

# Regular Meeting

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	5
<b>Meeting Date</b>	July 22, 2013
<b>Prepared By</b>	Roz Grigsby, Community Development Coordinator, HCD
<b>Approved By</b>	Brian Kenner City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Authorizing Submission of Community Legacy Application
<b>Background</b>	<p>The Community Legacy program, administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, is a comprehensive planning-based program designed to implement community-wide revitalization strategies. Funding priorities include projects which have a strategic economic impact, demonstrate evidence of other funding commitments, and are clearly part of an ongoing revitalization effort.</p> <p>The following capital projects are included in the City’s FY14 Community Legacy application:</p> <p><u>Flower Avenue Placemaking Project (\$100,000):</u> The project will fund streetscape amenities with a distinctive character to create a cohesive community and augment the Flower Avenue Green Street Project. The project includes amenities such as benches, bus shelters, bicycle racks, and trash receptacles – items not included in the Transportation Alternatives Program funding. The inclusion of public art as part of the street amenities will enliven the experience for pedestrians along this active corridor. The project will further the recommendations of the Strategic Plan to make Takoma Park a “livable” community.</p> <p><u>The New Ave Signage Program (\$150,000):</u> By concentrating on a specific façade improvement along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor, the project will have a visual and economic impact on the commercial area by highlighting businesses in new ways. The program will partner business owners, local artists and sign fabricators to create original, eye-catching signage to identify businesses. The signs will likely feature languages in addition to English (Spanish, Amharic), reflecting the well-known cultural diversity of the New Hampshire Avenue business community.</p> <p><u>Old Takoma Business Association Revolving Loan Fund (\$200,000):</u> OTBA manages a Revolving Loan Fund for local businesses which they would like to expand to address the need for capital investment in the area. The project would specifically focus on renovation of historic buildings and build-out for new or relocating businesses. OTBA has successfully managed a revolving loan fund for the past six years.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	<p>“To work in partnership with others to ensure that Takoma Park is fiscally, environmentally and economically sustainable for the city and its residents.”</p> <p><i>City of Takoma Park, Maryland Strategic Plan (FY2010-FY2015)</i></p>

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	Community Legacy Grant Request: \$450,000
<b>Attachments</b>	Resolution Authorizing Submission of Community Legacy Application
<b>Recommendation</b>	Approval of the accompanying resolution.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

**RESOLUTION 2013 -**

**AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY LEGACY APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS,** the Takoma Park City Council recognizes that there is a significant need for reinvestment and revitalization of commercial and residential areas in the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the City has developed three distinct Community Legacy Projects: the Flower Avenue Streetscape Amenities Project, The New Ave Signage Project, and the Old Takoma Business Association Revolving Loan Fund (the "Projects") as further described in the City of Takoma Park's FY2014 Application; and

**WHEREAS,** the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department), either through Community Legacy or through other Programs of the Department, or in cooperation with other State departments or agencies, may provide some or all of the financing for the Project (the "Project Financing") in order to assist in making it financially feasible; and

**WHEREAS,** the Project is located within a priority funding area under Section 5-7B-02 of the Smart Growth Act and will conform to the local zoning code; and

**WHEREAS,** the applicable law and regulations require approval of the Community Legacy Project and the Project Financing by the City of Takoma Park.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City Council of the City of Takoma Park supports the financing of the Projects, endorses the submission of the City of Takoma Park's FY2014 Community Legacy application, and approves the request for financial assistance in the form of a grant in an amount up to \$450,000; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute documents and take any action necessary to carry out the intent of this resolutions.

**Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2013.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Williams, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessie Carpenter, CMC  
City Clerk