

Council Agenda Report

Date: April 25, 2016
Prepared by: Ginger Heatwole, Finance Director
Submitted by: Sandra Tripp-Jones, City Manager *STJ*
SUBJECT: 2016 Community Legacy Façade Grant Program

Recommendations: That Council approve:

- A) Appropriation of \$50,000 for the 2016 Community Legacy Façade grant to the General Fund, and
- B) Increasing the Economic Development budget by \$50,000 for Façade grants to local citizens

Discussion:

The City's Façade Grant program provides financial and business assistance to businesses and commercial property owners interested in renovating the street faces of their buildings. The program was established by Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to increase the physical appearance of Maryland City commercial areas. The City has been involved with the Façade program since 2013 and it has been well received with in the City. There is a waiting list of participants who are applying to receive the 2016 Community Façade grant monies to improve their street faces.

Impact:

The grant will allow the City to award up to \$50,000 in façade improvement grants to citizens of Cambridge. There is no match required from the City.