

**CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES**

Date: August 26, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: City Hall, Room 306

Present: Michael Robinson (Chair), Michelle Rockwell, Bob Gagnon, Eric Crook, Christopher Grant, James Moran (staff) and Patrick Hanner (staff).

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. NEW BUSINESS,

For discussion, consideration, and/or action (vote), regarding the following matters:

A. Continuation of public hearing to consider recommendation to the City Council on the proposed adoption of the new 2024 East Providence Comprehensive Plan. The preparation, revision, and adoption of this 2024 Comprehensive Plan are considered in accordance with the provisions of RIGL Chapter 22.2, the Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning & Land Use Regulation Act.

The proposed plan under consideration will update in its entirety the prior 2010 Comprehensive Plan, including the following chapters: Housing, Economic Development, City Services and Facilities, Transportation and Connectivity, Recreation, Natural Resources, Natural Hazards and Climate Change, History, Culture and the Arts, Sustainability, Waterfront District, Land Use, and Implementation.

Chairman Robinson stated he is in agreement with all of staff comments and the comments that were received by the public summarized in the staff memorandum dated August 23, 2024. Ms. Moravec is in full agreement with staff's recommendations of the proposed revisions. Mr. Moran explained to the Planning Board that it was a collaborative effort among staff and Ms. Moravec to revise the latest version of the comprehensive plan with the comments received from the comments received from the Planning Board members and public.

Ms. Rockwell asked why the Housing Element is not using the most recent data. Mr. Moran explained that there will be opportunities to update the table and charts using more recent data, however during the drafting of the plan, the most recent data that was available was used.

Mr. Crook discussed adding reforestation language to the Conservation Element. The Board discussed a variety of current City initiatives regarding tree planting and urban forest management. After discussion among the Board and Staff, Mr. Crook withdrew his recommendation to add a section on reforestation to the plan.

On a motion by Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Gagnon, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the 2024 East Providence Comprehensive Plan for City Council adoption with the recommended edits detailed in Staff's August 23, 2024 memo.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Robinson announced the next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2024.

cc: Mayor Roberto DaSilva
Director of Public Works
City Engineer
City Solicitor
Fire Chief
Zoning Officer