

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT November/December 2024

We have construction! If you haven't had a chance to go by Cambridge Harbor lately, take a walk or drive and see the progress that is being made on the new Promenade (but please be mindful as it is an active construction site). As I reported in my last newsletter, Dorchester County contractors, Earth Movers, were awarded the project and have been doing work since mid-October. The project, which is funded by the U.S. Economic Development Agency, with that funding facilitated by the MidShore Regional Council, is expected to be completed by mid-summer. Also involved is the Chesapeake Conservancy, our award co-recipient, whose partnership has been invaluable since the project's planning stage. We hosted a Ground Breaking Ceremony with the Chamber of Commerce in mid-December--you can read more about it in the Star Democrat article.

With the Promenade project as the first construction on the property, we hope that this signals to the community our commitment to providing and maintaining public access to the Waterfront. Once this phase of the Promenade is completed, which goes from the current Wharf to the Franklin Street boat ramp, we hope that it is enjoyed by all members of our community and will be just the beginning of creating a waterfront area and experience that is accessible to all.

As we enter 2025 we are hitting the ground running. After meetings with the City Assistant Manager, City Planner and City Engineer, our planning committee and board will be participating in a multi-day design charrette in January with our urban design consultant, Lew Oliver. These meetings, which will include the city/county/state where applicable, will form the basis of our RFP to the development community later this year.

I want to remind the public that with increased engagement and communication with the city and county (both the City and County Managers are now ex-officio, non-voting board members), you can reach out to your elected officials as it pertains to the Cambridge Harbor development just like you would for any other project. Our mission remains the same - to develop the Cambridge Waterfront in partnership with the community to create and sustainably maintain Cambridge Harbor as an inviting, accessible, active, and enjoyable place to live, work, play and visit

Our next Board Meeting will be January 15th at 4pm at the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce. The public is welcome to attend the open session of the meeting.

If you would like to reach out to CWDI directly, you can do so via the <u>CWDI website</u>, where you will find contact information for all our Board members as well as additional information on Cambridge Harbor.

Cheers.