

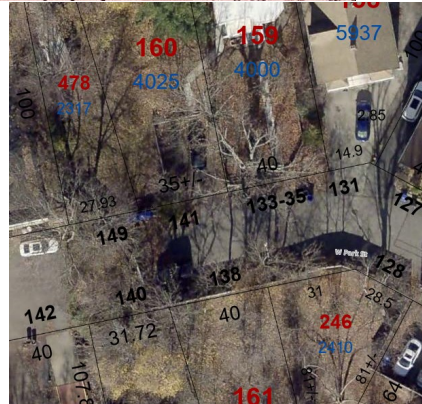
# Providence City Plan Commission August 18, 2026



## AGENDA ITEM 5 ■ ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF WEST PARK STREET



View from West Park Street



Aerial view of the site with abandonment area

## OVERVIEW

|                               |                                                                 |                             |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PETITIONER:</b>            | Erik Bright                                                     | <b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION:</b> | Abandonment of a portion of West Park Street                     |
| <b>CASE NO./PROJECT TYPE:</b> | <b>REFERRAL 3621</b><br>Right-of-way abandonment                |                             |                                                                  |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b>      | West Park Street abutting AP 67 Lots 161, 246, 555, 163 and 245 | <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>      | Recommendation of approval subject to the noted findings of fact |
| <b>NEIGHBORHOOD:</b>          | Smith Hill                                                      | <b>PROJECT PLANNER:</b>     | Choyon Manjrekar                                                 |

**OVERVIEW**

The petitioner is requesting that the City abandon the portion of West Park Street that abuts AP 67 Lots 159, 160, 246 and 161, which are owned by the petitioner.

**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.*

This portion of West Park Street runs east to west from Caverly Street and terminates in a dead end. It provides access to lots that it abuts, but is not particularly useful beyond lots AP 67 Lots 158 and 246 as the remainder of lots on the street are owned by the petitioner. The portion proposed for abandonment only appears to be useful for accessing property owned by the applicant. The DPD would not object to the proposed 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 petitioner. No negative impact to the health and welfare of the surrounding community is expected as the street is not essential to providing access to other parts of the City.

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

The petitioner own the lots abutting the abandonment area.

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

As discussed, no physical or legal access is expected to be denied as the street is only useful for providing access to lots owned by the petitioner.

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 is required 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. The petitioner shall apply for an administrative subdivision and provide a survey depicting how the abandoned area will be allocated to the abutting properties prior to appearing before the City Council.

**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. The petitioner shall apply for an administrative subdivision and provide a survey to merge the abandoned street with their respective properties prior to appearing before the City Council.
2. The petitioner shall grant any necessary easements for access to property, utility access and maintenance.