



City of Cambridge

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Edwin C. Kinnamon
Clerk & Treasurer

To the Citizens of Cambridge:

The City of Cambridge has reached a balanced budget for fiscal year 2011. The General Fund Operating budget is approved at \$11,337,650. Total of all other budgets approved including the Sewer Fund, Water Fund (Municipal Utilities Commission), and Marina Fund amount to \$18,701,993. The real property tax rate was held at \$0.676 per \$100 of assessed valuation as was the business and personal property tax rate at \$1.69 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

This year's budget process proved again to be a difficult one in which the City was forced to make many budget cuts due impart to the reduced state shared revenues, reduced inter-governmental payments and an ongoing heavy debt service payment schedule as well as employee furloughs. With this being said, the City is in a position to go forward and end with promising results. This can only be accomplished through our dedicated employees being responsible in following the tight budget which has been prepared. Also, a positive promotion of the City in general will assist us in additional revenue, especially for one of our greatest assets, the Marina.

The City has funded 143 positions within the new budget. Included are mandatory furloughs which have been set at 5, 6 or 7 days depending on the employee's pay scale step. Step-increases will not be given this year. At the present time, the hiring freeze invoked by Council in December 2008, is still in place. This will be reviewed from time to time according to work schedules and requirements as well as the financial status of the City.

During the past year, the City has attempted to seek a grant to rehab the Cambridge Municipal Building at 307 Gay Street. A proposed architectural grant which was offered was later withdrawn by the State thereby postponing any chance for rehabbing the building for the coming year. The building remains vacant but was once again used during the holiday season for the Rescue Fire Company's annual train garden display.

The City's Marina continues to be a tremendous ambassador of goodwill for the City and mid-shore boating traffic. With the modern amenities being offered the City's Marina stands out among the best in the area to offer visiting boaters a destination for cruising the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The City's Marina offers fuel, ice and miscellaneous items at the fueling dock.

The City is also planning to complete the final two phases of the Combined Sewer Separation Project which will complete a major improvement to the City's sewer and storm water separation. The City is also working toward the required Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. These improvements are required to enhance the performance of the treatment plant. Both projects are major improvements valued at several million dollars upon completion.

A major economic development project is underway on Bucktown Road across from the Cambridge-Dorchester Airport. Ground breaking was recently held for the Dorchester County Technology Park which will enhance the ability to seek and attract new businesses to our community. Construction on the installation of infrastructure for the new Tech Park is underway which should be complete within the year. This project is being made available through the combined cooperation of the USDA, EDA, Dorchester County Council and the Cambridge City Council.

Other major projects slated for the year with funding from the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development are the Christ Rock Water and Sewer Extension and sidewalk and drainage improvements for Maces Lane.

With the adoption of this budget, it will continue to prove to be an exciting year for the City. It was the intent to have laid a solid foundation in which the City may continue to grow for the future of Cambridge.

Victoria Jackson Stanley
Mayor

Edwin C. Kinnamon
City Clerk / Treasurer