**WASHINGTON PARK AND SOUTH ELMWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN MAP**

On May 31, 2006, Mayor Cicilline and the City Council announced the creation of Providence Tomorrow: an innovative and inclusive planning process designed to create a strong, aligned, and sustainable future for the City of Providence. Providence Tomorrow has engaged residents, business leaders, and city officials in a collaborative effort to create a comprehensive plan for the City. The City adopted a new Comprehensive Plan, and the Department of Planning and Development has begun detailed planning studies in each of the City’s neighborhoods.

Providence has 25 distinct neighborhoods, each with unique character and identity. While neighborhoods share many features, each has its own set of planning challenges and concerns. An important part of Providence Tomorrow is the development of detailed, neighborhood-level plans that identify and prioritize neighborhood-specific planning goals and needs.

This map is a summary of the information that was collected from residents, business owners, and neighborhood youth over the course of an intensive week of many public meetings. The planning teams collected all of the information from the week, and drafted an action plan that was presented at a follow-up meeting in May 2007.

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**Improve neighborhood connections to Roger Williams Park**
- Enhance the pedestrian experience on the Hamlin Street/Temple Avenue bridge by creating a new pathway for pedestrians.
- Enhance pedestrian safety by adding new crosswalks as part of the Elmwood Avenue resurfacing project.
- Enhance the overspill along Elmwood Avenue as a gateway to the park.
- Develop a recreational trail network in the park, such as an off-road bike path and signed recreational trails.
- Work with RIPTA to extend the Gold Line Trolley to the zoo entrance and stopping at major destinations such as the carousel and botanical center.
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**Improve connections to, coordination with, and involvement with Johnson and Wales University**
- Work with JWU and Cranston to improve the physical connection between the neighborhoods and the waterfront by upgrading existing infrastructure, such as the crosswalks, bike paths, and sidewalks.
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**Improve access to, and programming of Columbia Park.**
- Create a “friends of Columbia Park” group to care for the park and initiate park improvement projects.
- Investigate the feasibility of creating neighborhood centers to work in the park.
- Work with the local district commander and JWU to increase police and JWU security patrols of the park.
- Develop a vision for future programming and access to the park.

**Preserve and re-activate the Washington Park Branch Library building.**
- Work with the Providence Public Library to reopen a neighborhood branch library at the Washington Park Branch Library building.
- Identify improvements for the plaza in front of the library and community center to activate the space and reduce conflicts between cars and children.

**Create a buffer of high-density housing along Carolina Avenue between the industrial park to the north and the medium-density residential neighborhood to the south.**

**Maintain and improve the Washington Park “ManuCenter” as a neighborhood job center.**
- Work with the Providence Economic Development Partnership to meet with business owners to understand their needs, concerns, and issues.
- Identify ways to improve the natural environment with street trees, landscape buffering green roofs, and other strategies that could enhance existing businesses.
- Amend the Zoning Ordinance to designate the industrial park as a “Jobs Only” district.
- Prioritize industrial and manufacturing uses in the ManuCenter over commercial, office, and other uses.
- Maintain and improve the transit service to the industrial park along Allens Avenue and Eddy Street.
- Identify changes to truck traffic patterns that will minimize impacts on the adjacent residential neighborhood.

**Work with RIOT to maintain and re-strip existing bike lanes along Allens Avenue and Narragansett Boulevard.**

**Consider rezoning the Waterfront Mixed-Use/Neighborhood area south of Ernest Street to allow for waterfront port and maritime uses to promote the Port of Providence and related maritime industrial and commercial uses.**

**Develop a new transfer station/recycling station at the Port of Providence.**

**Improve access to and programming of Drummond Field.**
- Work with JWU to identify potential access and shared parking improvements to the park.
- Establish pedestrian and bicycle access to Drummond Field from New York and Indiana avenues.
- Develop a vision for future programming.

**Amend the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance from Public Space/Open Space to Waterfront to Port to allow for the expansion of ProvPort in this location.**

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