

## Council Agenda Report

**Date:** September 26, 2016

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

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

**SUBJECT:** FY 2017 Watershed Assistance Program Grant from the Maryland Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund in the amount of \$70,000 for Peachblossom Branch investigation and design as well as Cedar Street Stormwater Infrastructure Improvement design.

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

**Discussion:**

The City of Cambridge has previously applied for the Maryland DNR Trust Fund grant assistance to provide a green street and ditch improvements to Peachblossom Branch. Despite having a strong application, per staff feedback, the City was not successful. However, Cambridge was successful in securing funding for the design/build on the Cannery Stream Restoration project. At this time, despite not being deemed tidal, Peachblossom Branch falls into similar disrepair and derelict conditions.

While the lowland area of Peachblossom Branch adjacent to Cedar St has been improved recently, the upper portions near and above Virginia Ave are in need of stabilization. The bottom of the ditch is bare dirt and the sides are eroding away with each rain event that flows through downstream. In addition to the ditch conditions, the connection pipes under Cedar St were inspected

The project would be bid for the investigation and design of improvements to Peachblossom Branch and the associated culvert connections to the outfall structure located on the Generation 3 property. A cost estimate and design drawings would be the products to make the project bid-ready. According to grant sources, this will vastly improve the City's ability to receive grant funding during future opportunities.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The City is requesting \$70,000 in grant funds with no cash match from Cambridge.

**Approved by:** Sandra Tripp-Jones, City Manager *STJ*