

March 20, 2017

Ms. Terry S. Fearins
Community Program Specialist
Delaware and Maryland Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture
1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200
Dover, DE 19904

Dear Ms. Fearins,

The City of Cambridge fully supports The American Legion Post 91 's application for loan from the USDA in the amount of \$600,138.00. The City fully understands that the American Legion Post 91 is the applicant and if awarded, the recipient and is not seeking any funds for this project from the City. We applaud their dedication to our City by helping further our ongoing efforts to redevelop this property as the true 'gateway' that it is.

When the Legion was badly damaged by a fire several months ago, the City of Cambridge responded immediately by offering to assist them in all ways possible in their rebuilding, understanding and appreciating the enormous service their organization provides to our Country's veterans and to our local citizens. To that end, the City prepared and submitted an application for funding through Maryland's Community Legacy Program, offered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, which unfortunately was not funded, due to the overwhelmingly number of applications submitted Statewide. The City understands that the Legion is pursuing other funding sources to bring this project to fruition, such as this loan application.

Currently the Legion has a temporary lease with the City on the Governor's Hall property until the construction of their facility is completed, which allows for this public venue to continue to operate while the City continues to develop its own plans for this property. It is the expectation of the Legion that once their building is completed, membership will increase. The City understands that the Legion intends that the newly renovated facility will be open for events that have formally taken place at Governor's Hall and will be a partial replacement for that venue. It is the City's understanding that more than 70% of the renovated building will be available for public use.

The City of Cambridge would like to thank you for considering this application.

Sincerely,

Ms. Victoria Jackson-Stanley
Mayor