the sewer system; 291 sewer permits were issued last year. All sewer work is inspected to insure compliance with City standards; field measurements are taken to update records maintained by this office. In addition to the permitting process, the Engineering Office issues Drain Layers Licenses.

The Engineering Division assists the Board of Licenses with the issuance of table and chair licenses on the public sidewalk. Field inspections are performed and recommendations are made regarding the area available for use without adversely impacting pedestrian movements.

The issuance of permits results in generated revenue of a little more than two-hundred thousand dollars.

The Engineering Division is the custodian of all engineering records for City Public Works infrastructure including sewers, street lines, benchmarks, highway sections and other archival records - many of these original documents including plans and field books date to the early 1900's and some to the 1850's. The staff accommodates inquiries

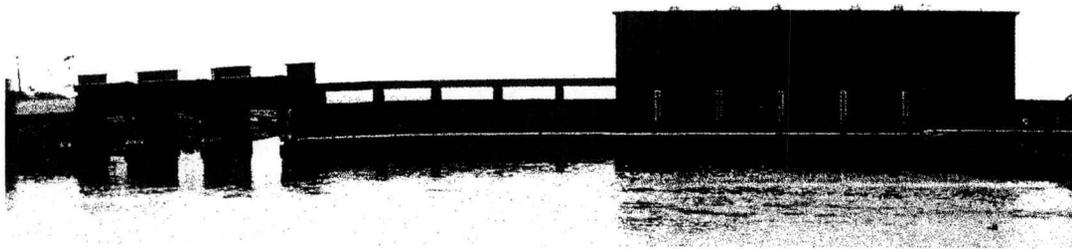
from the public to acquire these records; approximately ten inquiries occur each day, photocopy services are provided. The Engineering Division maintains records related to survey layout of lots at the North Burial Ground. During FY2005 computers were distributed to all engineering staff, this was the first step toward digitizing the Department's plans and records. With computers now available DPW staff have created and are utilizing data bases to store and process information related to road opening permits, site plans, and sidewalk repair requests. DPW is now preparing for the installation of an on-site server that will significantly increase data processing capabilities, the new server is expected during FY2007.

The Engineering Division prepares plans for abandonment of road and other public property, as well as plans for easements within the public ways. As well as being made part of the permanent records maintained by Engineering, these plans are used by the City Clerk's office; 23 plans of this nature were processed during the past year, 18 plans were prepared in-house and plans were prepared by others.

To supplement the records maintained by this office, the Engineering Division conducts research in other City departments, including the Office of the City Clerk, The Recorder of Deeds, the Tax Assessor's office and the City Archives.

The City Engineer, in cooperation with RIDOT, local utility providers, and the consulting firm Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. is coordinating the numerous construction projects which are on-going and/or planned throughout the City. Information is coordinated so that all interested parties are knowledgeable about lane closures and other work that will impact traffic. The information is provided to motorists by RIDOT through their Traffic Operations Center and to the media for publication and traffic advisories.

In addition to traditional engineering functions, this group is responsible for the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. During the past year repairs were completed on pump number 3 which is the last of the five pumps to be overhauled in a program which began in 1994. For the first time in many years, the pumping capability at the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier is 100% operational.



The Engineering Division coordinates the operational tests of this important structure with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers along with its maintenance and repair. The Engineering Division performed operational tests observed by the Corps of Engineers on December 3, 2005, and June 1, 2006; "in-house" tests were performed on September 24, 2005, and March 25, 2006. The barrier was staffed and prepared for service in anticipation of a storm surge created by Tropical Storm Ophelia on September 16-17, 2005. DPW staff were able to provide assistance to the WaterFire event by closing the river gates twice during August 2005; staff provided tours to interested groups on four occasions during the past fiscal year.

The Engineering Division is continuing with efforts toward the replacement of the electrical control system at the Barrier, Engineering is working with a consultant to develop a Scope of Work and an RFP for a consultant to prepare engineering plans and estimates for the replacement of the electrical control systems at the Fox Point Barrier.

The Engineering Division is responsible for coordinating the City's Storm Water Management Plan in conformance with the requirements of Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES). During FY2006 DPW purchased an ExStik EC500 pH/Conductivity/Salinity/Temperature Meter. The formation of the Storm Water Committee has commenced with great enthusiasm by public and non-profit organizations and citizens.

## *Environmental Control*

Reporting through the Deputy Director, the Environmental Division is headed by the Associate Director for Environmental Services. The goal of the eleven member staff of this Division is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Providence by providing a cleaner, healthier environment.

The Environmental Division of DPW provides highly visible, direct-to-the-customer services for the City. The areas administered by the individuals in this Division include:

- Waste/rubbish removal contract
- Recycling
- Vector control
- Lot "clean and lien" program
- Environmental outreach – education and training
- Enforcement of environmental regulations
- Cooperation with Attorney General's Nuisance Task Force

The programs administered by the Environmental Division account for more than half of the City's \$15 million DPW budget.

Among the most important activities during the past fiscal year was the beginning of the program to provide a BigGreen Can to each of the City's 62,500 residential households. The "roll-out" follows last year's pilot program when DPW staff in cooperation with WasteManagement provided four hundred 96-gallon waste carts to households in the Manton/Olneyville area. As the result of the successful pilot program, specifications were prepared and the City opened bids for the furnishing and delivery of 15,000 waste carts to City households. Delayed by material shortages which were the result of Hurricane Katrina delivery began in



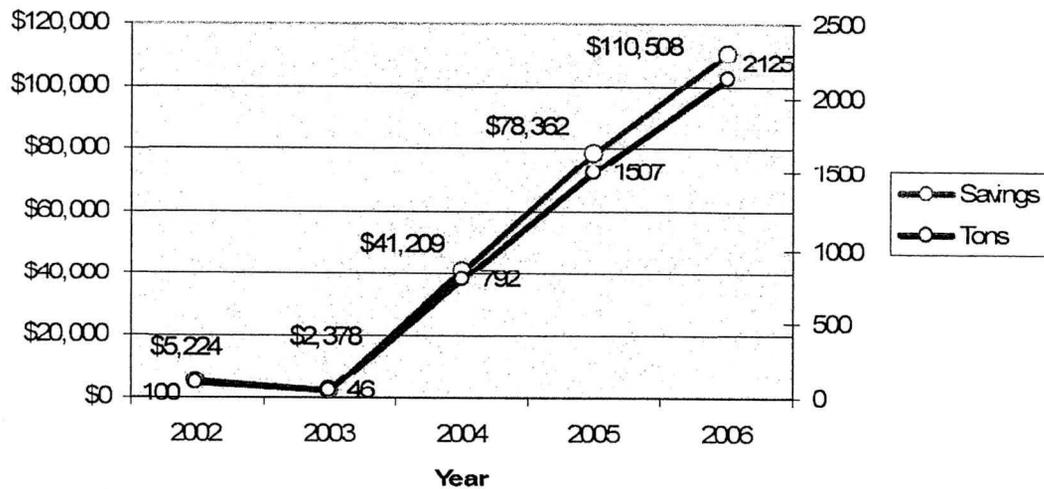
December 2005. The first 15,000 trash carts signaled a new beginning to handling waste in Providence. The semi-automated waste collection program is one component of a multi-faceted effort to manage and reduce the City's waste stream, reduce rodents, reduce litter, and reduce the tipping fees by increasing



recycling. With the evident success of the first phase of the program, DPW staff successfully negotiated with the BigGreen Can supplier to supply and deliver the remaining 47,500 waste carts at the 2005 bid price. We anticipate completion of the program before the end of calendar year 2006.

A continuing success in FY2006 was the Department's Leaf and Yard Waste (L&Y) Collection. Under the latest contract for waste collection, L&Y collection has been extended throughout the year. The separate collection of L&Y during FY2006 increased by more than 40% over last year's tonnage. The savings in tipping fees as the result of separating L&Y from the waste stream totaled \$110,508.

### Leaf and Yard Waste Diversion



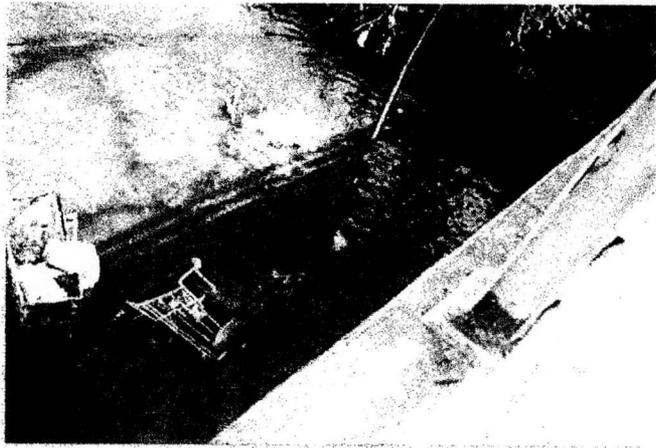
Our efforts to control rodents in the City now focus on the control of the food supply by improving waste handling and the reduction of harborage by stricter code and environmental enforcement. The final area of rodent control is the timely application of vermicide by DPW staff. Three employees are now assigned to fulltime duties in rodent control, we have this year purchased a four wheel drive truck with a utility body which the rodent control staff use to carry their equipment and materials to the worksites around the City – the truck is also equipped with a plow to provide assistance during winter operations. During this past year, DPW staff received 766 rodent complaints and addressed 702; 64 complaints remained outstanding at the end of the year. Staff baited 344 properties and 1091 sewer manholes.

The improper storage and disposal of solid waste allows the proliferation of rats and detracts from the quality of life in the area. One of the tools to improve waste storage and disposal practices and to advance recycling efforts is the enforcement section of this division. Staff from our Environmental Division patrols the City to issue environmental violations (tickets) and then follow through with the Municipal Court system. In FY 2006 DPW staff documented violations and wrote 3,017 tickets - fines totaled \$552,225; fines paid totaled \$117,309.00. Sometimes tickets may be withdrawn by DPW for a variety of reasons; the municipal court dismisses some tickets, and a number of tickets remain outstanding.

During the past year DPW working with several other Departments including the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Solicitor's Office, the tax Collector's Office, and the Mayor's Office have initiated a program with greater enforcement leverage. Instead of cleaning scofflaw properties and placing a lien against the property, it has been determined that under Rhode Island General Laws clean-up costs may be levied against the property and billed with the property taxes. In this manner it is not necessary to wait for an owner to try and sell the property to collect the clean-up costs, the charges become due immediately with the next tax bill and follow the tax bill collection process.



In addition to waste management activities, DPW is also responsible for coordination of the City's recycling activities. The inclusion of recyclable materials in the waste stream results in unnecessary spending for disposal of solid waste. The recycling rate Citywide remains less than 9%. Efforts are being made to increase recycling including educational programs at City schools. Our Environmental Division is actively involved in community outreach; staff involvement includes providing workshops on proper waste management and recycling. DPW staff expect increased recycling in conjunction with increased enforcement which will follow the citywide distribution of BigGreen cans; we are providing the tools to clean-up the City and will be following these actions with additional education/enforcement.



The Environmental Division coordinates DPW's efforts to assist with a wide variety of cleanup programs throughout the year. In the pictures above DPW basin cleaning truck pulls a shopping cart from the Woonasquatucket River during the Narragansett Bay Commission's annual river clean-up.

### ***Garage Maintenance and Equipment***

The equipment operated by DPW is maintained by a staff of eight that is made up of one supervisor and seven mechanics (various titles). Along with the DPW fleet of 113 pieces of equipment which includes 26 heavy plow trucks; 30 light trucks, pick-ups, and vans; 14 automobiles; and 43 assorted other equipment; the DPW staff repairs and maintains vehicles assigned to the Mayor's Office, the Recreation Department, Public Property, the City Solicitor, and the City Sergeant.

The average age of the DPW *heavy* plow trucks is now 5.1 the average is down from last year as the result of purchasing 2 new trucks during FY2006 and also "scrapping" the last of the old ten-wheel plows that were no longer serviceable.

The age distribution of the fleet is moving in the right direction but the program must be continued with equipment purchased on a regular basis. The DPW was fortunate during the past year and received good support in our efforts to rejuvenate the fleet. The Master Lease program provided funding for several new pieces of equipment including:

Number	Description	Assigned
One	Street Sweeper	Highway and Bridge
One	Bucket Truck	Traffic Engineering
One	Ten-wheel dump truck	Highway and Bridge
One	Six-wheel dump truck	Highway and Bridge
One	Crew-cab pick-up truck	Highway and Bridge
Two	Extended-cab pick-up truck	Highway and Bridge Sewer
Three	Landscape dump trucks	(2) Highway and Bridge (1) Sewer
One	4WD Utility truck	Environmental/rodent control
One	All wheel drive sedan	Administration

In addition to the heavy truck fleet, the DPW relies on light trucks and automobiles to support the activities of inspectors and technicians who provide service to citizens around the City. Many of the Department's automobiles were purchased used and are now more than ten years old. In fact the average age of the Department's fourteen automobiles is 10.4 years, of the fourteen vehicles, nine are serviceable, four are in poor condition, and one is out of service and due to be "scrapped". During FY2006 DPW purchased one new car and one used automobile from the Providence Water Supply Board; this is a help but in order to avoid excessive repair costs and to provide reliable equipment to field personnel replacement of these vehicles must be planned.

## *Highway and Bridges*

The Highway and Bridge Division staff of DPW is among the more visible, more frequently seen group of City employees. This group is made up of 49 employees (including foremen) under the direction of the Highway Superintendent and the Assistant Highway Superintendent. is responsible for the maintenance of 370 miles of roadway and 50 City owned bridges; they provide typical roadway related direct service to the public in such areas as winter snow plowing and sanding, pothole repair, sidewalk cleaning and repair, and litter removal.

During FY2006 new initiatives were initiated to provide an immediate evaluation of complaints related to roadway or sidewalk safety concerns. If the complaint is deemed to be a hazard, the work is scheduled to address the problem; immediate needs receive an immediate response. Work crews have been adjusted to maximize workforce efficiency. Every member of the Highway and Bridge staff is provided an opportunity to work "on the road".

The Highway and Bridge Division assists with contracted street sweeping by providing trucks to haul the material that is picked up by the sweepers. Supervisory staff from Highway and Bridge is responsible for monitoring the sweeping contractor's operation to insure that work is efficient and productive. Payments to the sweeping contractor totaled \$418,090.50 for FY2006 - street sweeping operations totaling 3,944.25 hours of work. The City purchased a new sweeper this fiscal year and has been able to provide services which have been done for the past several years by the vendor.

The Highway and Bridge Division is involved in a wide variety of functions related to streets – and sometimes for other agencies. This group is responsible for the emptying of street waste receptacles that are placed in commercial areas throughout the



City. It is notable that the number of on street waste receptacles has been increased from 289 two years ago to 437 at the end of FY2006 – a 41% increase in this area. We provide clean-up after special events such as neighborhood/organization/ethnic festivals. DPW staff also provides clean-ups of lots when owners do not respond to the City's requests;

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FY 2006

the property owner is then billed for the costs. DPW crews provide regular clean-up of the City's "gateways" including Dean Street, Fruit Hill Avenue, Manton Avenue, Branch Avenue, Industrial Drive, Smithfield Avenue, and other roadways that carry traffic into the City of Providence.

In our effort to cooperate with neighborhood community groups, we have provided roll-off containers for neighborhood clean-up activities. The Highway and Bridge staff assists the Environmental Division by providing the workers and equipment that do the work.

Included in the mix of workers in the Highway Division are four cement finishers who repair sidewalk slabs along the 370 miles of City streets – there are nearly twice this many miles of sidewalk. During the past year our catalog of complaints has increased to more than 1500 sidewalk locations. Repairs to locations with a fault in excess of three inches have been given priority. Sidewalk repairs were accomplished at 116 locations in FY2006 (85 concrete and 31 asphalt) compared to 56 locations during FY2005 and none in FY2004. In addition to sidewalk work the asphalt crew is responsible for road restoration after sewer work by the DPW Sewer Department and failed utility patches (more than five years old). Patches were installed at 35 sewer work sites and 19 defective utility patches were replaced.

The employees of the Highway and Bridges Division assist the Engineering Division with the operation and testing of the Hurricane Barrier as needed. The staff from this division provided assistance with the closure of the street and canal gates. They also clean the trash racks to remove debris from in front of the barrier pumps on a weekly basis.

Among the very visible functions provided by DPW are winter storm operations - plowing and sanding during snow and ice events. The 2005/2006 winter season was mild compare to last year but nevertheless brought 12 events that required plowing and sanding. November 23, 2005, Providence held its first Snow Plow Rhodeo. The event at Roger Williams Park was well attended despite very cold weather. More than 50 employees who operate plow equipment represented several City Department and exhibited the skills that would bring the City safely through another winter. The cold weather of the Snow Plow Rhodeo presaged the first snow event of the season – snow Thanksgiving morning of 2005.

In the mix of storms was an unusual event of particular intensity which occurred on December 9, 2005. Described in ProJo as "Thunder-snow and bona fide "bombogenesis" whipped up near-blizzard conditions across New England yesterday. Winds gusted up to 70 mph, thunder boomed, lightning cracked, and snow flew furiously at a rate of up to 5 inches an hour.

Ice and high winds prompted the rare closure of T.F. Green Airport's runway for nearly two hours. For only the second time in 14 years, authorities closed the Claiborne Pell Bridge -- for 90 minutes during the height of the storm. A plane was struck by lightning as it circled for a landing at Logan International Airport in Boston.

"Wow! What a storm!" a forecaster said at the normally understated National Weather Service center in Taunton."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Providence Journal - December 10, 2005

A second significant storm occurred on February 10, 2006 – with a forecast in the morning calling for "...BLIZZARD WATCH NOW IN EFFECT FROM THIS EVENING THROUGH SUNDAY AFTERNOON...SNOW WILL BEGIN ON THE SOUTH COAST AND ISLANDS BETWEEN 8 PM AND 11 PM TONIGHT...AND SHOULD REACH THE INTERSTATE 95 CORRIDOR BETWEEN 10 PM TONIGHT AND 1 AM SUNDAY. THE HEAVIEST SNOW WILL FALL OVERNIGHT INTO EARLY SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

TOTAL ACCUMULATIONS WILL RANGE FROM 6 TO 10 INCHES ON NANTUCKET AND BLOCK ISLAND...TO BETWEEN 8 AND 15 INCHES ELSEWHERE. THE 15 INCH TOTALS ARE MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR FROM PROVIDENCE AND BOSTON TO THE SOUTH COAST. DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE STORM SUNDAY...BLIZZARD CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE WITH SNOWFALL RATES NEAR 3 INCHES PER HOUR. NORTHEAST WINDS GUSTING AS HIGH AS 50 MPH MAY PRODUCE WHITE OUT CONDITIONS WITH NEAR ZERO VISIBILITY."<sup>2</sup>

The storm began on Saturday and lasted into the afternoon Sunday. Based upon forecast volumes and conditions, the only parking ban of the season was instituted in advance of the scheduled snowfall. With twelve inches of snow on the ground vendors with loaders and dump trailers were hired to remove snow from the downtown area. By Monday morning streets were in good shape throughout the City.

The last snowfall of the 2005/2006 winter season occurred on March 2, 2006. The total cost of winter operations for the winter of 2005/2006 was \$1,051,349.55 which included personnel, materials, and hired equipment.

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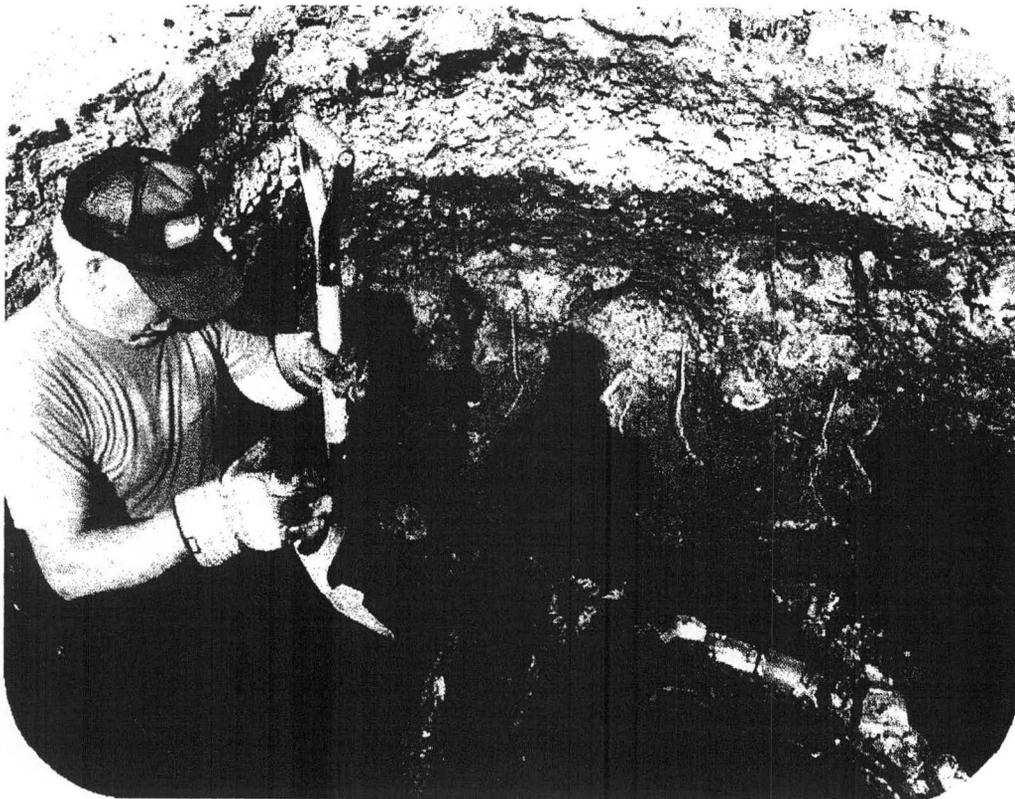
<sup>2</sup> National Weather Service zone forecast February 10, 2006

## *Sewer Construction and Maintenance*

Sometime in the mid-nineteenth century the City of Providence began construction of a vast system for the collection of sanitary waste with outfalls into urban rivers and the Providence Harbor. By the beginning of the 20th century, the local sewage collection systems were tied into trunk lines that carried the waste to a sewage treatment plant in the Field's Point area of the City. Providence continued to grow and the sewage collection system was expanded; the treatment plant was "modernized" to improve its operation. After more than a century of operation by the City, the sewer trunk lines and the treatment plant were turned over to a quasi-public agency, the Narragansett Bay Commission that operates the system today.

The City retained the responsibility for approximately 415 miles of storm, sanitary, and combined sewer lines. The maintenance and repair of the sewer systems is accomplished under the direction of the City Engineer by the Superintendent of Sewers and ten workers. This Division also maintains some 20,000 manholes, 4,000 inlets and 12,000 catch basins. Included in the maintenance program for the 12,000 catch basins is regular cleaning to remove sand and debris from sumps of the storm sewer catch basins – depending on the area, cleaning should be accomplished on a regular basis once every one to five years.

The original drawings for the sewer and street plans which show the lateral connections to houses along the City streets are still on file and available in the Engineering Office at DPW's facility on Allens Avenue.



During FY2006 the following activities were accomplished:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Catch basins cleaned & traps cleaned	1530 <sup>9</sup>	2904	3633
Chutes cleaned	129	232	505
Main lines flushed	115	217	162
Color tests performed	31	11	11
Inlet stones repaired	12	18	52
Inlet stones replaced	4	18	16
Grate frame and cover repaired	8	13	15
Basin frame and recover repaired	9	21	28
Manhole frame and cover repaired	4	24	19

\*Both of the basin cleaning trucks were down for a period of time

## *Traffic Engineering*

A City Council Ordinance authorized the formation of the Traffic Engineering Department in October 1948, and the Department was activated on March 1, 1949, with the appointment of a Traffic Engineer, the reassignment of other maintenance personnel, and the administration of a separate budget. In 2003, Traffic Engineering became a division of the Department of Public Works under the direct supervision of the Director of DPW. The Mayor, with confirmation of the City Council, appoints the Traffic Engineer. During the spring of 2005 a new Traffic Engineer was appointed to oversee the operations and administration of this important division.

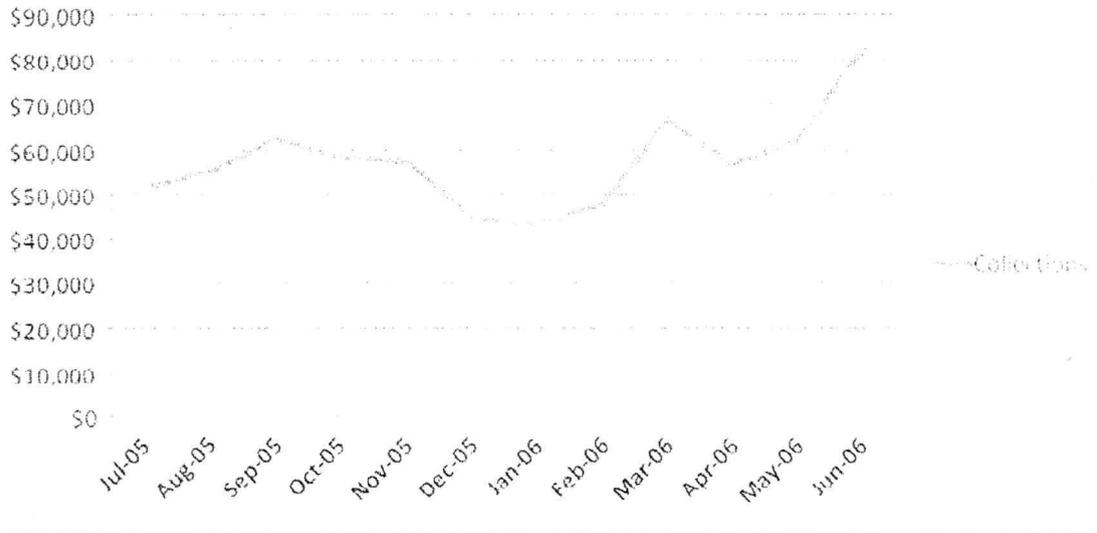
The primary goal of the Traffic Engineering Division is to provide for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods on roadways within the City. This division is responsible for the maintenance of 198 signalized intersections, 1,753 stop controlled intersections and 101 yield controlled intersections. This division is responsible for all regulatory, warning and guide signs on 2,094 streets and 370 miles of roadway within the City. We also assist various groups in installing signs for Crime Watch, hospitals, churches and, most recently, signs directing the public to evacuation sites throughout Providence.

The division is responsible for street/sidewalk closing permits for the closing of City streets and sidewalks for various events and construction, such as detouring traffic for events such as road races, *WaterFire*, parades and neighborhood block parties. During FY2006 Traffic Engineering staff posted 751 *No Parking* zones and provided temporary closure of 282 streets.

This division assists with the review of all plans going before the Zoning Board of Review and Building Inspection with regard to off-street parking and curb openings. The Traffic Engineering Division is responsible for the review of all commercial curb openings. This division works closely with the Department of Planning and Development and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation in reviewing and approving all plans related to traffic control devices and parking on City streets. Staff investigates complaints from parking violators to determine if an area was properly signed.

The division maintains, installs and collects monies from the City's parking meters. The collected monies are dropped off with Brinks in locked steel canisters where they are counted and then deposited to a City account. Under the contract with ACS, additional new meters have been installed at locations throughout the City. The new meters accept coins or "smart cards" and provide improved usage tracking capabilities. In addition to the standard pole top meters, "multi-spot" kiosks are also being installed at selected locations.

## Collections

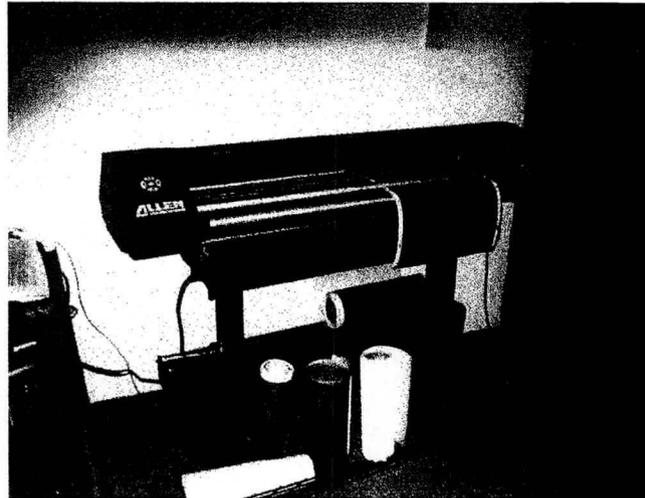


The Traffic Engineer attends meetings with contractors and consultants for review and approval of construction or development projects in the City.

The Traffic Engineering Division staff is occasionally asked to assemble accident records from the Providence Police Department for traffic studies and/or to prepare a "collision" diagram to review "spot" locations and perform traffic and pedestrian counts as required.

At this time, two employees are responsible for the maintenance and repair of 198 signalized intersections; the work includes replacing burned out signal and pedestrian lamps, repair of traffic signal controllers, and replacing equipment that has been knocked down or damaged. The individuals handling traffic signal repairs have gone so far as to construct new traffic signal systems from used equipment to keep the signalized intersections in operation.

The Traffic Engineering Division is also responsible for the installation and maintenance of all traffic signs throughout the City. The Sign Maintenance Section has five employees, one Traffic Sign Foreman, and four "traffic sign maintenance men". In addition to sign installations, the sign installers fabricate signs as needed and will occasionally be called upon to fabricate portable cement bases for temporary sign installations. In an effort to improve efficiency and production a new state-of-the-art computer driven sign cutter was purchased to make signs. The new sign



system has been instrumental in efforts to replace street-name signs which are produced using high-intensity reflective sheeting for improved night-time visibility. More than 1,000 sign work-orders were generated and completed during the second half of the fiscal year.

The Traffic Engineer is responsible for the installation of pavement markings throughout the City. Through the services of a private contractor we have continued our program of epoxy markings in an effort to provide added durability and longevity. During the fiscal year the following markings were applied to City streets:

≡ Double yellow centerline	98,050 feet
≡ Hand work (parking, etc)	49,990 feet
≡ Long line (edge, skip, etc)	116,520

additional X-walks and stop bars were installed by City staff.

The decorative lighting that was formerly owned and maintained by the City has been privatized and is now maintained by Johnson Controls.

# Recorder of Deeds

Barbara Troncy, Director



# RECORDER OF DEEDS

Barbara Troncy, Director

City of Providence

Mayor David N. Cicilline

Annual Report  
FY 2006

## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

### HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

The original deed granted to the City of Providence and signed in the form of a bow and arrow came from two Indians Canonicus and Miantonomi of the Narragansett Indian tribe, was given to Roger Williams on arch 24, 1638 and “not a penny was demanded by either” said Roger Williams. That deed was proudly hanging in the Recorder of Deeds office for many years but to secure it’s posterity it has been transferred to the Archives where it is set between sheets of mylar.

Providence became incorporated in 1832, and the City’s Chamber at that time made a provision for the Recorder of Deeds office. The Mayor should appoint, subject to the approval of the City Council a Recorder of Deeds who will serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

The Recorder of Deeds has the status of a department head with the responsibility to maintain and safeguard all land evidence records. Originally the demands for recording real estate were very different from which they are today, in as much as large tracts of land were not platted. For example, a good portion of the east side of Providence was at one time the “Moses Brown Farms”. As the population grew more tracts of land were divided into various sections to become building lots. Such plats and lots are impressed on large cardboards which until recently could be found in the Recorder of Deeds office.

As the Recorder of Deeds, I must be Knowledgeable and available to offer my expertise whenever necessary. It is my responsibility to promote good customer relations, make the daily deposit reports, handle all purchasing functions, prepare weekly payroll, and submit a fiscal budget report.

The department’s primary function is to record, index, and scan all daily real estate transactions. We must accurately up date our indexes, and maintain land evidence books and recorded maps. Our records are kept in multiple means; using hardcopy indexes, microfilmed land evidence books, and computers. Our land evidence books date back to 1861 going forward to the current day.

## **RECORDER OF DEEDS STAFF AND PRIMARY FUNCTIONS**

Since the inception of our ACS 20/20 Imaging System the department's function has improved in speed and accuracy. Once a document is entered and scanned anyone coming into the office can view and print any document of their choice. Another valuable asset of the system allows us to return original documents at once.

The office is budgeted for eight employees and the Recorder of Deeds. We have four Senior Record Clerks, and three Land Record Clerks. Senior Clerks record and edit all documents. Upon entering the document she must count all the pages accurately, print the assigned book and page number on each page and be sure to print the recoding information on the last page of the document. Each document must be edited at the end of the day to be sure the documents have no typing errors and are properly indexed.

Land Record Clerks scan, open, and prepare the mail for recording. The Scanning Clerk must prepare a daily inventory report to be sure there is an image for each page of every recorded document. If an image has been lost the clerk must retrieve it from the original owner. The Land Record Clerks also print, and edit Land Evidence books and burn CD for each book. CD's are sent to ACS to be processed into film; therefore, before burning it is the responsibility of the clerk to be sure that each page has produced a perfect image.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2005-2006**

Since the implementation of the ACS 20/20 Imaging System in July 2005, we have received positive feedback from many people including title companies, researchers and attorneys. The recording system is now using sophisticated technology so that we dramatically improve our service level with our existing workforce. This dramatic change in service was accomplished with considerable help from Charlie Hewitt in the IT department. It allows us now to be a first-class service provider and positions us for future cutting edge developments.

Since the system allows us to record, scan and return each document concurrently, it has allowed us to focus our attention to the backlog. Daily inquiries and requests mailed into the office have all been expeditiously handled and we have no remaining backlog of mail.

In the fiscal year 2005-2006 we recorded 49,145 documents and collected \$7,222,220.44 in revenues.

### **GOALS 2006-2007**

As I tackle the challenges of this fiscal year my foremost objective is to expand the image database of the ACS system. I will be sure to advance my attempts to have ACS complete our database for the last two years.

The ideal database should cover a fifty year span of recordings which allows a complete title search from an off site location. The Recorder of Deeds office will be responsible to identify in this year the approach of advanced technological endeavor and to begin a portion of the procedure within this fiscal year.

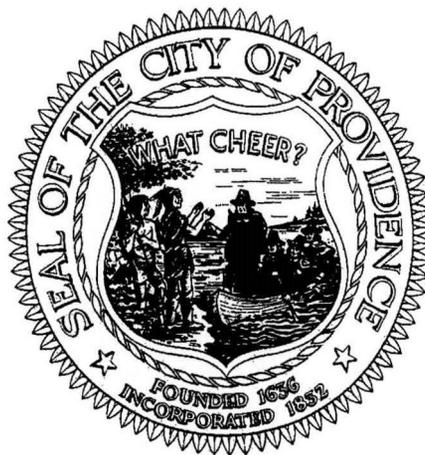
When our recording fees were increased in 2004, certain documents were not included in the statute I would recommend to increase their recording fees in the future. There is additional work to be done improving electronic storage and retrieval of military discharges and execution liens.

# Department of Recreation

Frank Santos Jr., Director

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# Department of Recreation



## City of Providence

Annual Report 2006

Frank Santos Jr. Director  
401-421-7740 (Ext. 723)

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Mayor David N. Cicilline

The Honorable David N. Cicilline  
Mayor  
City of Providence  
Members of Providence City Council

It is my privilege to submit this report for your review and information. We continue the effort to present as many recreation activities and programs for both youth and adult citizens of the City of Providence. Our effort to increase partnerships has continued and the support of the Providence After School Alliance has been both beneficial and important. We continue to experience greater opportunities to learn, grow, and present higher qualitative programs with community input.

Through the support of PASA we have engaged the services of nationally recognized consultants Herbye White from Dynamic Management Consulting and Reco Bemby from Bemby Consulting Services to assist in the development of a five year strategy or blue print for the department that will inform and support our vision into the future. This will blend with the overall Strategic Plan developed by the city to support our collective goal of strengthening and maintaining vibrant neighborhoods. This will be completed and reported on in the upcoming fiscal year. As part of the center director's previous participation in extensive training offered through the PASA initiative (via Reco Bemby) we have encouraged their direct input in this process.

An important part of the overall strategy is our intent to continue the pursuit of additional training opportunities for all staff to seek National Certification. We still feel this is important. It would create pride for the department and the city giving us an opportunity to seek funding nationally for new opportunities.

The department is a work in progress and continues to evolve and enhance services to residents of this city. Although we suggested a revision for our mission we must follow up and have this adopted officially and posted in all Recreation Centers, and on our website.

Programs and services provided through our recreation centers have been ongoing and are addressed in the body of this report. With the continued support of recreation administration those centers are challenging themselves and counterparts to think in a non-traditional manner to offer new and exciting opportunities while strengthening what they already do well for the youth who visit those centers. The major challenge will be to expand opportunities for citizens who may opt not to join our centers and provide similar exciting opportunities in an increased capacity.

As I have indicated in previous reports, it is the initiative and efforts of the employees in this department who go above and beyond to make the activities presented on the following pages worth of participation. It is also a credit to have this staff employed by the city. I am immensely proud of their work, and grateful to accept their confidence as we look forward to expanding responsibility.

Sincerely,

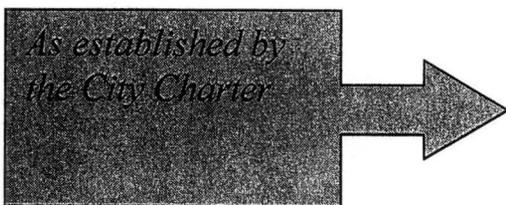
Frank Santos, Jr.  
Director of Recreation

## *History*

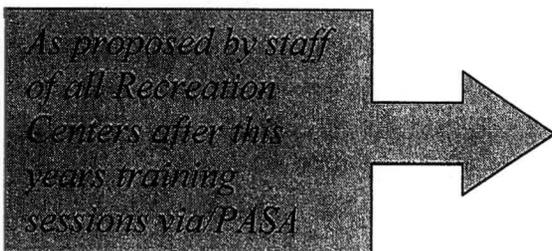
- *Created in 1942 as a part-time summer only department.*
- *In 1947 became a full-time department offering both summer and winter programs.*
- *Oldest centers are the Davey Lopes and Zuccolo built in 1949.*
- *Rogers and Joslin centers were built around 1964.*
- *All other centers were built in 1994 or thereafter.*
- *Previous locations of Administrative office:*
  - *Roger Williams Park*
  - *One Reservoir Ave.*
  - *West End Recreation Center*
  - *Current location One Recreation Way*



## *Mission Statement*

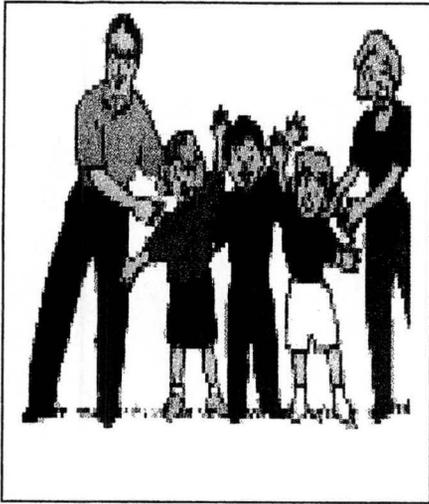


*“The Department of Recreation shall be responsible for the planning and recreation programs in the city for all age groups, and for other programs and services that from time to time may be placed under its jurisdiction”*



*“The Providence Recreation Department will provide diverse recreational and educational opportunities which will strengthen individual characteristics, improve the quality of life, and create a safe environment for every resident in the City of Providence”*

# Introduction



*This report covers the recently completed fiscal year 2006 from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The Department of Recreation continues its progress to develop greater trust and build relationships to accomplish the goals set forth in providing recreation to the citizens of the City of Providence. As always, continued encouragement and support provided by the Administration and City Council has been very important.*

*We continue to establish ongoing and healthy relationships both internally and externally, and this effort includes all departments in service to the city. Some of these relationships have been experienced with but not limited to:*

- *Department of Operations*

*The Operations Department continues to provide support through direct assistance in problem solving with community groups and sharing information with other departments at regular meetings. Having the opportunity to discuss and consider options related to presenting problems or new ideas is both reassuring and very helpful. Providing advice on budget, personnel, strategy or community concerns is something this department is grateful to receive. An example of this was the support provided to get our website active & current by using the assistance of a Mayor's Fellowship Student to provide the technical support necessary. Without direct support from the staff of Operations and Administration, it would be challenging to resolve community differences, consider new opportunities or think about personal related issues from multiple perspectives.*

- *Office of Neighborhood Services*

*The Office of Neighborhood Services is invaluable and is always available to lend support or bring to our attention concerns of residents we are attempting to provide services to. There have been numerous occasions through which we have collaborated during the course of this past year.*

- *Parks Department*

*Our relationship and dependency of the Parks Department is important. Their willingness to collaborate and provide increased opportunity for the youth of the city continues to be extremely important. For the third year consecutively we appreciate the use of Roger Williams Park to host Adventure Camp. Attendance continued to average 100 youth per day, and to keep the youth cool we decided to get them back to one of our swimming pools (Rogers) weekly. Parks also was supportive of the Urban League/Recreation Department Playground initiative.*

- *Department of Arts & Culture*

*As demonstrated through their successful efforts to provide wonderful new experiences in the downtown district, our department must develop stronger efforts to include them in attempts to enhance even greater experiences directly in the neighborhoods surrounding our recreation centers. We host about 15 "Evenings in the Neighborhood" around our pools and water parks, attendance could be stronger at these events with their involvement and or promotion. This is an area, which could be improved, and remain committed to working with Arts & Culture to improve this participation.*

- *ProvStat*

*Provstat was created to raise accountability, provide greater opportunities to review programs, and make decisions more accurately on services we provide through the collection of data and information for planning purposes. Through the efforts of PASA we were provided computers for all of our recreation centers. All the Recreation Centers computers are operational, however, there continues to be various problems associated with service, but with the help of PASA, and ITT this will be resolved. All relevant staff has been trained on Youth Service.Net and input is taking place.*



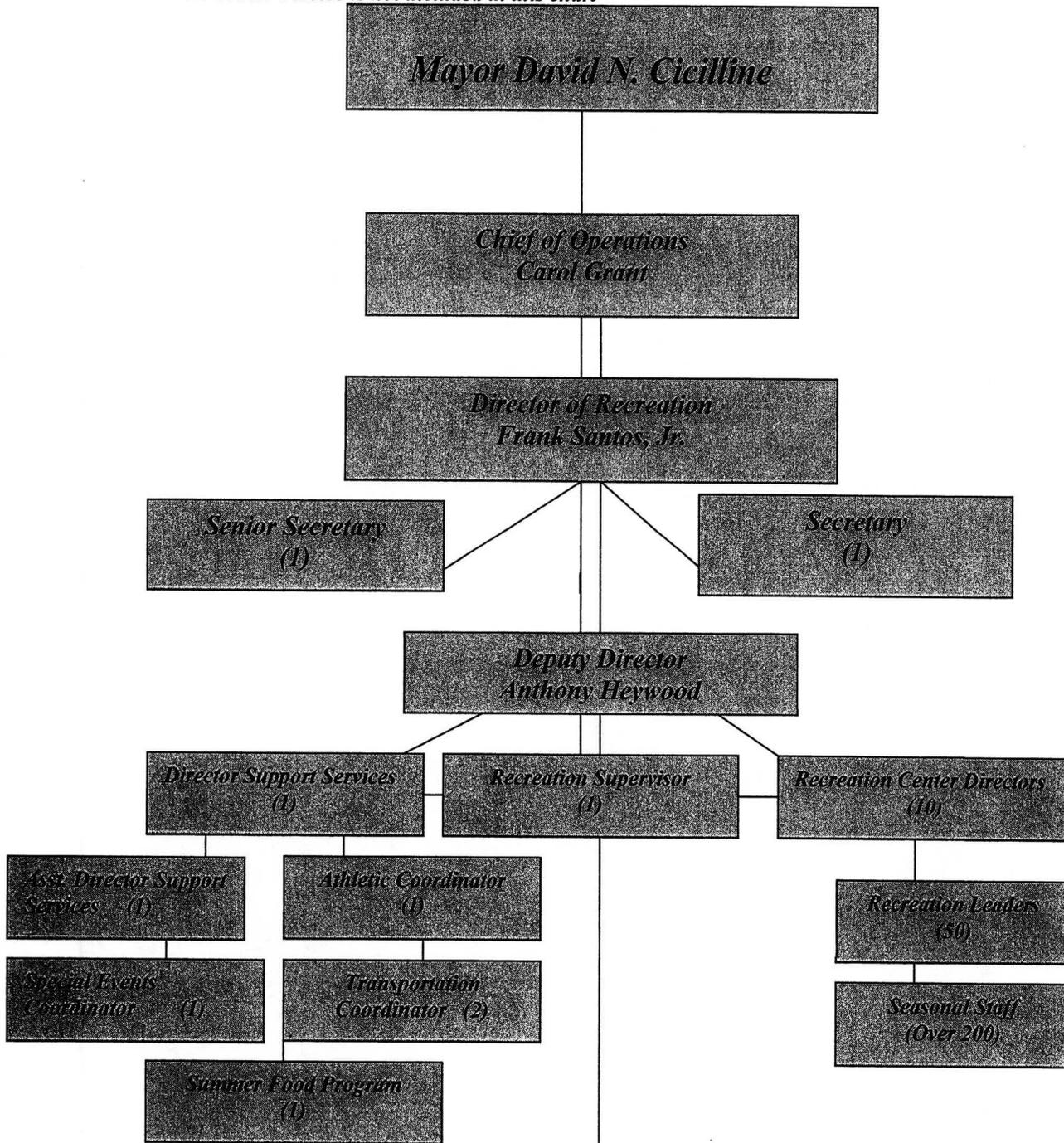
- *Providence Police Department*

*The relationship with the Providence Police and Recreation is a natural one and all of our centers continue to interrelate very well with them. The feeling is one of support and mutual respect, and they continue to be a very important presence at our pools, water parks, and other summer programs. An area of challenge for both departments is getting more police officers involved during their off duty times. The Pals initiative had good signs of worthy activities and will be continued with support of PASA.*

**Organization Chart**

**Proposed – Recreation Organization Chart**

*\* Note Senior Service is not included in this chart*



# ***Department Overview***

*The Department is divided into the following main areas of function:*

- 1. Administrative*
- 2. Recreation Centers*
- 3. Transportation*
- 4. Programs*
- 5. Summer Food Services*
- 6. Summer Jobs*
- 7. The Camp Cronin Experience*



*A major goal of this department is to plan, develop, and increase recreational programs and opportunities that are responsive to the community needs.*

*This department continues to seek alternative means to supplement our budget and services in an effort to support the Mayor's directive to work smarter and provide more services. Our collective effort in working with Administration, City Council, other community groups, and the private sector has and will continue to produce higher quality programs and reach more youth and residents of the city.*

*We continue to experience progress in this area and we are happy to provide a review of the activities in this report that will validate this. This department has not only continued existing activities, but has in some instances increased them. We are also committed to but must do a better job of continued efforts in creating non-traditional opportunities for the youth of the city.*

## ***Short Term Goals***

- Strive to create higher standards for employment in particular for full time employment.*
- Strengthen and make better use of the ProvStat/Youth Services.net process*
- Implement voice mail*
- Develop clear lines of communications, supervisors, and support*
- Work to create an Advisory Board at each Recreation Center and re-establish the city wide Recreation Advisory Board*
- Work to assure that fun and learning is the most important goal of all youth activities.*

## ***Challenges***

- Improve services to community*
- Completion of computers/technology to Recreation Centers*
- Continue the development of all staff through training*
- Continue the effort to create non-traditional opportunities for youth*
- Work with the city to improve the fleet of vehicles in our service.*

## *Transportation*

*The Providence Recreation Department's transportation program continues to be a cornerstone activity for the residents of the city. This past season the program expanded services by re-establishing a third passenger bus to the fleet of vehicles. With the assistance of ProvStat the department was able to monitor daily trips and schedules and develop statistics that have been used at quarterly ProvStat meetings highlighting the impact on the residents of the city.*



*The program continues to offer services to the following organizations:*

- Senior Citizen Groups*
- Neighborhood non-profit organizations.*
- Providence Schools*
- Various other groups*

*The destinations for the field trips that are scheduled vary depending on the time of the year. Winter destinations include LaSalette Shrine while summer trips are geared toward South County.*

*The department has 16 passenger vans and two buses that are assigned to the ten recreation centers and central office. These vehicles also transport thousands of recreation center children to various venues around the state for leagues, tournaments and hundreds of special events. The department strives to continue these services in the future and hopes that the city has the resources to upgrade the fleet of vehicles that need to be replaced. The department has made a conscious effort to provide more transportation opportunities for recreation-sponsored programs. With more plans for the future in place, this trend will continue for the next few seasons. If you are a Providence based youth organization or a Senior Citizen program, feel free to call the department for further details.*

## ***Field Permits***

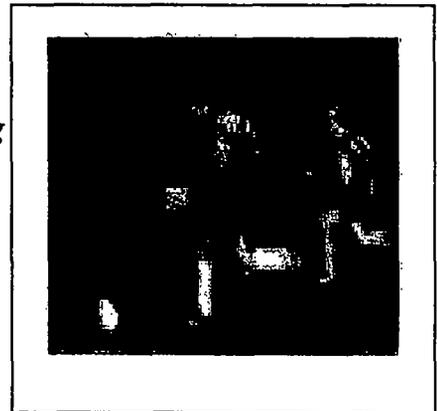
*The 2005-2006 field permit season was one of change and transition. During this season, permit fees were raised for the first time in five years. Many organizations felt these new fees were not fair for the entire season. After reviewing what other municipality's fees were, each group understood that the fees were still very fair and affordable.*

*With over thirty fields under the jurisdiction of recreation, filling the hundred or so request for field space is a very tedious process. For the most part, the season was an overall success with the department generating approximately \$14,000.00 to \$16,000.00 in annual revenue from the collection of permit fees. There was a 100% collection rate of fees for the first time in three years.*

*Field space continues to be an issue regarding the lack of available soccer fields in the City of Providence. Each year, more and more soccer leagues are forming, and are requesting space.*

*So far, the department has been able to accommodate all request for field space-time. In the next few years, the demand will pass the supply of fields available with scheduling conflicts resulting. Leagues have been very forthcoming and have even discussed shared field space and league mergers to try to alleviate the problem. Leagues have also shown a willingness to assist with the general maintenance of some of the complexes.*

*Overall the partnerships between recreation and the permit holders continue to expand as the organizations become educated with the policies of the process and support changes when they are instituted. The department issued over 75 permits for the season.*



# 2006

## Boys & Girls Youth Basketball

During the winter season the Department of Recreation sponsored six citywide leagues. Four youth boys leagues which contains 10 and under Alfred Tavares League, 12 and under Joe Hassett League, 14 and under Marvin Barnes League, and 17 and under Roosevelt Benton League and two youth girl's leagues, which contains 13 and under league and 16 and under league. These divisions have Playoff and Championship, with leagues playing for 18 games scheduled, on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. All leagues were played at Providence College Alumni Hall and girl's played at Neutaconkanut Recreation Center with award ceremonies and pizza parties. This year there were 560 youth that participated in basketball leagues.



### **Boys 10 and Under League**

Champion: Vincent Brown  
Runners-Up: West End

### **Joe Hassett League (12 & Under)**

Champions: Neutaconkanut Recreation  
Runners-Up: John Hope

### **Marvin Barnes League (14 & Under)**

Champions: Joslin Recreation  
Runners-Up: John Hope Settlement House

### **Boys 16 & Under League**

Champions: John Hope  
Runners-Up: Zuccolo Recreation Center

### **Girls 13 & Under League**

Champions: Zuccolo Recreation Center  
Runners-Up: Vincent Brown

### **Girls 16 & Under League**

Champions: Zuccolo Recreation  
Runners-Up: Met School

# Boys High School Summer



*The Providence Recreation Boys High School Basketball League played twelve regular season games, plus playoffs and a championship game. The games were held at the Johnson & Wales University on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings from 5:30- 9:00 pm. Listed are teams who participated in the league.*

*Saint Rays, Central High, Classical High, Cranston East, Feinstein, Bishop Hendreken, Hope High, Mount Pleasant High, Moses Brown, Wheeler, North Smithfield High, and Exeter/West Greenwich. The teams were coached by high school coaches and officiated by certified referees. The winner of this year's championship game was Feinstein High School.*



2006

## **Girls Summer Basketball League**

*The Providence Recreation Girls High School Basketball league played a twelve game schedule, with playoffs and championship games. Girls from all over the state came to compete at the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center on Monday's and Wednesday's evenings from 5:30 – 10:00 pm. The following is a list of teams that participated in the league:*

*Central High, Classical High, Cranston West & East High Schools, LaSalle Academy Mount Pleasant High, North Kingston High, Ponagansett High, Saint Mary's Bay View, Saint Raphael, Tollgate High and Smithfield High School. Like the boy's league, the coaches were from the high schools, and all games were officiated by certified referees. Saint May's Bay View won the league champions.*



## ***Summer Lunch Program:***

*The Federal Summer Lunch Program continues to be one of the largest summer food programs in the state. The program is 91% of the state's entire summer program. The program offers lunch each day during the course of July and August for over 120 sites all over the city. The daily averages for the program year were: 3000 breakfasts and 6300 lunches served daily. This is approximately 47,000 meals served weekly during the summer.*



*The department is able to employ well over two hundred youth and adults to assist with the overall facilitation of the program. This includes: meal preparation, meal packaging, meals boxed and shipped to the various sites around the city. This program is sponsored by the State Department of Education and the Federal Government and is 100% reimbursable for the service provided.*

*The department has expanded services to include the city of East Providence in 2004 and Pawtucket and Cranston have also requested our services in times of need. The program has been recognized locally by the State Department of Education and has also received regional recognition in 2002.*

*Overall, the program is an extension of the school meal programs. The meals provide for all children and could be the only nutritious meal they receive on a daily basis. The program has to meet strict federal guidelines that mandate essential elements that each lunch must have. In order to be reimbursed for the meals, all meals must meet these guidelines. The program's main operating facility is located at Bridgham Middle Street School.*

## ***Camp Cronin:***

*The Providence Recreation Department had another successful summer season at the city owned facility located in Point Judith. During the months of July and August of 2005, the camp was scheduled weekdays for the Senior Citizens, neighborhood non-profit and various organizations that participated. A normal camp experience could include arriving at the facility at 10:00 am and taking a nice walk down to the oceanfront for a glimpse of Block Island on a clear day. This view is worth the trip alone.*

*After a morning on the oceanfront, the staff at the camp will greet you with a daily cookout that includes hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and soda. After lunch depending on the age of the group, numerous activities can be arranged. These include:*

- *Scenic tour of Galilee and Narragansett*
- *Trip to the beach*
- *Field activities at the camp(spacious open green space)*
- *Special trip to the ice-cream stand*



*For the summer of 2006, the facility has additional groups scheduled to use Camp Cronin in hope to expand the overall use of the facility for various city departmental functions.*

*Overall, the camp had a daily average of 35-40 participants. For this summer season, the department has impacted over 1600 city residents who have visited the camp. For some, this field day is something they experience on a yearly basis, for inner-city children, this trip leaves a lasting impression.*



*It is our intent to test a pilot rental program for use of the camp on Saturdays and Sundays when there are no scheduled activities. The idea is to begin thinking of ways to add general revenue to our budget, which can be used at the camp for items needed currently. The long-range plan (and part of our Strategic Plan) is to develop a committee that will formulate definite plans to regenerate interest in Camp Cronin.*

## **NFL/JPD**

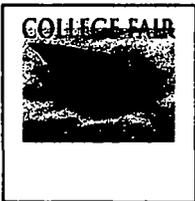
*The Providence Recreation Department held it's Third Annual National Football League/Junior Player Development Camp at Bryant University, July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>. Each participant received two weeks of fundamental instructions, equipment and a trip to the New England Patriots Training Camp at Gillette Stadium.*

*The camp had over 90 participants, and was held daily from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Transportation was provided each day. The highlight for the participants, was a group photo with the Patriots running back Cory Dillon.*



## **College Fairs**

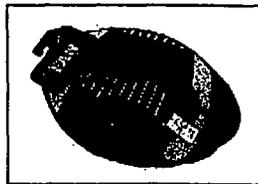
*Youth in all our sport leagues were invited to attend College Fairs and campus information at: URI, CCRI and RIC.*



## *Events*

*Youth in many of our Recreation Centers were the recipients of tickets and attended various events such as:*

- *Celtic Regular*
- *Playoff basketball games at the Fleet Center in Boston*
- *URI, Brown, CCRI and RIC basketball and football games*
- *Golf at Buttonhole*
- *Theatre at Trinity*



## ***Special Events and Activities 2006***

*Evenings in the Neighborhood cookouts were held throughout the summer at the municipal pools, as well as Fox Point Boys and Girls Club, Billy Taylor Park, Regent Avenue Playground, George J West Park and Fagnoli Park.*



*Residents enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and chips provided by the Recreation Department. Entertainment included: Twyce, Puppet Shows, Face Painting, Young Fish Drumming School of Music, Lane Acres Petting Zoo and Twin Willow Stables. (Pony Rides)*

### ***Thanksgiving***



*Due to the generosity of Administrative Staff of the Recreation Department, once again this year the families that reside in the Sutterfield(Old Arbor Glen) and Maplewood Terrace Apartments will once again be given turkeys along with assorted food items to help make their holiday special.*

### ***Halloween & Christmas***



*In 2006, various centers will be making their annual trip to the Factory of Terror and will be holding their annual Halloween parties.*

*Again this year with the generosity of the Marine Corps Toy for Tots Program, the recreation centers will be able to pass toys out to inner-city children. Each of our 10 centers will host their annual Christmas party.*



### ***Easter Egg Hunts***

*Easter Egg Hunts were held at various sites across the city. Along with Easter Egg Hunts, children who attended these events were given toy and candy filled Easter Baskets.*

### ***Take a Kid Fishing***

*Under the direction of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association, the Providence Recreation Department was able to take 60 children from local recreation centers. This program is fairly new to the department and we look forward to continuing in the years to come.*



## ***Activities and Accomplishment since July 2005***

- ***Continued support to all recreation centers via regular visits and meetings both at those centers and the main office.***
- ***With the support of Bank of America - PASA completed the City Wide Youth Basketball Leagues at Providence College (Tavares, Barnes, and Benton Leagues.***
- ***We will name the 10 & under league after Roosevelt Benton.***
- ***All coaches attended the Principals of Positive Coaching Training.***
- ***Worked with Dr. Walker (RIC) to develop a coaches operations manual reflecting the attempt to put fun first for all youth.***
- ***Required attendance of all players to see and discuss the movie "Coach Carter" with the head coaches from the Providence Public High Schools.***
- ***Received a donation of a full sized handicapped school bus from the Free Wheelers Association. We are working with the City Arts Program to consider how to use this bus and create a mobile traveling arts program for youth in the Recreation Centers, and local Parks where centers are not located during the summer months.***
- ***Held meetings with little leagues to discuss and plan increased services to all youth of the city playing baseball.***
- ***For a fee, (\$10,000.00) worked with the North End Collaborative to set up a Providence Day Camp experience for their youth exclusively at Adventure Camp (Roger Williams Park). This money went into programs or equipment needed for the department.***

***With the above monies we purchased some of the following sorely needed items of which have been delivered or we are awaiting delivery:***

- 1. Freezer for storage of all delivered food for all the daily needs at Camp Cronin, Evenings in the Neighborhood, etc.***
- 2. Canopies and umbrellas for all the pools to provide shade to prevent skin cancer.***
- 3. Volleyball poles and nets, horseshoes, bocce, baseball gloves, bases, bats, table games and soccer balls for Camp Cronin***
- 4. Program support for possible City Sail (with North Providence Recreation Department) and soccer opportunities to be developed with Providence High School & RIC's coaches.***

***Annual Report Providence Recreation 2006  
Submitted by Anthony Heywood, Deputy Director***

*2006 for the department has seen continued emphasis placed on development and growth, in the areas of professionalism and infrastructure. In 06, all department staff were required to attend non-violence training provided by the Institute for the study of Non-Violence Key staff members attended the (Building Exemplary Systems for Training), provided by the Best Initiative training institute, youth worker certification program.*

*The ten center directors and their support staff teams attended trainings for an internet based tracking tool called Youth Services. Net. This program allows staff to track participation of youth, measure program quality, and identify trends.*

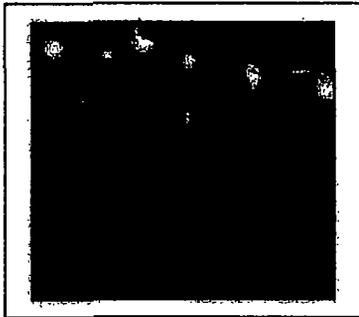
*2006 also saw an increase in programming directed at middle school youth in partnership with PASA (Providence After School Alliance). At two centers a collaborative effort with the Providence Police Department, PASA, and our department produced programming for youth that often fall through the cracks through no fault of their own; and more often experience a lack of choices. This program was called PAL (Police Activity League).*

*Moving forward the department is emphasizing branding and customer service at the ten recreation centers located around the city. In the weeks to come we will be launching a pilot program in five centers with the above mentioned goals in mind. Consistency in appearance, level of service, and program delivery are the benchmarks we intend to measure.*

*With a continued effort towards collaboration, new and non-traditional activities, and upgrades in quality and service; the citizens of Providence have lot's to look forward to from this department...*

# *Individual Recreation Center*

## *Reports*



# **JOSLIN RECREATION CENTER**

***Director: William O'Brien***

*The Joslin Recreation Center is operated by William O'Brien. During the summer months hundreds of children can go swimming in the pool and receive free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program.*

*This winter the recreation center offered the following programs:*

*Basketball, Soccer, Hockey, Team Scatter, Wiffleball, Board Games and Field Trips between the hours of 3:00-5:00 pm.*

*One day a week the Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Program provided volley-ball and scatter for middle school children.*

*Joslin also had two basketball teams in the Providence Recreation Leagues, ages 12-14 and 15-16. The 12-14 year old division won the city championship the first time in 19 years.*

*The following organizations used our gym during the year:*

*PASA, Joslin Community Development Corporation (JCDC), St. Teresa's Church, Olneyville Community School, William Da'Bate School, Mexican Soccer League, Bolivian Soccer League and Joslin Kids Soccer.*

*The summer offered programs such as swim lessons, free swim, field trips to Camp Cronin and Wheeler Beach, Neighborhood Cook-Outs, Joslin Kids Soccer Program and free lunch provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program. Other groups that used the pool were: Joslin Community Development Corp., Manton Heights, Hartford Heights, Olneyville City Camp, Sackett Recreation Center and C.I.T.E. Handicap School.*

## ***Neutaconkanut Recreation Center***

*Director: Raymond Tessaglia*

*This recreation center serves the residents of the Silver Lake area of Providence, has open recreation Monday-Friday with activities such as basketball, soccer, whiffleball, kickball, dodgeball, and rollerblading.*

*The Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Program began activities at Neutaconkanut for middle school children. These activities include touch football, basketball, soccer and martial arts.*

*During the month of June, July and August, the facility, one of the busiest in the city, is host to hundreds of residents using the pool and water parks. The center is host to the department's Girls High School Summer Basketball League and Women's Adult Basketball League. Two neighborhood cookouts were held here this year.*

*The center is located in the heart of Silver Lake and accommodates several outside organizations. These groups include: Silver Lake Little League, Times 2 Academy, The Rhode Island Breakers, Silver Lake Young Men's Association, Providence School Department, and the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office to name a few.*



## ***West End Recreation Center***

*Director: Clifton Watkins*

*The West End Recreation Center located on the West Side of Providence, services youth and adults living in the West End and South Providence area.*

*Activities included cooking class, Saturday Morning Cartoon Breakfast Club, Ice Skating, Flag Football, Kickball and Arts & Crafts.*

*The West End Basketball Leagues are for boys and girls 8-18 years of age. West The Zuccolo End also offers Co-Ed Softball, Cheerleading and Dance Team. Summer at the West End is busy with the pool being open seven days a week. Hundreds enjoy hot summer days by the pool, along with free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program. Summer comes to an end with the annual West End Evening in the Neighborhood Cookout where residents can enjoy food and live entertainment provided by the Recreation Department. Outside*

*organizations that have used our facilities are, San Miguel School, Elmwood Community School, Intruders Cheerleaders, New Force Steppers and XNA Wrestling, just to name a few.*

## ***Angelo Zuccolo Recreation Center***

***Director: Jackie Poulios***

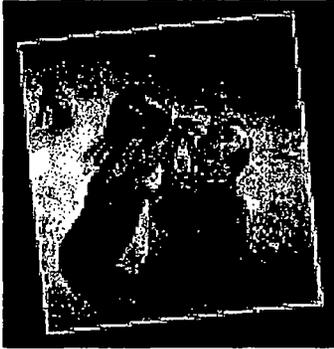
*The Zuccolo Recreation Center, located at 18 Gesler Street in Federal Hill, enjoyed a very successful year under Director Jackie Poulios and his staff. The center fielded 7 youth basketball teams for boys and girls ranging in age 7 -18 years of age. Three of those teams won city championships. The Girls Junior Division (11-13) and Girls Senior Division (14-16) teams won city titles. The Senior Girls finished undefeated at 10-0. The Boys Senior Division Team (17-18 years old) also finished undefeated at 10-0 winning their first city title since 1980! All three teams were treated to trophies, jackets, proclamations and a wonderful banquet. The Men's Alumni Wiffleball League continued its 13-year tradition with an exciting championship series and its First Annual All Star Game and Skills Competition. The center also enjoyed field trips, which have included a trip to see neighborhood boxing hero Peter Manfredo, Jr.'s knockout of Scott Pemberton at the Dunkin Donuts Center for "The Contender". Forty Zuccolo children saw the fight free of charge. Manfredo also treated the children to free apparel and more, as he was a lifeguard at the pool all summer.*

*Other programs included the Zuccolo Center/Federal Hill Gazette Student Athlete of the Month Scholarship, as well as a GED program called Zuccolo U-Turn. Outreach has included the successful Providence After School Alliance (PASA) Volleygirls Program as well as collaborating services with the John Hope Settlement House, the Federal Hill House and the Textron/Chamber's Academy. The center also enjoys its own sports page in the local newspaper called "Zuccolo Sports" in the Federal Hill Gazette.*

## ***Kennedy Recreation Center***

***Director: Steven Beraducci***

*Kennedy Recreation Center is located at the Robert F. Kennedy School, serving the Elmhurst Neighborhood. The Kennedy Center supports area activities involving the youth of the community. These activities include; Providence Intramural Basketball League and Elmhurst Little League registration and tryouts.*



*Hundreds of area residents once again enjoyed the Fagnoli Water Park this summer, along with free lunches provided by the Federal Summer Lunch Program.*

## ***Madeline Rogers Recreation Center***

***Director: Karl Brown***

*The Madeline Rogers Recreation Center, located in the Smith Hill section of Providence, has a new outdoor volleyball court, walking track and a new play structure. This will compliment the recreation facility, and the outdoor pool. Hasbro Children's Hospital, Providence Schools, Allstate Foundation and Parks & Recreation Departments sponsored this project.*

*Smith Hill Community Development Corporation has collaborated this summer on extending services to the children of Smith Hill.*

*This year Madeline Rogers Recreation Center was the host for the Mayor's Cup Little League's presentation barbeque on August 28<sup>th</sup>.*

*The North End Community Learning Collaborative used the outdoor pool during the summer and was provided with swimming lessons.*

*Gospel Tabernacle Outreach Ministries Inc. used the facility for a week for sporting activities for the children in summer camp.*

*Glory Dei Lutheran Church used this facility for two weeks for their summer camp utilizing the pool and the gym for their day camp.*

*The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Joe Hassett Sr. Day on July 15, 2006, a day of food and beverages, live entertainment and sporting events.*

*The following is a list of other youth organizations that used:*

- Mount Hope Summer Camp (pool)*
- Vincent Brown Recreation Center (pool)*
- Capital City Community Center (pool)*
- Sackett Street Recreation Center (pool)*
- Goodwill Industries (gym class)*
- Catholic Youth Organization (winter basketball league)*
- Saint Patrick's Church (pool)*
- Urban League summer program working in Regent Ave. Park*
- Providence Housing (pool)*
- Smith Hill Day Care (pool)*

*Madeline Rogers Recreational Facilities is the focal point of the majority of positive recreation activities in the Smith Hill neighborhood and will continue for the up-coming year.*

## ***Vincent Brown Recreation Center***

***Director: Thomas Spann***

*During the school year the Vincent Brown Recreation Center offered the children in the Mount Hope/East Side community an after school program from 2:30-5:30 pm. This program was for boys and girls ages 6-12. Activities offered were homework help, swimming at the East Side/Mount Hope YMCA, table-top games, arts and crafts and movies. In the gym the children played basketball, soccer, scatter, kickball, relay races, and capture the flag.*

*In the summer months the center offers an eight week day camp for boys and girls ages 6-12. The camp hours were 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. We provided breakfast and lunch from the Federal Summer Lunch Program. We used the recreation center and Hope High School athletic fields, tennis courts, the pool at the East Side/Mount Hope YMCA and Rogers Recreation Center. Field trips were taken once a week, there were 50 campers enrolled in the program. The water park was open seven days a week, weather permitting, and the Urban League program was offered at Billy Taylor Park, Monday – Thursday, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.*

### ***Sports Teams:***

- *Boys Basketball ages 10 and Under (back to back city champions of the Providence Recreation League)*
- *Boys Basketball ages 11-12*
- *Girls Basketball 14 & under (city champions summer of 2005 and runner up winter 2006)*
- *Providence Cobras Track & Field/Cross Country for boys and girls ages 8-18 (two members qualified for the Outdoor Track & Field Junior Olympics in Baltimore, and two girls qualified for the Hershey National Meet in Hershey Pennsylvania)*
- *Practices were held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday's at 6:00 pm at Hope High School during the spring and summer, and at Moses Brown School during the winter*

### ***Special Events:***

*Christmas Party, Halloween Party and the Evening in the Neighborhood Cookout.*

*Services are provided for the following groups:*

*East Side YMCA      Mount Hope Head Start      Victory Christian Academy  
Mexican Soccer League      Mount Hope Cowboys      Whitmarsh House  
East Side Women's Basketball      Girl Scouts      East Side After Zone*

## ***Sackett Street Recreation Center***

***Director: James Clements***

*Youth participating in activities at Sackett Street Recreation Center are fortunate to be a part of the Kids Café Program. The goal of this program is to help with the nutritional needs for the kids in the Elmwood/South Providence community. As a member of the RI Community Food Bank, we have developed Kids Café, a program that provides wholesome, nutritious meals, evenings and Saturday mornings to needy children, supplementing the Federal School Breakfast and School Lunch Programs. Community Outreach Kids Café will serve between 70 and 100 children, Monday – Saturday each week. We feel that a healthy body will develop a strong mind and every little bit counts. Most of the people in the group volunteer at least three hours in a day working with the kids in the neighborhood and we know and see the importance of the programs that we have developed. We see the need to feed the kids that would most likely go to bed and wake up hungry, without the support of neighbors such as this group.*

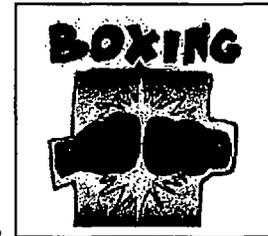


*The goal is to eradicate hunger and to support after school programs in the City of Providence or at least the South Providence/Elmwood Community section. We hope to encourage the kids to stay in school and become responsible for the growth and development of the community in which they live and play in. We have seen an increase in the number of kids participating in the after school program and athletic program at the Sackett Street/Elmwood Community Center. We feel by having a nutritional meal and safe educational environment the overall community will continue to grow, crime and drug use will decrease and kids will stay in school. As a bonus incentive we take the kids to the movies, skating, bowling or seasonal events. We pay for the entrance fee and snacks. We give out special awards to kids with high marks on their report cards and perfect attendance in school. We have a monthly birthday celebration for everyone that is born during that particular month. The staff at Sackett Street Recreation Center have set goals to provide the youth in the area with the opportunity to learn more about the cultural diversity of people that live in this neighborhood (past & present). Another goal is to maintain a safe and healthy environment. The parents that can't afford after school day care or work late, appreciate the effort of the center for providing not only the after school education program but especially the nutritional program.*

## **Davey Lopes Recreation Center**

**Director: George Lindsey**

*The Davey Lopes Center located at 227 Dudley Street provides year round programming to upper and lower South Providence and West End. Davey Lopes provides an After School Program (ASP) for youth 5-15 years old during the school year and enrollment is free. The ASP provides homework help and subject strengthening along with a ton of fun activities and trips throughout the school year. Supported by two different computer labs, the ASP also offers youth the opportunity to complete homework and access to high-speed internet from eight lap top computers donated by Brown University or from ten newly donated desk top computers from G-Tech Advantage Computer Lab. During the fall and winter months Davey Lopes offers a variety of activities to all city youth. August and September signals football season and South Side Saints Football and Cheerleaders are available for all youth from the city. October will bring the start of wrestling season and Providence Youth Boxing Club "Learn to Box" boxing program. A newly renovated former indoor pool provides space, over 3500 square feet for youth in the city to learn the art of boxing free of charge.*



*Also during this fall and winter Davey Lopes will be part of the "Upper South Side/West End Afterzone". The center will provide several Afterzone offerings this fall and winter including "Music One" music program. Music One is housed at Davey Lopes and provides year round opportunity for youth in and around the city to write, produce and perform original songs and poems. Music One has a studio in the center and records and produces several CD's a year. Davey Lopes Basketball Program begins early in November and provides several teams for boys and girls from 6-16 years old. All teams play in the City's recreation league.*

*During the summer months Davey Lopes converts from a gym to a pool throughout the summer. We hire over thirty teenagers from the city to help run our outdoor pool throughout the summer. The pool services between 200-300 children and adults daily. The hours of operation for the Davey Lopes Pool will be 2:00 – 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday for the 2007 summer season. In addition to the pool the Davey Lopes Summer Day Care runs an eight week camp for 30-40 children. The camp does some academic strengthening along with an array of activities and Friday all day trips.*

*Davey Lopes has plans to build several new programs this fall and winter in collaboration with several organizations and individuals. Things like dance and acrobatics as well as video production are great interest to the youth of the center and will be offered very soon.*

## **South Providence Recreation Center**

**Director: Cedric Huntley**

*South Providence Recreation Center (SPRC) is marking 7 years of serving the residents of Ward 10 and host of community organizations throughout the city. As SPRC's site director I am privileged to work with a dedicated group of professional directors and seasonal staff that make this Center a safe and clean facility for our city youth and guest. We have worked hard as a team to develop structure in all the programs we provide and host. Trust, Honesty and Respect are SPRC's core qualities for personal success.*

*We are proud to host our 6<sup>th</sup> year of after school programming for 1-6 grade youth; where we provide a homework help program. Thirty-five youth participated in a successful City Arts program and displayed their work for the Mayor at a public sponsored program. Our youth worked with students from Brown and RISD and learned valuable art lessons, and personal life skills. We hosted five teams in Providence Recreation Youth and John Hope Basketball Leagues. Over thirty-five youth participated in a Bowling challenge with Sackett Street Recreation Center.*

*As site director, I supervised Al Carrington, and Harriett & Sayles water-park's summer staff and South Providence Camp summer staff. SPRC Summer Camp continues to be an integral part of our programming as we registered and served sixty youth this past season. Youth participated in our reading, City Arts Program and summer fun from bowling, movies, skating, water-parks, pools, and beaches. Our Tae Kwan Do Program has successfully trained 15 students to receive yellow, red and green belts. We hosted the Roosevelt "Bells" Benton Men's Basketball League. Eight teams and over 80 players participated in the winter and spring tournament. Providence Soccer League has over 30 teams and three hundred players participating in Indoor Soccer at SPRC. We have hosted the Dominican Games, Youth Baseball Opening Day, Rebound Foundation, Basketball Clinics, Workshops, PASA Trainings, Recreation Meetings, Yoga, Football Registration, South Side Saints, Muslim Community Organization, Oasis International Summer Bash, AAU Team Providence, New Wave Karate Organization, International Karate Tournaments, (2), Hmong United Association of RI, Team Dances, Times 2 Academy, Community Prep School, and Woods Young Elementary School's Holiday Party. SPRC provides gym space for Woods Young School and use of our community room or art classes. We have had city and neighborhood meetings and provided space for baby showers, community cookouts and family reunions.*

*In the past year we have had over twenty thousand guests visit or participate in activities at SPRC. I am privileged and honored to be a part of the City Renaissance and look forward to another successful year in the Recreation Department as Director of the South Providence Center.*

# Department of Vital Statistics

Ernesto Figueroa, Director

**Department of Vital Statistics**  
**Annual Report Fiscal Year 2005-2006**

The Department of Vitals Statistics maintains records of birth, death, and marriage certificates for the City of Providence. The department also issues permits for people to marry. The department provides certified copies of these records for a fee. The primary function of the department is to maintain copies of original documents of birth, death and marriage certificates. To file these records, we use microfilm for May 1903-1992, microfiche holds the records for May 1974-1992. Binders are used for the hard copies of these documents. The Department currently has 1,452 binders for these records.

**Budget**

The Department of Vital Statistic's budget for the fiscal year **2005-2006** was **\$218,197**. **\$197,296** was expended on salaries, sick leave, vacation, and longevity; the remainder of the budget **\$21,000** was expended on department supplements such as postage, printing, office equipment repairs, office equipment rentals, stationary, chemical laboratory supplies, dues, and miscellaneous services.

**Revenues**

The Department of Vital Statistics collected **\$314, 592** in revenue during fiscal year **2005-2006**. Please note that this total reflects only City revenue, while the chart below includes totals from the State of Rhode Island as well. According to data provided by the Finance Department, this revenue was generated from the issuance of the following: marriage licenses, birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates and other certified certificates. The following chart details the revenue for each of these items.

Year	Month	Customers	Revenue	Birth-Full	Birth-Wallet	Death Certificates	Marriage Certificates	Marriage Licenses
2005	July	1382	\$36,983.00	1023	83	1398	175	127
2005	August	1702	\$41,959.00	1320	109	1299	187	194
2005	September	1294	\$34,412.00	988	42	1397	150	132
2005	October	1192	\$31,337.37	954	32	1277	115	103
2005	November	1149	\$33,622.00	892	45	1511	120	89
2005	December	1167	\$34,176.50	960	41	1532	106	74
2006	January	1392	\$37,435.00	1112	79	1441	194	83
2006	February	1282	\$33,855.00	1064	35	1265	124	89

Year	Month	Customers	Revenue	Birth-Full	Birth-Wallet	Death Certificates	Marriage Certificates	Marriage Licenses
2006	March	1552	\$42,412.00	1282	60	1671	159	103
2006	April	1218	\$35,187.00	884	69	1653	149	84
2006	May	1369	\$38,085.00	957	67	1575	211	126
2006	June	1414	\$37,192.00	1033	70	1366	209	138
Total		16113	\$436,655.87	12469	732	17385	1899	1342

### **Staff**

The Staff of the Department of Vital Statistics is as follows:

City Registrar-Director

Chief Clerk-Supervisor

Senior Clerk II-Staff Member

Senior Clerk-Staff Member

Clerk Bilingual-Staff Member

### **Accomplishments Fiscal Year 2005-2006**

1. **The department has increased in technology:** We have put in computer all the forms that normally we use for the issuance of our records. We have the birth, death and marriage certificate forms on a template in the computer, that template help us to issue the records quickly and more accurate as well eliminate the use of the obsolete typewriters.
2. **The department has improved the delivery of customer service:** A voice mail system has been implemented for after hours request for documents. An express pick up advance line has been instituted for documents that are requested through the voice mail system. All order forms have been translated to Spanish. The Department of Vital Statistics has a bi-lingual web site on the cities main web site. Parking permit fliers are available for Funeral Home customers. This permit allows these customers to be able to park for 15 minutes on the side of City Hall without incident. The staffs have attended a 6-hour customer service training that was sponsored by the Department of Labor and Training.
3. **The department has increased its network with the State Department of Vital Statistics:** The VR-2000 Program connects the State Department of Vital Statistics and all 39 Cities and Town in the State of Rhode Island. Through this network program we are able to issue birth certificates for children who are born in other cities and towns in the State of Rhode Island. That program has been in operation since April 28, 2004
4. **Board of Canvassers:** The department has collaborated with the Board of Canvassers by providing the board with a list of deceased residents. During this fiscal year 2005-2006. This information enables the Board of Canvassers to update the voter rolls on a regular schedule. Significantly reducing the margin for error during and election cycle that is already here.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion this report is designed to present a comprehensive overview of the Department of Vital Statistics for the administration to review and provide feedback for improvements in any areas of which they see fit. The staff and I have worked diligently to meet the goals that were set at the beginning of fiscal year 2005-2006. Some items remain outstanding and will continue to be part of the development plan for fiscal year 2006-2007. I have managed my department with the belief that there is always room for improvement and growth. This year I hope to exceed the expectations, which I have outlined for the Department, and continue to provide quality service to the residents that access this office for the documents, which they need.