

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 51
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ARTICLE III WARWICK LAND TRUST

No..... Date.....

Approved.....Mayor

1 *Be it ordained by the City of Warwick:*

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3 Section I. Chapter 51 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warwick is hereby amended to
4 the following:

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6 **Sec. 51-51. - Establishment.**

7 Pursuant to Public Laws chapter 2000-060, the City of Warwick (hereafter called the city) is
8 hereby authorized to establish and amend by ordinance the Warwick Land Trust (hereafter called the
9 Trust), a body politic and corporate and a public instrumentality. The trust shall have the authority to
10 acquire, hold, and manage real property and interests therein, including development rights and
11 easements, situated in the city consisting of open, residential, agricultural, recreational, historical and
12 littoral property, including existing and future well fields and aquifer recharge areas, fresh water
13 marshes, water bodies, and adjoining uplands, wildlife habitats, land or buildings providing access to
14 or views of water bodies, or for bicycling and hiking paths, or for future public recreational use, and
15 land for agricultural use or air space thereof. With the exception of property acquired for public
16 historical preservation, research and/or educational, public access or recreational purposes, the trust
17 shall hold all property or development rights solely as open space or for agricultural uses or for water
18 protection purposes or for public access or to prevent the accelerated residential or commercial
19 development thereof in perpetuity, as the trustees may determine.

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21 **Sec. 51-52. - Purpose.**

22 The purpose of the trust shall be to preserve open space protect wetlands, water bodies, ground
23 and surface water resources, farm lands, historical or cultural places of interest, scenic views,
24 unusual, exceptional or exemplary natural habitats, provide opportunities for research and education
25 on natural resources on land trust held properties and to secure for the city the goals and objectives
26 established in the comprehensive plan.

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1 **Sec. 51-53. - Appointment.**

2 The trust shall be administered by nine trustees to be appointed by the city council, with one
3 trustee to be from each ward in the city. The trustees who are first appointed shall be designated to
4 serve for terms of one one-year, two two-year, two three-year, two four-year and two five-year.
5 Thereafter, trustees shall be appointed as aforesaid for a term of office of five years, except that all
6 vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term. The city council shall
7 appoint persons to serve on the land trust, who are city residents electors, on a non-partisan basis.
8 Said members shall serve without compensation. The planning director or his or her designee and the
9 parks and recreation director or his or her designee shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting trustees. In
10 addition to the nine council appointed trustees, the council appointed trustees may, by majority vote,
11 nominate a maximum of four at-large trustees for appointment by the city council. Each ward is
12 allowed a maximum of two at-large trustees to serve on the trust.

13 At-large trustees shall have the same voting and subcommittee rights and responsibilities as the
14 council appointed trustees; however, at-large trustees shall not serve as the chairperson or vice-
15 chairperson and shall not vote to elect officers nor vote to nominate at-large trustees. At-large
16 trustees are appointed to a two-year term and are eligible for nomination and reappointment to the
17 land trust.

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19 Section II. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as prescribed by law.
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22 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN HOWE
23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT MEROLLA
24 COUNCILMAN MCALLISTER
25 COUNCILMAN RIX
26 COUNCILMAN LADOUCEUR
27 COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS
28 COUNCILMAN MCELROY

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31 COMMITTEE: ORDINANCE