

THE CITY OF NEWPORT

RESOLUTION

**OF THE
COUNCIL**

No.

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| WHEREAS, | In Newport's 2017 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, the city's North End is "broadly defined as the area north of Route 138/238, Admiral Kalbfus Road and Miantonomi Avenue, but includes the Newport Grand Casino and adjacent development along Halsey Street," and |
| WHEREAS, | The Comprehensive Land Use Plan states, "This area is and will continue to be, the focus of public investment and economic diversification efforts," and |
| WHEREAS, | The Mixed Use, Innovation land-use designation within the North End Urban Plan (to achieve the city's long-sought Innovation Hub) is located in the North End, surrounding the existing Pell Bridge ramp right-of-way, with the intent (as stated in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan) to "support the development of incubator/accelerator-type businesses focused on resilience/climate change, ocean, alternative energy systems, defense (underwater, maritime and cyber security) and digital industries, their support sub-sectors, associated training and job creation center, as well as ancillary financial, commercial and retail/hospitality support services," and |
| WHEREAS, | There are serious concerns as to how the implementation of the North End Urban Plan will impact the adjacent residential neighborhoods and accomplish equitable development, and |
| WHEREAS, | Residents and community stakeholders have hired Smart Growth America – a national nonprofit dedicated to creating equitable and sustainable communities – to assist the North End community in encouraging economic growth while ensuring accessibility and social equity, and |
| WHEREAS, | Smart-growth approaches to development can help address long-standing environmental, health, and economic disparities adversely affecting low-income, elderly, and disabled residents of the area impacted by the North End Urban Plan, and |

WHEREAS, The North End Urban Plan's implementation through policy, permitting, and other practices in City Hall will be overseen by both the Newport City Council and the Newport Planning Board; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: The city administration will schedule a workshop to be held for the City Council and Planning Board for the first week in February, to receive input from Smart Growth America's senior leadership including SGA CEO Calvin Gladney, Christopher Coes, Beth Osborne, and Chris Zimmerman regarding encouraging economic growth while ensuring accessibility and social equity.

ANGELA MCCALLA

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk