



MAYOR BRETT P. SMILEY  
CITY OF PROVIDENCE

# 246 Prairie Redevelopment

What's next for the former  
Urban League property?

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Community Workshop #1  
Davey Lopes Recreation Center

October 24, 2024



# Welcome

Joe Mulligan  
Executive Director  
Providence Redevelopment Agency

Dwayne Keys  
Community Facilitator  
D Key Solution

# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Presentation: Property Status & Community Process Goals
- Discussion Activities
- Share Back & Next Steps



# Opening Remarks

Mayor Brett P. Smiley

Councilwoman Mary Kay Harris

# Property Status & Community Process Overview

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Tim Shea, Department of Planning & Development



# Status of 246 Prairie Avenue

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Acquired by the Providence Redevelopment Agency (PRA) in late 2022 following Urban League announcement.

Environmental assessment recently complete.

Informational signage installed.

As previously announced, the existing building is unsafe.

Abatement near completion, demolition beginning in coming weeks.



# Community Process Goals

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As announced in 2022, the City is committed to conducting a community process to guide the property's redevelopment.

Our commitments & goals include:

Commitments:

Transparency &  
Collaboration

Listening &  
Respect

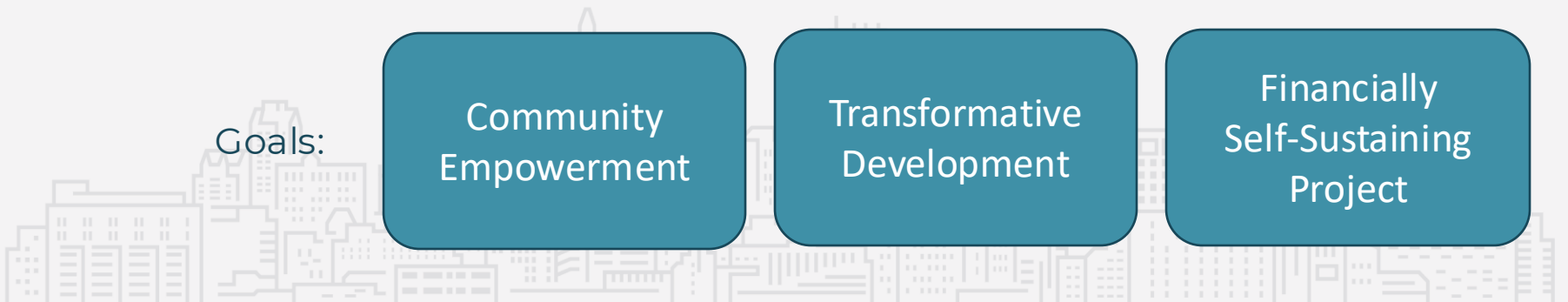
Long-term  
Community  
Partnership

Goals:

Community  
Empowerment

Transformative  
Development

Financially  
Self-Sustaining  
Project



# Prior Community Engagement

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We know this conversation is not starting from scratch:

- 2017 Broad Street Improvements process
- 2018 Housing Summit with Neighbors for Revitalization
- 2019 Barbara Jordan II Community Engagement
- African American Ambassadors Group – Housing Comm.
- Comprehensive Plan feedback
  
- & more!

We aim to respect, discuss, and build upon findings from previous processes.

Please don't hesitate to share info with our team!





# Community Process Framework

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Our team:

- PRA & Planning and Development staff
- Dwayne Keys of D Key Solution, Community Facilitator
- STUDIO ENÉE, Design Consultant
- Guided by Community Advisory Group

Event #1  
Oct. 24

Event #2  
Nov. 12

Event #3  
Dec. 10

Request  
for  
Proposals



**Dwayne Keys**  
Community Facilitator  
D Key Solution



**STUDIO ENÉE**  
Architecture & Design  
Consultant

# Community Advisory Group

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Beverly Ledbetter  
Urban League of RI

Margaret DeVos  
Southside Community Land Trust

Ron Crosson  
South Prov. Neighborhood  
Association & Resident

Shane Lee  
Nonviolence Institute

Harold Metts  
Fmr State Senator & Resident

Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy  
PVD Housing & Human Services

Ruben Ogando  
Business Owner & Resident

Madeline Burke  
CCRI Liston Campus

Led by Dwayne Keys  
Facilitator & Resident



# Workshop Events

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Introduction  
+ Listening  
Session

Feasible  
Site Uses &  
Building  
Types

Concept  
Designs

Event #1  
Oct. 24

Event #2  
Nov. 12

Event #3  
Dec. 10

Request  
for  
Proposals



The background of the slide is a dark teal color with a white line-art map of a city street grid. The map shows a dense network of streets, with some larger roads and a few irregular shapes that might represent parks or water bodies. The map is centered and covers the entire background.

# **Discussion Activities**

Community Assets & Needs



PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DOWNTOWN

HOSPITAL DISTRICT

SOUTHSIDE CULTURAL CENTER

COMMUNITY PREP SCHOOL

DAVEY LOPES RECREATION CENTER

ELMWOOD AVENUE

FRIENDSHIP STREET

DUDLEY STREET

GRACE CHURCH CEMETERY

BLACKSTONE STREET

FORMER FLYNN SCHOOL SITE

BELL FUNERAL HOME

JACQUELINE CLEMENTS PARK

SITE

MET SCHOOL

ACHIEVEMENT FIRST HIGH SCHOOL

FORMER SAINT JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND

BRIGHT FUNERAL HOME

PEACE & PLENTY PARK

BROAD STREET

PRAIRIE AVENUE

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

PUBLIC STREET

FORGARTY ELEMENTARY

BAILEY ELEMENTARY

POTTER STREET

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

HELP US MAP OUR COMMUNITY ASSETS.  
AYÚDANOS A UBICAR LOS LUGARES DE IMPORTANCIA PARA NUESTRA COMUNIDAD.

# THANK YOU

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[www.providenceri.gov/planning](http://www.providenceri.gov/planning)

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