

# Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities

## Creative Community Development and Placemaking Strategies

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**November 14, 2002 Report by Dreeszen & Associates**

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## Introduction

This initiative integrates art, culture, and heritage into Providence's urban transportation, community and economic development planning. Cultural planners identified local cultural resources, engaged neighborhood stakeholders in defining distinct attributes of each corridor, and developed strategies to apply creative placemaking solutions that help define places, animate neighborhood hubs, mitigate problems, and inspire creative economic development. This cross-sector partnership among planning, transportation, and arts agencies is innovative enough that the planners intend to share methods and results at regional and national arts and economic development conferences.

The City of Providence commissioned Dreeszen & Associates to recommend strategies to encourage creative economic development, opportunities for cultural participation, and creative placemaking initiatives for five high-volume transportation corridors in Providence. These are: North Main Street, Broad Street, Elmwood Avenue, Chalkstone Avenue, and Manton Avenue. The planning team met with stakeholder and advisor committees, toured the five transit corridors, and worked with the City of Providence Art Culture + Tourism and Planning and Development staff to develop strategies to employ arts, culture, and heritage to improve livability, prosperity, and public access to arts and entertainment along the five corridors. These recommendations build upon inventories of cultural resources, interpretive themes, and artist guidelines developed as part of the planning for each corridor.

These strategies will enhance Creative Providence: A cultural plan for the creative sector (2009), especially: "Build community and foster neighborhood vitality through increased access and diversified cultural participation;" "Invest in neighborhood art, culture, and creativity to sustain social diversity and engage communities;" and "Create conditions for creative workers to thrive in Providence."

## Goals for Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities Initiative

This Creative Community Development and Placemaking Plan furthers two goals of the Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities project:

Goal 3 Encourage community hubs and Goal 4 Improve access to arts and cultural opportunities

An additional long-range goal is implied by the strategies emerging from the planning: New Goal Develop creative economic opportunities

## How to use this plan

The following plan recommends ten overall strategic options, which are also recommended as enduring public policies that may guide future plans and initiatives. Each broad strategic option frames more specific action steps. Four clusters of high-priority actions are identified. Plans are organized by corridor and key hubs identified by the Department of Planning and Development. Some actions may be applied to any of the corridors. For each recommended action, the planners have noted its timing and status, the primary cultural resources that may be employed, potential lead agency and partners, funding and cost implications where these are known, and suggested priority. Recommended action steps are ranked by priority, using the following categories:

1. **High priority/high feasibility** – high impact initiative underway or funding likely to implement within next three years
2. **High priority/needs significant new investment** -- potential impact high, but needs resources
3. **Moderate priority** -- moderate impact or needs significant time (3-5 years) to build capacity or secure resources
4. **Opportunity watch** – Be alert for timely opportunity to encourage or implement a strategy by identifying a community champion (e.g. encourage developer or community group to take initiative)

## Highest priority strategies and actions

This plan documents ten overall strategic options and policies and scores of specific actions called for by citizens or recommended by experts. Mindful of City capacity, the planners identified the four highest priorities. Many creative community development and placemaking initiatives that advance the City's goals are already planned or underway by developers, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies -- these are the highest priority. Other priority recommendations include creating two small grant programs, implementing Transportation Corridor cultural plans, and organizing quick, low-cost projects.

**1. Encourage emerging or existing initiatives that advance City goals.** Fortunately many plans and projects are underway or pending that would help achieve the City's goals to encourage active community hubs, create jobs, and improve access to arts and cultural opportunities. The City and its partners should actively support such projects, help those with initiative to navigate permitting procedures, help connect with grants and capital, and minimize regulatory barriers. The cultural assessment identified the following specific initiatives along the five corridors (with reference to strategy and action items in this plan): Action steps 1.4 cultural programming in hubs, 4.1.a Kennedy Plaza re-development, 5.1.a.-5.1.h. Southside Cultural Center, 5.2 Community Music Works expansion, and 7.1 Broad Street Synagogue redevelopment.

**2. Create two small grants programs to encourage citizen initiatives that further City goals and enhance community cohesion.** Specifically, the plan recommends implementing a Neighborhood Improvement Grant program (action 1.1) and a new Calls to Producer grant program (1.2) on the five project corridors. Such programs could steer small municipal investments into communities that participated in the Transportation Corridors planning project but where implementation funds have not yet been identified.

**3. Implement the Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program plans to issue design RFQs and commission public art.** Invest funding from the City CDBG program and RIPTA's transit enhancements to implement these projects on North Main Street and Broad Street. Identify additional funding sources to implement plans on Elmwood, Manton, and Chalkstone Avenues. Develop complementary plans for way finding and information systems. Specific actions include: 1.9 expand downtown way-finding system throughout corridors, 1.12 create information signs, kiosks, and 1.3 interactive way-finding and information systems, 5.4 and 9.1 public art in Trinity Square and Roger Williams Park's Elmwood gateway.

**4. Organize quick, low-cost mitigation and animation projects** to engage artists and community members and demonstrate City responsiveness to opportunities and problems identified in the planning. Implementation of the two small grants programs identified above could achieve this. The plan also recommends mitigation strategies to address specific challenges along corridors: 2.3 commission temporary murals and creative fences, 4.5 encourage North Main Street merchants' walkability initiatives, 5.4 renew pressure on Grace Church to maintain their cemetery (new fence could be public art project), and 6.1 make temporary Bomes Theatre façade improvements. Animate hubs as recommended in actions: 1.6 steer programming to hubs, 2.1a.-2.1b. recruit cultural institutions to northern North Main hub, 2.2 direct walkers to North Burial Ground paths, 2.5, encourage independent muralists, 5.1.b. Trinity Square programming, 6.4 help sustain Broad Street festivals, 8.1 encourage Columbus Square programming, and 12.2 add amenities and events at under-used spaces.

## Zoning Recommendations

These recommendations on zoning and permitting are intended to inform Phase II of the Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities project to revise Providence Zoning. As the scope of the cultural planning along the corridors was broad, and hub build-out scenarios are pending, these recommendations are general.

1. Zoning regulations should be nuanced enough to permit cultural and creative uses that advance City goals.
  - a. Zoning should permit artist and creative worker studio spaces in job-alone districts and promote mixed uses in other areas. The latter is especially important for second-floor spaces above retail businesses and in industrial areas where artist housing would create, not inhibit jobs. Some cities like Peekskill New York have established model procedures to confirm legitimate artist applicants for such housing to prevent abuse of the permits<sup>[1]</sup>. See actions 1.5 defining artist jobs, and 11.3 Olneyville live/work zoning.
  - b. Zoning and permitting for live music performances must be nuanced to allow non-intrusive live music that enhances the viability of businesses and neighborhoods. Regulations should distinguish between the enhanced ambiance of a guitarist at a restaurant and a band or DJ attracting boisterous late-night crowds to a neighborhood bar. See actions 1.6 and 1.7 hub animation, 1.9.a, b, and c for live music permitting and 2.1 and 2.1.a recruit attractions to North Main hub.
  - c. Existing City regulations for busking are adequate to allow street performers and limit nuisances.
2. Review zoning of corridor hubs and gateways for any restrictions that could limit location of a cultural organization that could attract students or present live performances. See actions 1.9.a, b, for live music permitting.
3. Review zoning recommendations that have not yet been implanted as part of the *Providence Tomorrow* neighborhood plans especially: Amend zoning designation of vacant parcels adjacent to the Stop & Shop plaza from C4 to C2 to facilitate the development of a traditional urban village<sup>1</sup>; Increase opportunities and access to safe and affordable housing for artists; and Examine ways in which live/work could be adjusted to meet the expanded needs of artists<sup>2</sup>. See action 10.2 Manton hub zoning. A list of Providence Tomorrow zoning recommendations with potential implications for cultural and creative development along the corridors is appended to this report.
4. Consider flexible zoning tools that encourage cultural and creative development. While Planning and Development staffs are familiar with these tools, it may be useful to reinforce their utility to implement these recommendations. Form-based zoning allows the City to influence the shape and aesthetics of districts while permitting multiple uses. Arts overlay zones (See Somerville ordinance<sup>[2]</sup>) permit creative uses within districts that might otherwise limit such use. Historic districts protect the integrity of historic neighborhoods. Arts enterprise zones encourage creative economic development in designated districts through tax incentives<sup>[3]</sup>. See 1.11 use of arts overlay districts and creative enterprise zones.

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<sup>[1]</sup> Peekskill NY, Artist Live/Work district Resource Guide, retrieved August 31, 2011 from [http://www.cityofpeekskill.com/sites/default/files/artist\\_live\\_work\\_district\\_resource\\_guide\\_3.31.11.pdf](http://www.cityofpeekskill.com/sites/default/files/artist_live_work_district_resource_guide_3.31.11.pdf)

<sup>1</sup> Providence Tomorrow, Hartford, Silver Lake, and Manton Neighborhood Plan, January 2010

<sup>2</sup> Providence Tomorrow, Olneyville, Valley and Smith Hill Neighborhood Plan, August 2009

<sup>[2]</sup> [http://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USQRezoningOrdinancewithMapsAsAmended%20adopted%20and%20ordained\\_%204-23-091.pdf](http://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USQRezoningOrdinancewithMapsAsAmended%20adopted%20and%20ordained_%204-23-091.pdf)

<sup>[3]</sup> <http://www.riedc.com/business-services/business-incentives/state-enterprise-zones>



5. Create a Cultural and Creative Economy subcommittee to advise the City on creative placemaking, entertainment, and cultural and creative economic development during the Phase II zoning review. See 1.5 define artist jobs, 1.10 appoint subcommittee and 1.11 creative enterprise districts.



## Policies and Strategic Options


Following is a summary of policies and overall classes of recommended strategies (Strategic Options, numbered S1, S2, etc. in recommendations). City planners, developers, neighborhood and business associations, and nonprofit organizations may think of these as a set of tools that may be adapted flexibly to specific hubs, gateways, and corridors to apply arts, heritage, and cultural resources to encourage livable, prosperous communities. An initiative may employ multiple strategic options.


- SO1. **Emerging initiatives** – Encourage existing or emerging initiatives or plans underway – This strategy is a high priority, as emerging initiatives have the advantage of leveraged resources, local leadership, and momentum.
- SO2. **Creative economic development** – Create jobs and business-and enhance capacity of nonprofit cultural organizations and creative businesses to integrate arts and cultural resources into economic and community development.
- SO3. **Animation** – Support programs or special events that enliven places, demonstrate viability of underused spaces, and create opportunities to participate in creative, community life.
- SO4. **Mitigation** – Reduce eyesores or hazards with artistic treatments, such as employing temporary murals or creative fencing to improve appearance and instill a positive attitude among neighbors and visitors.
- SO5. **Public art and design** – Create or modify public places employing creative design and permanent or temporary public art to celebrate and help define communities and to provide welcoming places to gather.
- SO6. **Way-finding/placemaking** – Create signs, directories, and interpretative aids that help better define places, create visual cohesion, and help people navigate and appreciate their community.
- SO7. **Communications** – Market and promote to inform and attract people to cultural attractions and programs.
- SO8. **Regulations** – Amend or streamline zoning, ordinances, or permitting to advance opportunities for cultural participation and creative economic development by facilitating rather than discouraging new activities and uses.
- SO9. **Community Capacity Building** – Foster cross-cultural neighborhood-based organizing to bridge groups and strengthen capacity of neighborhood associations, businesses, and nonprofits to manage and grow local activity and development.
- SO10. **Facilities** – Support planning, financing, improvement, and development of key community gathering places, cultural facilities and creative sector incubators.



## Specific Strategy Recommendations



1. Strategies for all Corridors						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO3 Animation SO6 Way-finding/place-making SO4 Mitigation SO9 Capacity building	<p>1.1 Establish a Neighborhood Improvement Small Grant Program that invites proposals from community groups to undertake small, creative projects that help welcome or define neighborhoods, mitigate nuisances, or animate places. This can also incentivize neighborhood organizing in places like Chalkstone Ave.</p>  <p>There are many examples, e.g.:  <a href="http://bloomington.in.gov/documents/viewDocument.php?document_id=833">http://bloomington.in.gov/documents/viewDocument.php?document_id=833</a>  <a href="http://www.tucsonpimaartscouncil.org/2010/06/p-l-a-c-e-initiative-grants-funded-by-the-kresge-foundation/">http://www.tucsonpimaartscouncil.org/2010/06/p-l-a-c-e-initiative-grants-funded-by-the-kresge-foundation/</a></p>	2014 – ongoing	Citizen initiative, local artists	<p>Planning &amp; Development, AC+T, and Economic Development</p> <p>Recommend AC+T administer grant program to existing or emerging neighborhood and business associations or community service organizations</p>	<p>City appropriation of \$20,000 pool for 20-30 grants of \$500-\$1,000</p> <p>Retained CDGB funds</p> <p>Explore potential funding sources and consider implications on capacity of City staff</p>	High and feasible
SO3 Animation SO9 Capacity	<p>1.2 Establish a Neighborhood Call to Producers program that encourages proposals to program small, special events, e.g., parades, festivals, fairs, outdoor performances in public places.</p>  <p>For example, Somerville Arts Council's issues "Calls to Producers" through its ArtsUnion initiative. Visit:  <a href="http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org/artsunion/2012">http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org/artsunion/2012</a></p>	2014 - ongoing	Cultural organizations, creative businesses, artists, public places	<p>AC+T, community cultural organizations</p> <p>Somerville shared their guidelines and procedures</p>	<p>City appropriation of \$20,000 pool for 10 \$2,000 grants</p> <p>Potential for NEA funding through Our Town program</p>	High and feasible
SO1 Emerging Initiatives	1.3. Align creative placemaking strategies with the recommendations put forth by the City's Office of Sustainability. City's Sustainability Plan anticipated April 2013.	2012/13		AC+T, Sustainability		High and feasible



Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO1 Emerging Initiatives SO3 Animation	1.4 Use cultural asset mapping along corridors to identify, promote, and build upon nodes of youth arts learning activity.	As opportunities present themselves	Arts ed organizations identified in inventory	AC+T		High and feasible
SO2 Creative economic development SO8 Regulation	<p>1.5.a Address implications of creating “jobs only” districts for creative workers as part of Phase II of the <i>Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities</i> project.</p> <p>1.5.b Recognize artist work-only studios as “jobs” to ensure they can be located in areas designated for “Jobs Only” in future land use planning.</p> <p>Greenpoint Manufacturing and Design Center in New York has restored nearly 1 million square feet of industrial space to small-scale artisanal manufacturing: <a href="http://www.gmdconline.org/">http://www.gmdconline.org/</a></p> 	2013	Creative workers and industries	Planning & Development		High and feasible
SO3 Animation SO8 Regulations	<p>1.6 Steer cultural programming towards corridor hubs and gateways. Identify additional funding to incentivize cultural programming at community hubs and gateways.</p> <p>On September 9, 2012, the Mayor’s Office closed Broad Street to traffic between Prairie and Thurbers Avenues for the first annual Cyclovia Providence, a car-free event that opens the street for people of all ages to walk, skate, run, bicycle, exercise and socialize. Cyclovia is an international phenomenon that reportedly began in Bogotá, Colombia and has spread to cities across the globe. Project for Public Spaces has described Cyclovia as a large-scale community building exercise that facilitates social interaction and activity between people of all ages, incomes, occupations, religions and races.</p> 	As opportunities present themselves	Community groups, cultural organizations neighborhood associations	<p>AC+T, City Services Team, Mayor’s Office</p> <p>Community MusicWorks and CityArts are currently working with AC+T to implement this strategy with ArtPlace funding.</p>	<p>ArtPlace</p> <p>Potential for NEA funding through Our Town program</p>	<p>High and feasible</p> <p>High, needs investment</p>

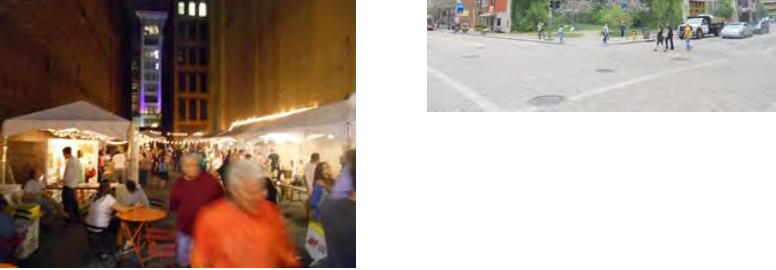
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO3 Animation	<p>1.7 Encourage special events in public space along corridors as is done with public parks through the City's Neighborhood Performing Arts Initiative. Use cultural asset inventory to identify potential locations.</p> 	Neighborhood Arts program ongoing	Neighborhood Performing Arts Initiative City Parks Neighborhood associations	AC+T, Parks + Rec, Mayor's Office	Ely Trust	Ongoing and opportunity watch
SO1 Emerging Initiatives SO9 Capacity	<p>1.8 Promote use of the Cultural Resource Inventory through the City's online resources and social media. Encourage cultural organizations, neighborhoods and business associations, artists, developers, scholars, researchers, grant makers, arts advocacy organizations, and others to explore the cultural inventory maps and databases of the corridors, make connections, employ local cultural resources, and to contribute to the inventory by adding previously unlisted assets.</p>	2013 + beyond	Cultural resources database and corresponding maps	Planning & Development & AC+T	City has tools available already. Developing a crowd-sourcing platform requires additional investment/expertise.	High and feasible  High, needs investment
SO8 Regulation	<p>1.9.a Review and revise permitting regulations to encourage simple and consistent procedures to permit live music to be performed safely and legally in venues and in public places.</p> <p>See programs offered by City of Seattle's Office of Arts &amp; Cultural Affairs at <a href="http://www.seattle.gov/arts/space/default.asp">http://www.seattle.gov/arts/space/default.asp</a></p> <p>1.9.b Licenses should be determined in coordination with goals for creative economic development, destination development, and neighborhood animation.</p> <p>1.9.c Refine Zoning ordinance to distinguish live music from other forms of entertainment. See <a href="http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientID=11458&amp;stateID=39&amp;statename=Rhode%20Island">http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientID=11458&amp;stateID=39&amp;statename=Rhode%20Island</a>.</p>	2013	Providence musicians	Planning & Development, AC+T, Board of Licenses		High and feasible
SO8 Regulation	<p>1.10 Appoint a Cultural and Creative Economy subcommittee to represent the City's creative economy and cultural sector and advise the City during Phase II of the <i>Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities</i> project.</p> <p>See Massachusetts state-wide Creative Economy Council: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/hed/economic/industries/creative/council.html">http://www.mass.gov/hed/economic/industries/creative/council.html</a></p>	2013	Staff and volunteer expertise	Planning & Development & AC+T		High and feasible

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO8 Regulation	<p>1.11 Develop creative enterprise zones and use existing arts overlay districts as tools to encourage creative economic development in critical hubs.</p> <p>For creative enterprise models, see Saint Paul Creative Enterprise Zone: <a href="http://www.corridordevelopment.org/15/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=105&amp;Itemid=66">http://www.corridordevelopment.org/15/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=105&amp;Itemid=66</a>; and, Massachusetts Artist Enterprise Zones: <a href="http://berkshirecreative.org/public-hearing-on-pilot-artisgt-enterprise-zones/">http://berkshirecreative.org/public-hearing-on-pilot-artisgt-enterprise-zones/</a></p> <p>Information on Providence's arts overlay district at: Code of Ordinances, Part II - Code of Ordinances, Chapter 27 – Zoning, Article V. - Special Zones.</p>		Creative industries	Planning & Development, AC+T		Moderate
SO6 Way-finding	<p>1.12.a Implement corridor wayfinding system that expands the Downtown Vehicular Wayfinding Plan with complementary designs for consistency of traveler experience.</p> <p>1.12.b Draw attention to cultural attractions and historic sites along corridors (e.g., historic districts, Liberty Tree, milestone markers) through way-finding and bus stop identification. Informational and directional signs and kiosks can be used along all the routes.</p>  <p>See Dreeszen &amp; Associates' Interpretive Theme report (November 2012) for corridor specific recommendations.</p> <p>See Downtown Hartford's Arts-related wayfinding system known as iQuilt: <a href="http://theiquiltplan.org/news">http://theiquiltplan.org/news</a></p> <p>1.12.c Identify funding to implement the full Commercial Corridor Art &amp; Amenities Program plan for corridor enhancements. This work builds upon the TransArt shelter projects undertaken with RIPTA 2008-2010. See <a href="http://ripta.com/transart-shelters-1">http://ripta.com/transart-shelters-1</a>.</p> <p>1.12.d Continue to work with RIPTA to improve connections to and between neighborhood-based cultural activities, driven by current and emerging cultural activity. Use Cultural Resource Inventory to identify opportunities.</p>	Planning competed	Corridor themes	<p>City, PWCVB, private sector</p> <p>City, RIPTA</p>	<p>Estimate \$2600/sign</p> <p>Federal Highway Administration Transportation Enhancement funds</p> <p>Potential NEA funding through Our Town program</p>	<p>High, needs investment</p> <p>High, needs investment</p> <p>High, needs investment</p> <p>Opportunity watch</p>

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO6 Way-finding	<p>1.13.a Include cultural information on real-time information systems as bus technology advances,.</p> <p>1.13.b Develop interactive, online route mapping (web sites and smart phone apps) with links to cultural attractions and events listings</p> <p>See the Connective Corridor system for a good example of a partnership between the City of Syracuse NY and three universities:  <a href="http://connectivecorridor.syr.edu/">http://connectivecorridor.syr.edu/</a></p> 		<p>Online route mapping and phone apps would depend upon additional funding and contracted expertise.</p> <p>Explore integration with the statewide arts calendar AC+T manages.</p>	RIPTA, AC+T	Variable, depending upon scope. Syracuse's example will suggest cost and funding sources	Moderate, requires investment
SO3 Animation	<p>1.14 Create a neighborhood passport program for youth to highlight the cultural identity of neighborhoods and promote visitation to arts and cultural sites along the corridor. The collaborative marketing initiative will encourage participation and programming partnerships between cultural organizations.</p> <p>See Buy Art Providence, <a href="http://buyartprovidence.com/">http://buyartprovidence.com/</a>, for an example of a successful City-led collaborative marketing initiative.</p> 		Cultural resources identified in database and corresponding maps	AC+T, cultural organizations	\$10,000	Opportunity watch
SO2 Creative Economic Development	<p>1.15 Implement seven specific recommendations from Creative Providence: A cultural plan for the creative sector (209) that advance <i>Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities</i> goals. See details in the appendix and at <a href="http://www.providenceri.gov/efile/47">http://www.providenceri.gov/efile/47</a></p>	Ongoing		AC+T		Moderate


2. North Main Street: Upper North Main Street Hub							
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor theme: Living with History	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority	
SO3 Animation SO2 Creative economic development SO8 Regulations SO10 Facilities	<p>2.1 Recruit signature cultural institutions to anchor hub redevelopment, attract audiences, and catalyze complementary business development. (There are several local examples including New Urban Arts on Westminster Street; AS220 on Empire and Washington Streets; and The Steel Yard in the Valley industrial district of Olneyville.)</p> <p>2.1.a Create a creative enterprise center at the Upper North Main Hub to encourage retail and service businesses that appeal to area nonprofits, businesses and artists located in the nearby Hope Artiste Village just across the Pawtucket line.</p>	2012/13 Decisions pending	Cultural institutions, Affordable properties	AC+T and one or more signature cultural institutions	Significant facility renovation cost	High , needs investment	
SO6 Way-finding SO3 Animation	<p>2.2.a Direct people to North Burial Ground entrances, encourage walking, and use of interactive walking &amp; historical tour apps (in development). May require adaptations to encourage safe pedestrian crossings at each designated Burial Ground entrance.</p> <p>2.2.b Encourage special events at North Burial Ground to help people discover this contemplative, walkable resource. There are many good examples of events in cemeteries:</p> <p>Forest Hills Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN hosts an annual stroll with historic commemoration events: <a href="http://foresthillscemetery.net/news.asp">http://foresthillscemetery.net/news.asp</a></p> <p>See the Cryptic Providence public art installations which took place at North Burial Ground in 2008: <a href="http://jaycritchley.com/category/projects/cryptic_providence/">http://jaycritchley.com/category/projects/cryptic_providence/</a></p> <p>See Boston’s Forest Hills: <a href="http://www.foresthillstrust.org/calendar.html">http://www.foresthillstrust.org/calendar.html</a></p> <p>See Wall Street Journal, Parties to Die For: <a href="http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704388504575419263519517820.html">http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704388504575419263519517820.html</a></p>	 	Interactive walking tours in development 2012-13	North Burial Ground, historic sites, historic properties  Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program plan	City, RIPTA, RIC, RI Black Heritage Society  City, RIPTA, PWCVB	Tours are in development  Standalone public art installation drawing attention to entrances under consideration (\$25,000)	High and feasible  High, needs investment

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO4 Mitigation	<p>2.3 Commission temporary murals and/or artistic treatments of fencing to mitigate negative visual impact of vacant Sears building and grounds and other dormant properties.</p> <p>There is good potential to engage neighbors and students in an interactive art project, e.g.: the <a href="#">Good Fences for Good Neighbors</a> project undertaken in Portland, ME with Our Town funding from the NEA.</p>  		Lydia Stein & HouseEART project artists	AC+T, Property owner, artists	<p>Approximately \$2500/site</p> <p>Potential for NEA funding through the Our Town program</p>	Opportunity watch
SO2 Creative economic development	2.4 Encourage music, art and dance supply shops and associated businesses to locate near existing small cluster of stringed instrument vendors.	Look for future opportunities	Creative businesses: Empire Guitars, Providence Violin Shop			Opportunity watch
SO1 Emerging initiatives SO2 Public Art SO3 Animation	2.5 Encourage proposed new mural on the Empire Guitar.		Guitar Center, Artists	Guitar Center, AC+T		Opportunity watch
SO2. Creative economic development SO3 Animation	2.6 Be alert for threats and opportunities related to the vibrancy of night clubs along North Main. Live music along North Main Street animates the corridor and continues an important historical tradition.(See also 1.9 b)					Opportunity watch

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO3 Animation SO4 Mitigation	<p>2.7 Mitigate vacant properties through artist-led projects. Artist projects using temporarily vacant storefronts or empty lots have been pursued successfully by many cities: See Seattle storefront project: <a href="http://storefrontsseattle.wordpress.com/">http://storefrontsseattle.wordpress.com/</a> See Pittsburgh Project Pop-up: <a href="http://www.downtownpittsburgh.com/about-pdp/pdp-initiatives/project-pop-up">http://www.downtownpittsburgh.com/about-pdp/pdp-initiatives/project-pop-up</a></p> 		Artists	AC+T		Opportunity watch




### 3. North Main Street: Lower North Main Street Hub




Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO6 Way-finding SO5 Public Art	<p>3.1.a Commission iconic public art for this high transit volume gateway location.</p> <p>3.1.b Prioritize hub for way finding to help riders and residents locate the key assets in either direction (Roger Williams Memorial to the south, North Burial Ground and Pawtucket to the north, etc.). See Interpretive Guidelines for specific recommendations about way finding and KMDG plan for bus stop locations.</p>	2013/14	Commercial Corridor Art & Amenity Program plan for bus stop locations.	City, RIPTA	<p>\$25,000</p> <p>Federal Highway Administration Transit Enhancement Funds</p> <p>Additional funding TBD</p> <p>Priority location for CCAAP Phase II</p>	High, needs investment

4. North Main Street: Overall Corridor Strategies						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO1 Encourage emerging initiatives SO3 Animation	<p>4.1.a Implement Kennedy Plaza Redevelopment Plan <a href="http://www.kennedyplaza.org/2012/04/greater-kennedy-plaza-launches-our-town-initiative/">http://www.kennedyplaza.org/2012/04/greater-kennedy-plaza-launches-our-town-initiative/</a></p>  <p>4.1.b Continue to encourage use of North Main Street for special events such as the Rock-N-Roll Half Marathon, Amica Iron Man, and Cox Marathon series.</p>	<p>Plan due by Dec. 30, 2012; ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	Kennedy Plaza	<p>City, Providence Foundation, DID, RIPTA</p> <p>AC+T, City Services Team</p>	NEA funded planning / identify implementation funds based on budget	High and feasible
SO1 Encourage emerging initiatives	4.2 Implement recommendations from Roger Williams National Memorial Cultural Landscape Report <a href="http://www.nps.gov/rowi/parkmgmt/upload/2011-03-22-10-29-5">http://www.nps.gov/rowi/parkmgmt/upload/2011-03-22-10-29-5</a>		Roger Williams National Memorial cultural landscape	Roger Williams National Memorial		Moderate
SO2 Creative economic development	4.3 Develop guide for students and creative community alerting them to creative service providers available along North Main Street corridor. Work with <i>Providence Phoenix</i> to integrate into their Back to School guide.		RISD /Brown institutions and students			Moderate
SO3 Animation	<p>4.4.a Encourage cultural programming that leverages proximity to Waterfire. During the 2012 season, Roger Williams National Memorial partnered with Rhode Island Songwriters Association to present concerts at the National Memorial on evenings when Waterfire was scheduled.</p> <p>4.4 b Continue to work with Waterfire to sustain and extend its impact through supportive fire permitting process.</p> <p>4.4.b Seek funds to maintain river depth with dredging.</p>		Waterfire, Waterplace Park, Canal, Merchants Association	Waterfire, City		Opportunity watch
SO4 Mitigation	4.5 Build upon Merchants Association's work. Look for opportunities to support their efforts to encourage a robust Main Street shopping experience and promote walkability.			North Main Street Merchants Association		Moderate

<b>5. Broad Street: Trinity Square Hub</b>						
<b>Strategic Options</b>	<b>Specific Strategy or Action</b>	<b>Timing and status</b>	<b>Primary cultural resources</b>	<b>Potential Lead and Partners</b>	<b>Funding and Cost implications</b>	<b>Priority</b>
	<b>Corridor theme: Experiencing World Cultures</b>					
SO1 Encourage emerging initiatives SO2 Creative economic development SO3. Animation SO6. Way-finding SO7 Communication SO10 Facilities	5.1.a Encourage implementation of Southside Cultural Center (SCC) plans to establish their programs and to enhance their capacity. 5.1.b Encourage SCC, the major cultural institution at Trinity Square, to have a distinct presence on the street with street-visible programs and promotions. 5.1.c Encourage complementary retail businesses to locate near Trinity Square (potential development as was catalyzed by New Urban Arts, AS220, etc.). 5.1.d Encourage SCC to partner with nearby schools (Classical Central High School, Hanley Technical School, Community Prep) and with nearby New Urban Arts and CityArts as part of a youth-development-through-the arts cluster. Use cultural asset inventory to identify potential partners. 5.1.e Encourage SCC to partner with Firehouse 13 on targeted cultural programming opportunities. 5.1.f Use signs and information kiosks to direct RIPTA riders, tourists, and pedestrians to SCC. Use online directories (strategy 2.2.c). 5.1.g Use City and state marketing systems to promote Trinity Square and the SCC to regional cultural tourists. 5.1.h Encourage cultural organizations in the hub to collaborate as a way to promote visibility of the place. Use cultural asset inventory to identify potential partners.		Southside Cultural Center, New Urban Arts, CityArts, Firehouse 13, PWCVB, statewide arts calendar	AC+T and Southside Cultural Center, New Urban Arts, CityArts		High, needs investment
SO1 Encourage emerging initiatives SO2 Creative economic development SO10 Facilities	5.2 Encourage Community Music Works to expand their programs and create a store-front performance program at a vacant SWAP property along north Broad Street.		Community Music Works and SWAP	Community Music Works and SWAP	\$20k ArtPlace	High and feasible
SO1 Encourage emerging initiatives SO2 Creative economic development SO10 Facilities	5.3 Foster connections between Trinity Square and other Broad Street community hub locations by creating temporary cultural programming such as pop-up galleries and studio space. Leverage presence of youth arts cluster by exploring opportunities to connect students with cultural institutions.			CityArts is pursuing grant funding to implement this strategy.	ArtPlace	Opportunity watch
SO5 Public art	5.4 Commission permanent public art installation. Make related design and physical improvements to Trinity Square gateway to support creative placemaking. As the square is shared by Broad and Elmwood, artists may be paired with designers to devise creative improvements to the Square.		See Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program plan.	City, RIPTA	\$25,000  Priority location for CCAAP Phase II	High, needs investment


Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO4 Mitigation SO6 Way-finding SO10 Facilities	5.5.a Encourage members of the Grace Episcopal Church to fulfill their land stewardship and community responsibilities to repair fences and maintain the grounds of their cemetery. 5.5.b Engage artists to mitigate the eyesores with creative fencing. 5.5.c Prioritize location for way-finding and interpretive signage (as in Strategy 1.12 b) to help RIPTA riders and residents appreciate and understand the cemetery's history. 5.5.d Implement planned walkway through the cemetery between RIPTA stops. See plans for Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program.			Church	Identify potential funding	Moderate
<b>6. Broad Street: Bomes Theatre Hub</b>						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO3 Animation SO4 Mitigation	6.1.a Plan and implement façade improvements to the Bomes Theatre. Alternatively mitigate the building's worst features with temporary artwork and better street lighting. There are many examples of building exteriors animated by light projects: See Franklin Joyce's South Park Lights in Seattle: <a href="http://www.publicartarchive.org/work/south-park-lights">http://www.publicartarchive.org/work/south-park-lights</a> Digital media projections by various artists in Pasadena, CA: <a href="http://www.publicartarchive.org/work/projections">http://www.publicartarchive.org/work/projections</a> Sean Capone's installation Ueda Shoji Museum of Photography, Tottori, Japan: <a href="http://seancapone.com/#Shoji-Museum-Japan">http://seancapone.com/#Shoji-Museum-Japan</a>  6.1.b Refresh HouseART mural at 1005 Broad Street.	2013	Bomes Theatre, street life, food trucks, festivals	PRA	Façade renovation estimate at \$100,000  Potential NEA funding through Our Town program	High, needs investment
SO2 CE Development SO10 Facilities	6.2.a Identify long-term uses of the Bomes Theatre and adjacent building at 1005 Broad Street a priority  6.2.b Locate viable operating partner or enterprise for the Bomes Theatre; redevelop buildings.  6.2.c Explore feasibility of locating a folk art market at 1005 Broad Street.	Long-term	Bomes Theatre	PRA	Capital and Operating costs	Opportunity watch
SO1 Emerging initiatives SO10 Facilities	6.3 Encourage Quisqueya in Action's plans to relocate to the hub.	Pending		Quisqueya in Action	Private Fundraising	Opportunity watch

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO3 Animation	<p>6.4 Continue to encourage the Dominican Festival and Puerto Rican Parade as these annual celebrations are much valued by residents, help define the community, animate the neighborhood, challenge the domination of the automobile, and are highly-visible expressions of the corridor theme. These should be encouraged. Other such events, such as the Cyclovia that took place September 2012, should be welcomed (see <a href="http://www.arttixri.com/event/detail/441691168/Cyclovia_Providence">http://www.arttixri.com/event/detail/441691168/Cyclovia Providence</a>)</p> 	Long-time traditions	Festivals	QIA, PR partner, AC+T, City Services Team		Opportunity watch
SO3 Animation	<p>6.5 Implement creative placemaking strategies by making needed streetscape improvements including repairing/replacing damaged tree guards and trash cans. Wide sidewalks, open storefronts, street vendors, places to sit all contribute to the vibrancy of Broad Street, a lively walking and social culture.</p>  			City Broad Street Merchants Association		Opportunity watch
S01 Emerging initiatives	6.6 Encourage efforts of clean up team organized by the Broad Street Merchants Association.	Current - ongoing		Broad Street Merchants Association		Opportunity watch
S01 Emerging initiatives	6.7 Implement plans to brand and market food trucks using corridor theme and to locate trucks at hubs.	Underway		SWAP	CDBG funds	High and feasible


7. Broad Street: Public Street Hub						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO1 Emerging Initiatives SO10 Facilities	7.1 Encourage and support rehab of Broad Street Synagogue and its operation as a cultural center, community museum, exhibition space, and performance venue 	Current - ongoing	Broad Street Synagogue	Developers	Capital and operating costs	Opportunity watch
SO3 Animation	7.2.a Encourage the large Haitian church to partner with the emerging rehabbed Synagogue on opposite corners to bring cultural activities and outdoor markets to further animate the street and to serve as gathering places for neighbors.  7.2.b Leverage proximity to schools to animate hub. Use cultural asset inventory to identify potential partners. 		Church & adjacent parking lot	Church Broad Street Synagogue		Opportunity watch
SO2 CE Development	7.3 Foster the development of small, arts-oriented businesses in strip developments and converted homes. 			Economic Development, PEDP, LISC?	Identify potential funding sources, PEDP; 108 \$?	Opportunity watch

## 8. Elmwood Avenue: Columbus Square Hub

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor Theme: Gateway to Opportunity	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO5 Public art SO3 Animation	<p>8.1 Commission a temporary public art project to focus attention on Columbus Square and its historical work of public art. The 2012 installation, "Discovering Columbus," by Tatzu Nishi is an artist's visual response to just such a challenge:  <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2012/09/20/garden/a-living-room-suspended-over-columbus-circle.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2012/09/20/garden/a-living-room-suspended-over-columbus-circle.html</a>. See Hawai'i's Kamehameha I Statue Conservation Project for a good example of a bicultural, civic arts dialogue project in response to a historic statue:  <a href="http://www.artsusa.org/animatingdemocracy/pdf/labs/hawaii_case_study.pdf">http://www.artsusa.org/animatingdemocracy/pdf/labs/hawaii_case_study.pdf</a></p> <p>Enhanced lighting or a temporary light sculpture is another option. See China Blue's Firefly Grove light installation at John Brown House:  <a href="http://chinablueart.com/">http://chinablueart.com/</a></p>		Columbus Square and sculpture (the most frequently cited local cultural resource)	Elmwood Neighborhood Association	Potential for funding from the National Endowment of the Humanities and/or National Endowment for the Arts	Moderate
SO9 Way finding SO10 Facilities	<p>8.2 Identify local resident and/or business groups to provide stewardship to maintain plaza; install benches, game tables for checkers and other games; outfit the Square as a local gathering spot. Build upon clean up efforts underway.</p> <p>Adopt-a-spot model exemplified in this Good magazine article:  <a href="https://www.google.com/producer/edit/ions/CAow4NMT/good_lite/CAIEAT2m3D3Fo5LUSypmNDTzEAqFqgEKq4IACoGCAow4NMTMKDDAjDTtgO/good_ideas_for_cities_making_bus">https://www.google.com/producer/edit/ions/CAow4NMT/good_lite/CAIEAT2m3D3Fo5LUSypmNDTzEAqFqgEKq4IACoGCAow4NMTMKDDAjDTtgO/good_ideas_for_cities_making_bus</a></p> <p>In the Little Havana section of Miami, volunteers create and maintain a variety of memorials in a public plaza: <a href="http://florida-miami.org/cuban_memorial_plaza.html">http://florida-miami.org/cuban_memorial_plaza.html</a></p>		Columbus Square	Elmwood Merchants Association		Opportunity watch
SO1 Emerging Initiatives	8.3 Encourage projects to restore the cultural landscape. Pursue opportunities to recreate aspects of the historic boulevard.		Streetscape	City and citizens		Opportunity Watch

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO3 Animation SO7 Communication	8.4 Encourage the Urban Pond Procession for its public safety and environmental awareness work around Mashapaug Pond and as a model for artist-led projects that engage communities and effectively address social issues. 	Ongoing	Mashapaug Pond Columbus Square, Gorham Silver legacy	Urban Pond Procession, RIDEM, RISCA, Holly Ewald	RIDEM, RISCA	High and feasible


## 9. Broad and Elmwood Avenue: Overall Corridor Strategies



Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO1 Emerging initiatives SO5 Public Art SO4 Way-finding	9.1 Commission iconic public art at Roger Williams Park. Entrances on Broad and Elmwood are high-visibility locations to site artwork. Prioritize Broad Street for stand-alone public art installation during Phase II of the Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program. 		Roger Williams Park Commercial Corridor Art & Amenities Program plan	City, RIPTA	\$25,000  Transit Enhancement Funds	High, needs investment
SO5 Public art SO7 Communications	9.2 Map, promote, and protect murals to encourage community pride and attract cultural tourists. Individual and public initiatives have created enough public art murals on Broad and Elmwood that the area is being recognized as a place to see good public art. More murals are planned on Elmwood for Bamboo Garden and RIPTA's headquarters.  See cultural tourism efforts around Philadelphia's Mural Arts Program: <a href="http://muralarts.org/">http://muralarts.org/</a>		Local murals	AC+T		Moderate

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implication	Priority
SO4 Way-finding	9.3 Install more way-finding signage to Roger Williams Park. Build upon Downtown Wayfinding Signage System. Connect to RWP campus wayfinding & graphic design.		Roger Williams Park			Moderate
<b>10. Manton Avenue: Upper Manton Hub</b>						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor Theme: Creative Energy and Industrial Heritage	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO5 Way-finding SO7 Communications SO2 Creative economic development	10.1 Encourage food service businesses along the greenway. Stakeholders believe that seasonal coffee, sandwich, and ice cream shops could succeed along the bike path. Nearby Rhode Island College students and others who use the bike path may be encouraged by such attractions to venture further along the greenway.		Greenway	Private entrepreneurs, Planning & Development		Moderate
SO1 Emerging initiatives SO8 Regulations	10.2 Amend zoning as recommended in the 2009 Providence Tomorrow plan to amend zoning designation of vacant parcels adjacent to the Stop & Shop plaza from C4 to C2 to facilitate the development of a traditional urban village.	2013	Proximity to greenway	Planning & Development	HUD funding	High and feasible

<b>11. Manton Avenue: Lower Manton Hub</b>						
<b>Strategic Options</b>	<b>Specific Strategy or Action</b>	<b>Timing and status</b>	<b>Primary cultural resources</b>	<b>Potential Lead and Partners</b>	<b>Funding and Cost implications</b>	<b>Priority</b>
SO1 Emerging Initiative SO7 Communications SO9 Capacity	11.1 Use Creative Energy and Industrial Heritage theme in branding, banners, and way finding, as recommended in the 2011 ULI study <sup>3</sup> .	Underway winter 2012	Corridor theme	Planning + Development Square One	Cost borne by Square One (CDBG funds)	High and feasible
SO2 Creative economic development	11.2 Use subcommittee to research best practices for artist live/work housing with goal of creating opportunities for safe and legal live/work spaces. The cultural inventory identified relatively few artists living on the Manton Ave. corridor. Anecdotal evidence suggests there are significantly more living and/or working in the community. See Emma Gifford Howard's <i>Working Like An Artist: Providence's Industrial Arts Uses And Development Process</i> (2008) and update recommendations as appropriate to current conditions.  See recent study of artists live work spaces and their impacts on artists and on the communities around them: <a href="http://metrisarts.com/recent/">http://metrisarts.com/recent/</a>		Architecture	AC+T Planning + Development		Moderate
SO2 Creative economic development SO8 Regulations	11.3 Allow upper story living or live/work space zoning in Olneyville, to protect and create jobs and allow mixed uses above storefronts and other retail-capable buildings. See also 1.3h.		Creative industries	Planning and Development		High and feasible
SO2 CE Development	11.4 Identify opportunities for further development of creative sector incubator spaces in some of the many industrial buildings in the area,		Creative industries	Planning and Development AC+T		Moderate
SO1 Emerging Initiatives SO2 CE Development SO3 Animation	11.5 Support development of legally-permitted live music and entertainment venues. (See also 1.7)		Local musicians	Planning and Development AC+T		Opportunity watch
SO1 Emerging Initiatives SO2 CE Development	11.6 Encourage community gardens, sustainable landscaping, to advance the City's environmental goals. Star Works, a creative incubator space in North Carolina focuses on new businesses addressing the creative, agricultural and alternative energy needs of its region: <a href="http://www.starworksnc.org/">http://www.starworksnc.org/</a>			Planning + Development, Parks, Citizen groups		Opportunity watch

<sup>3</sup> Providence, Rhode Island, Catalyzing economic development in Olneyville Square, Urban Land Institute, 2011

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor Theme: Honoring Providence's Workers	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO3 Animation SO4 Mitigation	11.7 Encourage cultural organizations and business associations to produce special events in under-used open spaces in the Lower Manton hub to animate under-used spaces as recommended in ULI study.		Open lots near Olneyville Sq	Square One AC+T City Services	Recommended Call to Producers grant program	Opportunity watch
<b>12. Chalkstone Avenue: Overall Corridor Strategies</b>						
Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor Theme: Honoring Providence's Workers	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO3 Animation SO9 Capacity	12.1 Encourage Chalkstone residents to organize business and/or neighborhood associations. While an earlier effort to create a local business association stalled, successful efforts in other corridors and City encouragement, may inspire a renewed initiative. Strategy 13.6 below suggests an attractive joint-marketing project. The recommended neighborhood improvement grant or community program grants [See action 1.1] may inspire a community group to form around a specific project.		Vital business center	LISC		Opportunity watch
SO3 Animation SO4 Mitigation SO9 Capacity SO10 Facilities	<p>12.2 Identify underutilized spaces such as surface parking or other available space along the core business district as a neighborhood gathering place; add benches and other furnishings to encourage social activity; locate voluntary association to take on stewardship.</p>  <p>See booklet on creating public places in miscellaneous left over urban spaces: <a href="http://www.activerightofway.org/p/reclaiming-the-right-of-way-parklet-best-practices-report-released/">http://www.activerightofway.org/p/reclaiming-the-right-of-way-parklet-best-practices-report-released/</a></p>		Vacant spaces Artists	Planning and Development		High and feasible

Strategic Options	Specific Strategy or Action Corridor Theme: Honoring Providence's Workers	Timing and status	Primary cultural resources	Potential Lead and Partners	Funding and Cost implications	Priority
SO5 Public art	<p>12.3 Encourage artists to use photo documentation of local heroes, which have been very successful public art projects in other communities. This is more simple, feasible, and inclusive than monumental statues. For a good example, see "veterans in 99 faces" in the 99 faces project, <a href="http://www.99facesproject.com">http://www.99facesproject.com</a></p> 		Local heroes, artists	AC+T VA Center	DOD funding?	Moderate
SO3 Animation S10 Capacity	<p>12.4 Encourage youth development programs as these would be much valued by corridor stakeholders. The regional library has hosted local music performers, at least one of whom is interested in offering lessons for children. One of the City's arts and youth development organizations may be persuaded to organize a satellite program at the library.</p>		Library	Library, arts education organizations,		High, needs investment
SO3 Animation SO10 Facilities	<p>12.5 Identify a viable re-use for the closed Castle theater. The building was often cited and missed by stakeholders as a local cultural resource and a community gathering place. Stakeholders would value a youth center to engage and protect young people who otherwise are on the streets.</p>		Vacant Castle theater building	Private investors & real estate developer		Moderate
SO2 Creative economic development SO7 Communications	<p>12.6 Promote Chalkstone as a restaurant destination. Build upon the significant cluster of local restaurants. Cultural tourism is already working on Chalkstone Ave. As Los Andes is one of the most highly rated restaurants in Providence, collaborative marketing with other Chalkstone Avenue restaurants may extend this impact. Once a visitor has found her way to the neighborhood to visit a high-traffic restaurant, she may be encouraged to return and explore other offerings.</p>  <p>See map of neighborhood restaurants developed by Real Art Ways in Hartford, CT as one example: <a href="http://www.realartways.org/images/RAW%20RestGuide08.pdf">http://www.realartways.org/images/RAW%20RestGuide08.pdf</a>.</p>		Significant cluster of local restaurants	Private businesses, potential BID		Opportunity watch
SO3 Animation	<p>12.7 Develop a corridor artist-in-residency for an artist with a socially-engaged practice to lead civic arts dialogue with local residents, business owners, and civic leaders. Such a project will lead to increased cultural participation.</p> <p>See Marty Pottenger's Art at Work program in Portland, ME: <a href="http://www.artatworkproject.us/portland_index.php">http://www.artatworkproject.us/portland_index.php</a>.</p>		Community artists	AC+T Artist TBD	\$25,000	High and feasible

S03 Animation S04 Mitigation	Create temporary cultural programming such as pop-up galleries in vacant storefronts along Chalkstone. Explore opportunities to partner with cultural organizations to make youth programming available in these spaces.		Storefront space			Opportunity watch
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## Creative Providence: A cultural plan for the creative sector (2009)

The ten-year cultural plan is a community-wide guide to public policies, private initiatives, and investments. The cultural plan outlines six interdependent, city-wide challenges and opportunities for collaboration that serve to cultivate a more sustainable creative sector.

1. **Mobilize the creative sector by positioning the Department of Art, Culture + Tourism as a leader in creative economic development.** Catalyze Providence's creativity to leverage economic, social, and cultural capital.
2. **Build community and foster neighborhood vitality through increased access and diversified cultural participation.** Invest in neighborhood art, culture, and creativity to sustain social diversity and engage communities.
3. **Educate and inspire the next generation of creative thinkers.** Develop creative practice in youth for 21st century global citizenship.
4. **Foster sustainable cultural organizations.** Nurture agile, healthy, resilient organizations able to anticipate and meet all forms of new challenges.
5. **Create conditions for creative workers to thrive in Providence.** Support a vibrant community of individual artists, scholars, writers, designers, and entertainers to sustain the creative city.
6. **Raise public awareness of the creative sector.** Strengthen marketing, advocacy, and tourism to increase participation and engagement.

Creative Providence identified seven strategies specifically related to the *Transportation Corridors to Livable Communities* project:

1. Help remove transportation barriers and improve physical access to cultural sites, events, and programs.
2. Continue to work with RIPTA and other city agencies on ...corridor enhancements, improving connections to and between neighborhood- based cultural activities...driven by current and emerging cultural activity.
3. Tie art and transit efforts to the City's goals for a more ecologically sustainable future.
4. Encourage transit near cultural hubs and creative clusters.
5. Increase access to arts learning activities by creatively addressing economic and transportation barriers.
6. Develop provisions in zoning regulations...for real estate development to make space and facilities available to cultural organizations and creative programming.
7. Review city codes and ordinances to encourage creative enterprise development and/or art programming in Providence.

## Providence Tomorrow Zoning Recommendations

### Providence Tomorrow Zoning Recommendations with Potential Implications for Cultural and Creative Development along Transportation Corridors

#### Providence Tomorrow, Upper South Providence, Lower South Providence, and Elmwood Neighborhood Plan, November 2009

- Enforce traditional neighborhood commercial design standards for structures on Broad Street and Elmwood Avenue, and promote the following:

- Elmwood Avenue: Create commercial node areas (Mawney to Redwing streets, Lexington to Adelaide avenues) to allow a mix of commercial, office and residential uses (in areas where mixed-use is present today), with traditional neighborhood design standards.
  - Trinity Square: Create a mixed-use commercial node from the Broad Street/Elmwood Avenue intersection to the Service Road to serve as transition to downtown, with taller buildings closer to the highway and with traditional neighborhood design standards.
  - Broad/Public streets: Create a commercial node to allow higher scale and intensity at this mixed use commercial node, but maintain existing scale for the rest of Broad Street.
  - Thurbers Avenue: Rezone the current residential area to CI from Prairie Ave. to Eddy St. along the north side of the street.
  - Rezone the R1 area around Warrington Ave. (from Hamilton Street to Niagara Street) to R2.
- Develop zoning regulations that promote the best examples of existing neighborhood character, as identified in the neighborhood typologies, to ensure that new development will blend with the existing character of the neighborhood. Ensure that regulations include alternatives that address unique topography and other special site conditions.
  - Amend the Zoning Ordinance to extend Local Historic District boundaries to include buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places that are not currently in a Local Historic District. Include individually significant structures in a landmark district (a noncontiguous local historic district.)
  - Based on an extensive review of use patterns and current land use regulations, zoning amendments and comprehensive plan amendments should be considered for the following areas to reflect existing uses, encourage appropriate new uses and protect neighborhood character.
    - Parcels north of Lockwood Street from Wickham to Stewart streets from Commercial to Manufacturing/Industrial
    - Parcel along Elmwood Avenue between Dartmouth Avenue and Plenty Street from Heavy Commercial to Neighborhood Commercial.

#### **Providence Tomorrow, Washington Park and South Elmwood Neighborhood Plan, August 2009**

- Enforce the existing design regulations contained in the Commercial Corridor Overlay District.
- Amend the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance to designate Elmwood Avenue as Neighborhood Commercial from Route 10 South to the City line.
- Conduct citywide entertainment study to determine appropriate locations for nightclubs to minimize impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.
- Identify the best locations and proper regulations for street vendors on Broad Street.

#### **Providence Tomorrow, Elmhurst and Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Plan, August 2009**

- Based on an extensive review of use patterns and current land use regulations, zoning amendments and comprehensive plan amendments should be considered for the following areas to reflect existing uses, encourage appropriate new uses and protect neighborhood character.
  - The intersection of Atwells Avenue and Manton Avenue from general commercial to limited commercial.

#### **Providence Tomorrow, Hartford, Silver Lake, and Manton Neighborhood Plan, January 2010**

- Protect residential areas from commercial creep by amending the Future Land Use Map and the Commercial Zoning requirements to draw a hard line around the existing C zones.
- Amend the zoning of the former Manton School parcel located on the northeast corner of the Manton Avenue/Fruit Hill Avenue intersection from R2 to C2 to bring it into compliance with the Future Land Use Map.
- Amend the zoning along the north side of Manton Avenue from Fruit Hill Avenue west to the Residential zone from C4 to C2 to facilitate the development of a traditional urban village.

- Amend the zoning designation of the vacant parcels adjacent to the Stop & Shop plaza from C4 to C2 to facilitate the development of a traditional urban village.
- Redevelop the commercially zoned area around the Stop & Shop Plaza on Manton Avenue into a neighborhood village center with public open space along the river.

#### **Providence Tomorrow, Olneyville, Valley and Smith Hill Neighborhood Plan, August 2009**

- Amend residential zoning regulations to promote the best examples of existing neighborhood character as identified in the neighborhood typologies to ensure that new development will blend with the existing character of the neighborhood. Ensure that regulations include alternatives that address unique topography and other unique site conditions.
- After an extensive review of existing land uses and current land use regulations for the neighborhoods, zoning amendments and comprehensive plan amendments should be considered for the following areas to reflect existing uses, encourage appropriate new uses or, in some cases, to protect the existing character of the area.
  - Former Price Rite Plaza on Manton Avenue from heavy commercial to general commercial.
  - Parcels along Manton Ave between Chaffee and Julian from heavy commercial to limited or neighborhood commercial.
  - Parcels along Manton Ave between Julian and Greenwood from general commercial to limited or neighborhood commercial.
  - Parcels at the intersection of Manton Ave. and Atwells Ave. from general commercial to limited or neighborhood commercial.
  - Parcels along Atwells Ave between Hannah and Hardy from general commercial to limited or neighborhood commercial.
  - Parcels along Tuxedo and Amherst from general commercial and industrial to three-family residential.
- Analyze the possibility of creating an "arts district."
  - Consider extending existing tax incentives for artists in downtown and on the west side to other parts of the city.
  - Increase opportunities and access to safe and affordable housing for artists.
  - Examine ways in which live/work could be adjusted to meet the expanded needs of artists.

#### **Providence Tomorrow, Mt. Hope, Hope, and Blackstone Neighborhood Plan, October, 2009**

- Work with property owners to encourage the redevelopment of the former Sears and Anderson-Little sites as mixed use, at an appropriate urban scale with high-quality design, and with neighborhood amenities, with a maximum building height of four stories.
- Amend regulations to apply design criteria to new developments.
- Amend residential zoning regulations to promote that promote the best examples of existing neighborhood character (as identified in the neighborhood typologies) to ensure that new development will blend with the existing character of the neighborhood. Ensure that regulations include flexibility to address unique topography and other site conditions.
- Prohibit the encroachment of commercial uses into residential areas along Hope Street.
- Based on an extensive review of use patterns and current land use regulations, zoning amendments and comprehensive plan amendments should be considered for the following areas to reflect existing uses, encourage appropriate new uses and protect neighborhood character.
  - West side of North Main from North Burial Ground to City line, including Sears, Shaw's, etc. from Heavy Commercial to General Commercial.
  - Interior lots on block between 1st Street and Stenton at North Main from Heavy Commercial to Multi-family Dwelling [lots fronting North Main remain General Commercial].
  - Lots on east side of North Main from Rochambeau south to Doyle from Heavy Commercial to General Commercial