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Agenda Item No. 13

Date 02-22-2016

February 16, 2016

The Honorable Victoria Jackson-Stanley  
The Honorable Jackie Vickers  
The Honorable Donald Sydnor  
The Honorable Frank Cooke  
The Honorable Gage Thomas  
The Honorable Robert Hansen  
City of Cambridge  
410 Academy Street  
Cambridge, Maryland 21613

**RE: Gateway Planning Committee**

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

The April 14, 2014 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and Sailwinds Park, Inc. (Sailwinds) indicates that “[t]he City and Sailwinds agree to work cooperatively in the planning and design of the redevelopment plan for the [Gateway] Property.” Accordingly, the City and Sailwinds—the “Gateway Planning Committee”—have been meeting monthly since July 2015 to fulfill its responsibility as defined in the MOU. The current Committee participants are as follows:

City  
Commissioner Hanson  
Odie Wheeler  
Pat Escher  
George Hyde

Sailwinds  
Frank Narr  
Linda Watkins-Henry  
Rich Loeffler  
Chad Malkus  
Jeff Powell

Note that Natalie Chabot, former City Economic Development Director, served on the Committee at its inception—the City has not yet suggested a replacement.

At its January 26, 2016 meeting, the Committee recommended that Sailwinds apply for a Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA) planning grant in the amount of \$50,000. The funds would be used for the planning and design of the Gateway redevelopment. Therefore, the Committee seeks City authorization of Sailwinds’ MHAA application submission. The grant application is due February 26.

In conjunction with its grant application, Sailwinds must identify and subsequently provide dollar-for-dollar, matching project funds and provide appropriate letters of support. Since the State indicates that Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are an eligible match source, Sailwinds is requesting to use CDBG

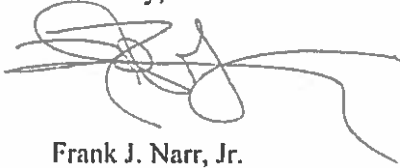
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funds secured by the City for Gateway demolition as the match. As for a City support letter for the application, Sailwinds will provide a draft in advance of your February 22 Council Meeting that, with your signature, would fulfill the support requirement.

Lastly, the Committee would like to schedule time on a future, regular Council Agenda to update you on its work to date, present a draft Plan of Work for the future and discuss its role and authority going forward.

We look forward to your responses and direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank J. Narr, Jr.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Frank J. Narr, Jr.  
President, Sailwinds Park, Inc.  
Member, Gateway Planning Committee  
410.463.0428

cc: Sandra Tripp-Jones, City Manager

[City of Cambridge Letterhead]

February 22, 2016

Richard Hughes, Administrator  
Maryland Heritage Area Program  
Maryland Historic Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, Maryland 21032

RE: Cambridge/Dorchester County Gateway Project – Sailwinds Park, Inc. 2016 MHAA Grant Application

Dear Mr. Hughes,

As the owner of the Cambridge/Dorchester County Gateway Property, the City of Cambridge confirms its willingness to support the Project and, if required, convey to the Maryland Historic Trust or other eligible entity a perpetual preservation easement on the Property or enter into a preservation/maintenance agreement. We understand that our confirmation is a requirement of the MHAA Grant Application and that a perpetual preservation easement or preservation/maintenance agreement would pose a financial obligation upon the property owner and a legal encumbrance upon the easement property.

The City of Cambridge hereby confirms the less-than-fee simple interest in the Property:

Billboard Lease Agreement with Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc.

Sincerely,