

City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No.

Approved

Sponsor: Yurdin

Meeting Date: February 17, 2011

A Resolution in Support of the Use of “Complete Streets” in the City of Providence

RESOLVED, that

WHEREAS, streets constitute a large and valuable portion of the public space; and

WHEREAS, streets need to be accessible, convenient, and connected corridors for all transportation modes and users that complement and support adjoining land uses, buildings, and community character; and

WHEREAS, streets that integrate and invite multiple transportation choices contribute to the public life of a community, sustainable economic development, and efficient movement of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, encouraging non-motorized transportation provides residents with mobility options, reduces transportation costs, enhances community connections, improves public health, advances environmental stewardship, reduces fuel consumption, and maximizes the use roadway infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” are those that provide safe and convenient access for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists of all ages and abilities, and

WHEREAS, bicyclist and pedestrian safety on Providence roadways is a major concern, and City officials are reviewing options to protect pedestrians and travelers of all types, “Complete Streets” are linked to enhanced safety overall, and for bicyclists and pedestrians in particular; and

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” concepts are compatible with *Providence Tomorrow: The Interim Comprehensive Plan*, which stresses a balance of transportation options that afford equal road access and representation to bicycles, pedestrians, motorized traffic, and public transit; and

WHEREAS, the Plan aims for streets and their users to be in harmony with the environment through sustainable design principles, and orienting buildings toward streets, and also stresses the element of safety through education, and providing defined space for users of various modes of transportation, such as striped bicycle paths; and

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” concepts are compatible with the Providence Zoning Ordinance, which includes building and site guidelines designed to make development accessible to different modes of transportation, and to orient development toward the right of way; landscaping guidelines to ensure greenery and pervious surface is integrated into city streets; and requires technical review of projects with input from public transportation and traffic representatives to ensure equal transportation access and efficient circulation; and

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” concepts are compatible with the City Plan Commission’s Development Review Regulations which require new development to meet the standards of access to incorporate various modes of transportation and to ensure that it is in harmony with the existing street and the zone that it is located in.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE does hereby encourage the Providence Department of Planning and Development, and the Providence Department of Public Works, to continue to use “Complete Streets” concepts in the planning and redevelopment of transportation related infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Planning & Development, as it develops plans and ordinances, reviews development projects, and funds transportation and other infrastructure, is requested to incorporate “Complete Streets” principles into such initiatives, and to review the principles with other City departments that are responsible for implementing such initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That upon approval, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Director of the Department of Planning & Development, the Director of Public Works, the City Engineer, the Traffic Engineer, the Chief of the Fire Department, the Chief of the Police Department, the Chair of the Historic District Commission, the Chair of the Downcity Design Review Committee, the Chair of the Capital Center Commission, the Chair of the Zoning Board of Review, and the Chair of the City Plan Commission.