

FIRST READING: June 29, 2023
SECOND READING/ADOPTION: June 29, 2023

CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND

Emergency Resolution No. 02-2023
Introduced by the Mayor Celina Benitez &
Councilmember Valerie Woodall

A Resolution in Support of the
Gateway Community Development Corporation

WHEREAS, the three Municipalities that are part of the Gateway CDC include the City of Mount Rainier together with the Town of Brentwood and the Town of North Brentwood strive to be a place where arts, artists, and those who support them are celebrated, supported, well-cared for, and able to grow and thrive, driving our creative economy; and

WHEREAS, The Gateway Community Development Corporation (Gateway CDC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works collaboratively and innovatively within the communities of Brentwood, North Brentwood, and Mount Rainier – with property and programs within each jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, going forward, Gateway CDC can help drive economic revitalization along the U.S. Route 1 Corridor through business and neighborhood development initiatives including promotion of the arts as a community building strategy; and

WHEREAS, The Gateway CDC was founded over 25 years ago in 1997 to ensure that the Gateway Arts District was the heart of Prince George’s County’s arts beat and to build an arts district that was lively, walkable, and bikeable, where people of all ages and backgrounds were shopping in locally-owned stores, eating at cafés and restaurants, and enjoying arts and entertainment venues – a model of a successful, artist-built and backed, creative economy; and

WHEREAS, Gateway CDC has made much progress over the last couple of years with its Open Studio Tours program, Gateway Media Arts Lab and subsequent LAB Magazine, Property Management, and the current S.T.U.D.I.O (Stewardship Trust for Uncommon Design and Inventive Ownership) program funding from the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Gateway CDC seeks “strike while the iron is hot” to grow and strengthen its positive influence and ability to support arts and the economies of the City of Mount Rainier, Town of Brentwood and Town of North Brentwood in the Gateway Arts District; and

WHEREAS, Gateway CDC needs operational support to grow, build, and thrive, and be able to leverage tax dollars from the three municipalities City of Mount Rainier, Town of Brentwood and Town of North Brentwood via grants, and other funding mechanisms; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the towns of Brentwood and North Brentwood have appropriated moneys from the American Recovery Plan and City of Mount Rainier, has appropriated moneys from their FY24 budget to support the Gateway CDC via operational support in FY24 and to support the costs associated with the many facets of fundraising, grant opportunity, programing in our municipalities, staff, legal, accounting, and more to aid artist in our communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Mount Rainier would like to quantify the impact of its funding to include quarterly reports that documented success due to additional staffing capacity, more grant funding and reporting for existing and new programs, annual list of Artist in city and Towns, remained a 501c3 organization, more robust presence and communications of existing programs in each municipality, robust record-keeping, data driven analysis on a consistent basis and a measure of success, new programs, branding and marketing, collaboration within city and town, an annual audit report, good standing within the City or Town and State, agenda and minutes submitted, an annual report on Gateway CDC activities would be required to be presented at a meeting of each Council body by December following the fiscal year end in June.

THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER THIS 29TH DAY OF JUNE, 2023.

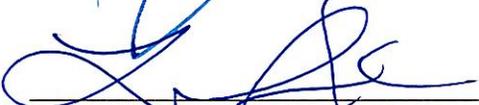
Attest:



Melissa Sam, City Clerk



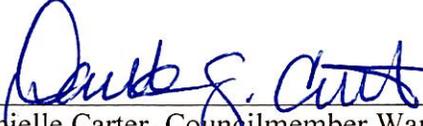
Celina R. Benitez, Mayor



Luke Chesek, Councilmember Ward 1



Valerie Woodall, Councilmember Ward 2



Danielle Carter, Councilmember Ward 1



Jarrett Stoltzfus, Councilmember Ward 2