



# Memo

To: Mayor and Council  
Tracey Nicholson, City Administrator

From: Jim Chandler, Director of Community & Economic Development, Assistant City Administrator

Date: March 27, 2018

Re: Maryland DHCD Community Legacy Grant Resolution

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Mayor, Council and City Administrator with summary of the State of Maryland's Community Legacy grant program and recommendations on projects that are eligible for funding.

- Maryland DHCD announced the FY2019 Community Legacy funding application cycle with applications due on or before May 16, 2018.
- Staff is recommending funding requests consistent with priorities specified within the '2017-2022 Community Sustainability Plan'
- Staff is requesting feedback from the Mayor and Council and authorization, via resolution, on or before April 16, 2018.

## Program Details

The Community Legacy Grant funding is administered by the Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development and provides local governments and community development organizations with funding for projects aimed at strengthening communities through activities such as business retention and attraction, encouraging homeownership and commercial revitalization.

The focus of the program is to provide financial assistance with projects that capitalize on the strengths of a community and be part of a larger revitalization strategy, which may include, but are not limited to:

- Mixed-use development consisting of residential, commercial and/or open space

- Business retention, expansion and attraction initiatives
- Streetscape improvements
- Increasing homeownership and home rehabilitation among residents
- Residential and commercial façade improvement programs
- Real estate acquisition, including land banking, and strategic demolition
- Establishing funds to provide loan guarantees and credit enhancement to leverage other public or private financing

As a State of Maryland designated Sustainable Community, the City is eligible to apply for Community Legacy grant funds as well as other State funding programs authorized under the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010. In order for a project to be eligible for funding it must be located in a geographic area designated by the Governor’s Smart Growth Subcabinet and must support the plan that has been approved by the Smart Growth Subcabinet as a Sustainable Community Plan.

The City of Hyattsville received Community Legacy grant funds to support a variety of capital improvements projects and programming efforts since the program’s inception, including:

Year	Project	Scope of Work	Funding
FY2017	Commercial Façade Improvement Program	Funding for matching grant program to provide façade improvements	\$50,000
FY2016	Commercial Façade Improvement Program	Funding for matching grant program to provide façade improvements	\$50,000
FY2016	Placemaking Project	Funding for community placemaking initiative	\$75,000
FY2015	Commercial Façade Improvement Program	Funding for matching grant program to provide façade improvements	\$50,000
FY2013	Hyattsville Downtown Public Infrastructure	Public infrastructure improvements	\$350,000
FY2011	Neighborhood Sustainability Project	Bicycle infrastructure and pedestrian improvements on City owned roadways and ROW	\$110,000
FY2010	Downtown Hyattsville Development Catalyst Project	Public infrastructure and streetscape improvements.	\$325,000
FY2009	Community Legacy Plan	Development of the City’s 2011-2015 Community Sustainability Plan	\$50,000
FY2009	Rehabilitation of 4318 Gallatin Street – Phase II	Construction of interior fire staircase at Arcade Building	\$50,000
FY2008	Rehabilitation of 4318 Gallatin Street – Phase I	Stabilization of Arcade Building including concrete flooring and steel	\$250,000
FY2007	Jefferson Street Demolition	Demolition of former City Building for development of Renaissance Square Artist Housing	\$300,000
FY2007	Hamilton Street Artway	Redevelopment of Hamilton Street from 40 <sup>th</sup> /41 <sup>st</sup> to 38 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	\$60,000
FY2006	Hamilton Street Artway	Redevelopment of Hamilton Street from 40 <sup>th</sup> /41 <sup>st</sup> to 38 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	\$50,000
FY2005	Hamilton Street Artway	Redevelopment of Hamilton Street from 40 <sup>th</sup> /41 <sup>st</sup> to 38 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	\$110,250
FY2004	Street Lighting Project	Purchase and installation of pedestrian street lighting on Hamilton Street and upgrading of overhead street lighting in the residential neighborhood	\$102,442
Total			\$1,982,692

### Grant Application Initiatives

Staff is proposing the following application requests, both of which are consistent with the Community Legacy program and the City's priorities specified within the '2017-2022 Community Sustainability Plan':

- Commercial Façade Improvement Program
  - Funding Request: \$100,000
  - Program: Provides commercial property owners and/or businesses with 50/50 grant match to perform exterior improvements to commercial properties. Improvements include ADA access, lighting, window and/or door replacement, masonry, signage and other related improvements.
- Triple Bottom Line Strategy
  - Funding Request: \$30,000
  - Program: Evaluate the impacts of utilizing a Triple Bottom Line scoring policy when evaluating programs, infrastructure and planned development. A TBL is a framework that assesses social, environmental and economic measures as they relate to sustainability. The CL program is unlikely to fund an evaluation of 'procurement' policies, as it is not aligned with revitalization goals.

Earlier this month Maryland DHCD announced the FY2019 Community Legacy funding application cycle with applications due on or before May 16, 2018.

In order to meet the due date for this year's cycle, Staff is requesting the Mayor and Council authorize staff to proceed with an application and authorize a resolution to be included in the application packet, stating that the governing body has authorized the project and acceptance of awarded funds at the Council meeting scheduled for April 16, 2018.

Any funding awarded to the City would be available July 1, 2018 and would be required to be 50% expended by June 30, 2019 and completely expended by June 30, 2020.