

**CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER,
MARYLAND RESOLUTION 09-2019**

Introduced By: Councilman Luke Chesek

**In Support of Revitalizing the 3300 Block of Rhode Island Avenue
(Route 1), Perry Street, and Memorial Park through the Maryland
State Department of Housing and Community Development's
Community Legacy Grant Program**

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier and its partners have invested a significant amount of time and money in efforts towards the revitalization of the 3300 block of Rhode Island Avenue.

WHEREAS, the 3300 block of Rhode Island Avenue abuts the traffic circle at Rhode Island Avenue and 34th Street, which is the center of Mount Rainier's downtown core as noted in its Mixed-Use Town Center Design.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier partnered with the Menkiti Group and the Prince George's County Redevelopment Authority to revitalize the buildings that sit on the 3300 block, transforming vacant buildings into commercial space and apartments. The apartment spaces are leased, and businesses are slated to open in and around this block in the summer of 2019.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier has partnered with the University of Maryland's Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development and Architecture and Landscape Design Program to engage the larger Mount Rainier community in a community-driven redesign of the entire streetscape of 3300 block Rhode Island Avenue, Memorial Park (which sits within the block), and Perry Street (which borders the northern side of this block).

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier has already committed substantial time and money, including the appropriation of \$32,500 in fiscal year 2019 towards the redesign of this block.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier believes the revitalization of this block to be one key component of a multiyear effort to revitalize its entire downtown core, transforming a poorly designed and uninviting space into a block that encourages congregation, foot traffic, and the


accompanying economic activity that will assist current and new businesses slated to open on or near this block.


WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier is applying for the Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy grant program, and requesting \$400,000 towards engineering and construction of the redesign developed by the University of Maryland.

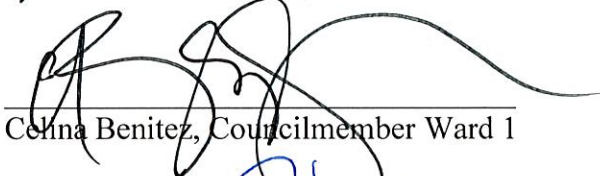
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER are in support of the City's Community Legacy grant application and committed to appropriating \$100,000 from its substantial reserve fund towards the engineering and construction of this block if awarded the grant.

THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THIS 4th DAY OF JUNE, 2019.

Attest:


Miranda Braatz, City Manager


Malinda Miles, Mayor


Celina Benitez, Councilmember Ward 1


Luke Chesek, Councilmember Ward 1


Bryan Knedler, Councilmember Ward 2


Scott Cecil, Councilmember Ward 2