



*City of Mount Rainier*

*One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712*

*Phone: (301) 985-6585 Fax: (301) 985-6595*

Introduced and Read Waiting for CDC Acceptance  
Adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

**RESOLUTION 8-2015**

(Drafted by the City Manager)

Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”)**, executed in duplicate, and made effective this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by and between the City of Mount Rainier, a municipal corporation of the State of Maryland in Prince George’s County, located One Municipal Place Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712, hereinafter called the “**CITY**”; and Gateway Community Development Corporation, located 4102 Webster Street, North Brentwood, Maryland 20722, hereinafter called the “**CDC**”.

**WHEREAS**, it is the mutual desire of the CITY and CDC to enhance, foster, and maintain a positive working relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, both the CITY and CDC have a desire to revitalize, restore, and contribute to the successful operation of the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District on the Route 1 corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC is the community development corporation for three communities in the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District namely, the CITY, and the Towns of Brentwood, and North Brentwood.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ that the responsibilities enumerated below for both the CITY and CDC, are hereby agreed upon as follows:

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY:**

1. The CITY will meet at least quarterly with the CDC to assess and strategize areas of mutual concern to include but not be limited to the coordination and/or completion of grant applications for funding for the CITY that will enhance and improve the business district located on the Route 1 Corridor in the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District.
2. The CITY will work with the CDC to identify critical areas that need improvement in the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District to include but not be limited to: installation and

strategic placement of public art, banners, pedestrian/way-finding signage, entry-way signage, common branding theme/artwork for the three communities located within the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District.

3. The CITY will identify and work in collaboration and partnership with the CDC to submit grant applications for funding for projects that are specifically tied to the improvement of the CITY's business district.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CDC:**

1. The CDC will discuss with the CITY its plans or intent to submit applications for funding for projects in the CITY.
2. The CDC will commit to projects in the CITY that have received prior approval and/or endorsement by the Mayor and City Council.
3. Discussions between the CDC and organizations located within or outside the CITY pertaining to projects, funding, incubators, pop-ups, agents, leasing, selling, or housing in vacant spaces should occur only with representation from CITY staff, and/or CITY elected officials.
4. The CDC will present to the Mayor and City Council at least quarterly, but more often as necessary, updates on all projects within the CITY and the two other Towns of Brentwood, and North Brentwood.
5. The CDC will commit to the outcomes and strategies as identified in the External/Programming Goals outlined in the Goals, Strategies and Objectives Document, ( attached hereto as Exhibit A) and specifically as follows:

#### **Outcomes:**

- The CDC will work with the city and MRBA to ensure that the business community thrives and blight is diminished;
- The CDC will bridge relationships between property owners and business owners and offer business assistance where possible, armed with the right information about local opportunities for business spaces;
- CDC will manage an innovative arts-based façade initiative to visually transform the Route 1 corridor;
- CDC will work on initiating new ornamental gardens for the Route 1 corridor with the City and MRBA;

The CDC will develop strategies that:

- Assess value of real estate research to potential local business-owners;
- Act as a resource to local arts and other small and micro-business owners, and potential new businesses;

- Maintain knowledge and accessible list of local resources to offer to current and potential business owners;
- Support emerging artists with business related inquiries;
- Build and maintain relationships with both property managers and potential new business-owners and, where appropriate, act as a mediator to help bring business to the Gateway Arts District, specifically Mount Rainier;
- Collaborate with MRBA for mutual benefit;
- Assist artists in taking full advantage of arts district incentives;
- Empower local artist community to convene for networking and problem-solving sessions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CITY and CDC agree that they will keep each other apprised of all development activities, meetings, and discussions that are anticipated, planned, and occur, in the Gateway Arts and Entertainment District that affect the CITY and the other Towns of Brentwood, and North Brentwood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CITY and CDC agree that the term of this MOU will be extended annually by mutual consent of both parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CITY and CDC further agree that the MOU may be revised or amended from time to time by mutual consent of both parties.

This Resolution shall become effective upon passage by the Mayor and City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**Resolution 8-2015**  
**Signature page**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jeannelle B. Wallace, City Manager**

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**Malinda Miles, Mayor**

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**Jesse Christopherson, Council Member**

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**Brent Bolin, Council Member**

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**Bryan K. Knedler, Council Member**

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**Jacqlyn W. Riposo, Councilmember**