

## Council Agenda Report

**Date:** July 11, 2016

**Prepared by:** Brent Jett, PE, Civil Engineer

**Submitted by:** Oden C. Wheeler Jr., Director DPW 

**SUBJECT:** FY 2017 Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, State Revitalization Program Grant from Maryland DHCD in the amount of \$318,000 for Maryland Ave Streetlights

**Recommendation:** That Council approve the subject application by staff.

### Discussion:

The City of Cambridge has identified Maryland Avenue as one of the two main gateways entering the downtown core of the city. Utilizing previous grant funds, a Gateway Report was completed and followed as a baseline for the improvements on Maryland Ave. One of the few remaining pieces yet to be completed is the installation of antique street lights from Dorchester Ave to the Creek Bridge.

The project would involve the purchase and installation of 28 new street lights from Dorchester Ave to the Creek Bridge. These would be connected to the 6 antique lights previously installed on Maryland Ave between Rt 50 and Dorchester Ave. The infrastructure was installed previously to allow for expansion and connection of these lights, so no additional electrical requirements will be needed. There is room in the grass strip between the back of the curb and the new porous concrete sidewalk to install the bases and conduit run for the majority of the new lights. Closer to the bridge, the lights may need to be placed behind the sidewalk, but this will only occur for a few cases.

The City applied for this during the last Community Legacy Grant cycle and was ultimately not funded despite the request for additional information after the application deadline. (Typically a good sign for an application.) While the City was not awarded the grant at that time, DHCD staff have indicated it is a strong project with a very good application from last cycle.

During prior years of Community Legacy funding, the City of Cambridge has installed street lights on Maryland Ave, Cedar St, Race St and Poplar St, Muir St, and Gay St.

### Fiscal Impact:

The City is requesting \$318,000 in grant funds with no cash match from Cambridge. The project would be bid for the purchase and installation of 28 new antique street lights to be installed on Maryland Ave from Dorchester Ave to the Creek Bridge.

**Approved By:** Sandra Tripp-Jones, City Manager 