

Existing Providence Economic Development Recommendations by Category

	Regulatory, Tax, and Business Climate	Housing and Infrastructure	Education, Employment, and Job Training
<p align="center">"Putting Providence Back to Work" - Mayor Taveras's Plan (Issued 3/27/13)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freeze commercial real estate tax rate for 7 years 2. Work with General Assembly to reestablish state Historic Preservation Investment Tax Credit 3. Outreach campaign to promote participation in state tax incentive programs 4. Establish new permitting department subgroup focused on small-permit application review 5. Allow online permit application submissions and status updates 6. Fast-track demolition of projects whose developers commit to redevelopment within 18 months 7. Promote development of existing surface parking areas by providing tax exemptions and phase-ins 8. Conduct a comprehensive review of Providence's zoning ordinance 9. Encourage the state to conduct a comprehensive review of labor, tax, and regulatory policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Partner with Community Development Corporations to rehabilitate abandoned and foreclosed properties 2. Direct Providence Redevelopment Agency to aggressively use tools at its disposal to spur development of key real estate parcels (such as Dynamo House and Arnold Building) 3. Reinvent Kennedy Plaza by moving RIPTA buses away to create a space more attractive to pedestrians and visitors 4. Work with Providence Economic Development Partnership to reimburse main-street-facing small businesses for storefront capital improvements 5. Create a real estate database to market available property in the city 6. Pursue sustainable funding to support a streetcar system 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reform Providence Public Schools to meet new citywide standards for student outcomes and support students from "cradle to career" 2. Expand apprenticeship programs, particularly with an eye towards the working waterfront and creative economy 3. Bring a nursing school to Providence 4. Expand adult education opportunities such as English courses, certificate programs, and GED classes 5. Market Providence's signature brands to bring in tourists and other visitors

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<p>Providence Foundation's Action Plan (Issued 1/16/13)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish "rapid response" permit review team for small projects 2. Hire licensed fire protection engineers to conduct plan reviews 3. Encourage use of state law allowing plan review to be waived if prepared by licensed architect or engineer that will be involved in project construction 4. Designate an ombudsman to guide projects through review process 5. Consider privatizing plan reviews to private sector fire prevention engineers (if legal in RI) 6. Integrate zoning, planning, and other regulatory reviews with fire and permit system 7. Conduct 5 to 10 year fiscal analysis to identify existing and revenue sources and more efficient ways to deliver services and capital improvements 8. Create an equitable tax classification system that brings predictability to the commercial tax structure 9. Clearly define what a competitive tax system looks like 10. Do not increase (and possibly decrease) commercial tax rates in Fiscal Year 2014 11. Reform tax assessment appeal process 12. Reduce reliance on property tax and seek increased state aid 13. Establish a joint city-state program with Providence Chamber to assist prospective companies research and relocate to the city 14. Reestablish the state Historic Preservation Investment Tax Credit 15. Consider real estate tax stabilization programs 16. Consider land value tax system to promote development of surface parking areas 17. Consider "growth center" exemption from property tax cap and tax incremental financing program 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colocate fire and building plan review personnel at 444 Westminster Street 2. Enhance transportation links between Jewlery District, Downtown, Train Station, and Colledge Hill 3. Construct Riverwalk extension, cityWALK, pedestrian bridge, and walkways in Jewlery District 4. Upgrade Providence Amtrak station and surrounding area 5. Reinvent Kennedy Plaza by moving RIPTA buses to a new location and creating a more pedestrian-friendly space 6. Produce a Kennedy Plaza safety and security plan 7. Create a Downtown Providence Parks Network 8. Repair streets and sidewalks, particularly in Financial District 9. Expand Downtown Improvement District landscaping program to include a "gateway into downtown" program 10. Increase RIPTA efficiency and ensure adequate funding 11. Establish a multimodal transportation authority including a parking authority 12. Establish a less costly trolley or enhanced bus route that links with Amtrak station on the proposed streetcar route 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue existing reform efforts of Providence Public Schools 2. Create a research cluster in the Jewlery District through investment by institutions of higher education such as Brown and Johnson and Wales 3. Support planned expansion of Johnson and Wales University and Roger Williams University into Jewlery District 4. Encourage construction of Brown Engineering School and Brain Institute in Jewlery District 5. Bring URI/RIC Nursing School to Jewlery District and create a Public-Private Partnership to promote lab space and R&D facilities 6. Encourage development of lab space and R&D facilities for other biomedical companies in Jewlery District 7. Support providing adequate resources to I-195 Commission and encourage it to begin marketing available land 8. Market Providence downtown to knowledge-based companies 9. Determine suitable locations for knowledge-based firms and provide incentives to lure these firms to Providence

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<p>Providence Tomorrow: The Comprehensive Plan¹ (Issued 8/6/12)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a streamlined, one-stop, predictable system for issuing building, fire, and development permits 2. Conduct an evaluation of existing city ordinances to determine impact on economic competitiveness 3. Expand economic opportunity and the City's economic base by focusing efforts on retaining existing businesses and attracting new businesses 4. Create a business-friendly environment to stimulate the growth of business and the creation of good jobs that improves the quality of life for residents 5. Support the creation and growth of locally-owned businesses that enhance the vitality and quality of life in the city's neighborhoods 6. Work with the State of Rhode Island to strengthen Providence's role as the economic center of the state 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revitalize, modernize, and preserve Providence's housing stock 2. Support the creation of new ownership and rental housing citywide 3. Create new and preserve existing affordable and moderate income rental and home ownership opportunities through the city 4. Promote the maintenance and development of supportive housing - both owner-occupied and rental- to ensure that all residents with special needs have access to safe and affordable housing in all neighborhoods 5. Promote high-quality residential design throughout the city 6. Promote the integration of housing and transit services 7. Work with the state and other local governments to address housing needs in Providence and throughout the state 8. Provide residents, businesses, and employees, and visitors with a variety of transportation options that are safe and convenient 9. Encourage investment in existing modes of transit as well as new transit options, including the RIPTA system, commuter rail, and other new modes to increase mobility for Providence residents, and improve air quality 10. Promote walking for commuting, recreation, and other trips by creating safe and attractive pedestrian environments throughout the city 11. Provide safe and convenient facilities to encourage bicycling for commuting, recreation, and other trips 12. Manage the effectiveness of Providence's roadway network, including its street grid, by investing in operational and reconstruction improvements 13. Develop a citywide comprehensive approach to parking that addresses parking needs both downtown and in the neighborhoods as adequate parking is crucial to the future economic development of the city 14. Plan, design, and invest in transportation infrastructure and systems that support the principal uses within the area, and provide strong interconnections to downtown, the neighborhoods, and other destinations 15. Work with federal and state government agencies to improve Providence's transportation and transit infrastructure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure a skilled workforce that matches the employment opportunities by focusing on workforce needs for advancement, education and training, affordable housing, and transportation options 2. Promote the growth of Providence's knowledge-based economy and leverage that growth to attract, develop, and retain commercial businesses that generate taxes and skilled jobs 	<p>'More specific strategies are available in the full document</p>

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A Call to Build the Capital City Partnership for Economic Growth (Issued 11/10)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide Providence with a share of "incremental revenues" raised by the state due to growth in non-profit employment and construction of new facilities 2. Establish a tax by use property tax structure for purposes of assessing property value 3. Encourage the state to fully fund the 27% PILOT due to Providence 4. Maximize future revenues from Knowledge District by promoting taxable entities 		
Strengthening Providence's Knowledge Economy (2008 Study conducted for Providence Chamber and Providence Foundation)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a "Knowledge Hub Authority" to fast-track permitting process for development in Knowledge District according to pre-approved land use and architectural plans 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leverage RI Research Alliance to increase federal R&D funding, attract top research faculty to area universities, and align partnerships among universities and knowledge-based industries 2. Expand RI Research Alliance to include Providence hospitals and additional universities 3. Establish a joint city-state-institution alliance to direct development in Knowledge District 4. Host a national or international summit/conference in partnership with Providence entrepreneurial community to display the city's asset base, brain power, and spirit