



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CWDI Board of Directors Driving Progress Toward Cambridge Harbor Vision

Cambridge, MD — The Board of Directors of Cambridge Waterfront Development, Inc. (CWDI) is steadily advancing the long-envisioned Cambridge Harbor project—a community-centered, mixed-use waterfront district that celebrates Cambridge’s heritage while creating new opportunities for growth, recreation, and connection along the Choptank River.

Transforming Cambridge’s waterfront has been a community aspiration since the Committee of 100 of Dorchester first proposed redeveloping the area decades ago. Projects such as Sailwinds Park, Governor’s Hall, the Visitor Center, Everybody’s Playspace, and the Nathan of Dorchester skipjack took shape in the 1990s, followed by the opening of the Hyatt Regency in 2002.

Formed in 2018 by the State of Maryland, Dorchester County, and the City of Cambridge, CWDI is a nonprofit development corporation charged with the collaborative planning, development, and long-term stewardship of the city’s waterfront properties. Its mission is to create Cambridge Harbor, a mixed-use district featuring public spaces, attractions, commercial and residential development, and strong public access to the water.

With the assistance of its partners, CWDI has consolidated more than 35 acres along the Choptank River, cleared land, and completed several key demolitions, setting the stage for infrastructure and public space development.

Board Leadership and Expertise

CWDI’s seven-member volunteer board is appointed by the City, County, and State. Together, they provide vision, oversight, and direction for the project while navigating its legal, financial, and operational complexities.

In 2024, CWDI refreshed its leadership and governance structure to strengthen accountability and operational focus. The board now includes:

- Angie Hengst, President – Leads board deliberations and ensures mission alignment and transparency.



- Michael J. Frenz, Vice President – Brings extensive experience in state-level development and investment.
- Frank Narr, Treasurer – Oversees financial operations and provides continuity from CWDI's early years.
- Natalie Chabot, Secretary – Former Cambridge Economic Development Director with expertise in tourism and community partnerships.
- Tim Crosby, Planning Committee Chair – Guides master planning and design standards.
- Gaver Nichols – Contributes architectural and preservation expertise to honor Cambridge's historic character.
- Bernard Brathwaite – Supports board administration and local coordination.

Progress and Community Engagement

Recent milestones include the demolition of the former Dorchester Hospital in early 2023, paving the way for new infrastructure. The first major phase now underway, the Franklin Street Promenade, will create a public waterfront walkway, expanding access and enjoyment of the riverfront.

CWDI is also working to engage with potential developers and investors for the commercial, residential, and hospitality components of Cambridge Harbor. Community branding sessions led to the project's name and tagline, "Cambridge Harbor: Lured by the water, kept by our heritage."

Transparency and public engagement remain top priorities. The board regularly hosts and attends public meetings to provide updates, gather feedback, and ensure local input shapes each phase of the project.

Navigating Challenges and Looking Ahead

Though the path has included legal and logistical challenges, CWDI's Board of Directors remains committed to a transparent, community-driven process. Their goal is clear: to build a waterfront that honors Cambridge's past while securing its future.

As 2025 draws to a close, CWDI continues to move the vision first imagined more than three decades ago toward reality—a vibrant, inclusive waterfront destination for residents, visitors, and generations to come.

About CWDI



CWDI is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit development corporation and public-private partnership made up the State of Maryland, Dorchester County and the City of Cambridge. Each partner appoints members to CWDI's seven-member all volunteer Board of Directors. CWDI is charged with developing the Cambridge waterfront through a community-first approach consistent with the community's long-term vision.

For more information about CWDI or Cambridge Harbor, use the QR code to link to www.cambridgeharbor.org

