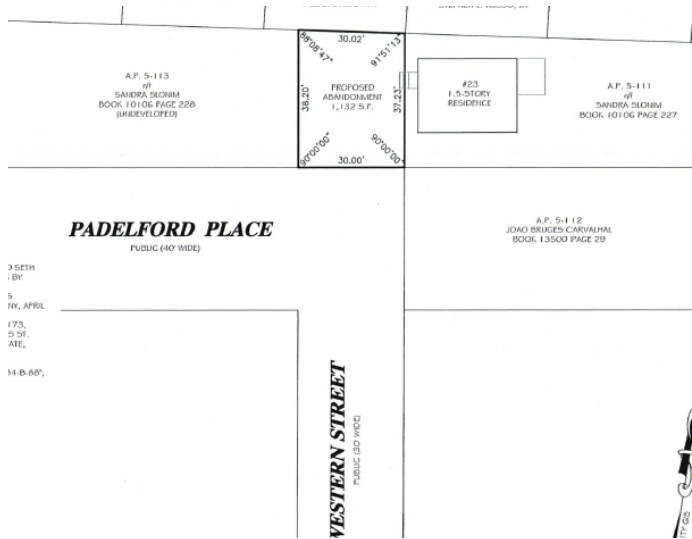


Providence City Plan Commission June 16, 2026



AGENDA ITEM 2 ■ ABANDONMENT OF WESTERN STREET



Aerial view of the site

OVERVIEW

PETITIONER:	Sandra Lee	PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	Abandonment of the portion of Western Street between AP 5 lots 111 and 113
CASE NO./ PROJECT TYPE:	REFERRAL 3617 Right-of-way abandonment	RECOMMENDATION:	Recommendation of approval subject to the noted findings of fact
PROJECT LOCATION:	Western Street	PROJECT PLANNER:	Choyon Manjrekar
NEIGHBORHOOD:	Mt Hope		

OVERVIEW

The petitioner is the owner of AP 5 lots 111 and 113 located adjacent to where Western Street terminates. The petitioner is requesting that the City abandon this portion of Western Street for incorporation into their property.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The *City Plan Commission Handbook* Policy No. 1: “Criteria and Guidelines for Approval of Street, Highway and Rights-of-way Abandonment,” states that six standards should be met before the Commission recommends approval of an abandonment request. Below are the standards, including staff comments for each:

1. *A public interest has to be clearly demonstrated. A public interest is defined as one or more of the following: public health and safety, adequate provision of transportation, general improvement of traffic patterns and/or circulation, convenient access to properties, avoidance of a nuisance, significant economic development, preservation of a historical or cultural feature, and improvement of the general welfare of the community.*

Western Street runs north to south and terminates adjacent to property owned by the petitioner. Western Street provides access to the lots south of this point but is not useful other than to access property owned by the petitioner. As this area only appears to be useful for accessing property that it abuts, the DPD does not object to the abandonment as it would not have an adverse impact on the public interest.

2. *No negative impact is evident on existing land uses, future plans, zoning, safety, health or welfare of the community by the proposed abandonment.*

It is not apparent that the abandonment will negatively affect future plans for development or existing land use as the proposed abandonment area is only useful for accessing land that is owned by the abutter. No negative impact to the health and welfare of the surrounding community is expected as the street is not essential to provide access to other parts of the City.

3. *All abutting landowners agree to the proposed abandonment.*

The petitioner owns the lots abutting the abandonment area to the east and west. The DPD is not aware of any objections from the owner of 65 Duncan Street (AP 5 lot 421) to the north of the abandonment area.

4. *No physical or legal access will be denied to any land or property in surrounding areas by the proposed abandonment.*

No physical or legal access will be denied as the street is only useful for providing access to lots that it abuts.

5. *No existing or future public services or facilities need to be protected, provided, or maintained within the right-of-way. An easement retention may be necessary to provide access to, maintain, or provide existing or future service or utility needs.*

It is unknown whether public services or facilities need to be protected, provided or maintained. The petitioner would need to grant any necessary easements.

6. *The proposed or intended use of the street and/or adjacent properties must be shown on a petition or plan, and such use shall be in conformance with existing zoning and Comprehensive Plan Objectives.*

A petition and plan have been provided.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing discussion, the City Plan Commission should advise the Committee on Public Works that the proposed abandonment be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. All abutting landowners shall agree to the abandonment.
2. The petitioner shall apply for an administrative subdivision to merge the abandoned street with respective property prior to appearing before the City Council.
3. The petitioners shall grant any necessary easements for access to property, utility access and maintenance.