

Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date: May 12, 2025

Submitted by:

Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator Regine Watson, Town Clerk

Item Title: Resolution 29-2025: A Resolution in support of the operating assistance grant application for technical assistance funding through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

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Work Session Item [X] Council Meeting Item [X] **Documentation Attached:** Resolution

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends the passage of this support resolution.

Item Summary: The Town of Bladensburg, in coordination with the Towns of Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonston (collectively the Port Towns), seeks Council approval for Resolution 029-2025 in support of an Operating Assistance Grant application under the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program.

The Port Towns have formally established a Community Development Corporation (CDC) to promote joint economic and housing development initiatives across the region. The TAG application requests \$50,000 in funding to support operational and technical services critical to launching and sustaining the CDC's mission.

The Port Towns have partnered with Common Resilience, an experienced economic development consultant, to assist with capacity-building, strategic planning, and implementation support. The TAG funding will directly support efforts to build out this joint infrastructure and align with the core priorities of the TAG program, including:

- Investing in designated Just Communities to ensure equitable development and fair housing,
- Supporting increased housing production (including affordable, middle-market, and mixed-income housing),
- Promoting generational wealth-building strategies like homeownership and small business support.

This effort builds on the Port Towns' collective designation as a Sustainable Community, reaffirmed in 2024, and represents a key milestone in the region's long-term economic revitalization strategy.

The Town Administrator will be able to answer any questions on this matter.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [] NA	Continued Date:
Budgeted Amount:	
One-Time Cost: NA	
Ongoing Cost: NA	
Council Priority: Yes [] No []	Approved Date: