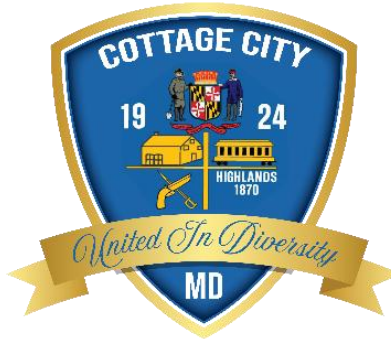




**The Town of Cottage City
3820 40th Avenue,
Cottage City, MD 20722
(301)-779-2161**

September 9, 2026

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
Division of Neighborhood Revitalization
7800 Harkins Road
Lanham, Maryland 20706

Re: Joint Letter of Support—Port Towns Regional Wayfinding Initiative

Dear DHCD Application Review Committee:

We write jointly on behalf of the Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonston to express our strong support for the Port Towns Regional Wayfinding Initiative and the Town of Cottage City's request for \$750,000 in State Revitalization Program funding. Cottage City will serve as lead applicant and central grant administrator for this coordinated four-town project.

The initiative will design, fabricate, and install at least 60 coordinated gateway, vehicular, pedestrian, parking, park/trail, and interpretive signs connecting residents and visitors to at least 25 public facilities, business districts, parks, trails, historic resources, transit connections, community services, and waterfront destinations. A shared design family will preserve each municipality's identity while making the region easier to navigate, strengthening community gateways, supporting locally owned businesses, and improving pedestrian, bicycle, recreational, and waterfront connections.

Each town will participate in destination and location review, community and agency coordination, local approvals, right-of-way and utility review, permitting, installation verification, and DHCD documentation. Final sites will be established during design and field verification. No sign will be installed until the controlling public entity has documented authorization and all applicable permits, utility clearances, and Maryland Historical Trust requirements are satisfied.

The governing bodies of the four Port Towns will return to session in September 2026. Formal resolutions supporting the application and authorizing each municipality's participation will follow and will be transmitted to DHCD after the respective governing bodies take action. The undersigned administrators confirm our shared commitment to completing the regional system within the proposed 12-month award period and sustaining its benefits beyond the grant term.

Sincerely,

John Hoatson
Town Manager
Town of Cottage City

CC: Cottage City Commission