

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2006 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-90-2006  
 Proposed by Council Member Campos  
 Introduced by Council Members Campos, Exum, Harrington, Bland and Dean  
 Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Introduction November 28, 2006

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Community Legacy Program

3 For the purpose of approving the application and receipt of financing for a Community Legacy  
 4 Project in Langley Park, Maryland, to be financed either directly by the Department of Housing  
 5 and Community Development (the "Department") of the State of Maryland or through other  
 6 departments or agencies of the State of Maryland.

7 WHEREAS, Section 6-201 through Section 6-213 of the Housing and Community  
 8 Development Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland established the Community Legacy  
 9 Program, to preserve existing communities as desirable places to live and conduct business and  
 10 provide financial assistance to sponsors for the development of community legacy plans or  
 11 community legacy projects; and

12 WHEREAS, Section 6-207(b)(1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides that  
 13 Community Legacy Board may not approve an application for participation in the Community  
 14 Legacy Program unless the application is approved by the local government; and

15 WHEREAS, the Departmental requirements necessitate approval of the designation of a  
 16 Community Legacy Area, the Project and the Project Financing by Prince George's County; and  
 17 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council acknowledges that there is significant need for  
 18 reinvestment and revitalization of the communities in Prince George's County; and

19 WHEREAS, CASA of Maryland, Inc., a Maryland nonprofit corporation, proposes to  
 20 renovate and develop a Community Legacy Project ("the Project") in Langley Park, attached  
 21 hereto as Attachment 1, the purpose of which will be to contribute to the reinvestment and  
 22 revitalization of the area; and

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Community Development (“the Department”),  
2 either through the Community Legacy Program, through another Department revitalization  
3 program, and/or in cooperation with other State department or agencies, may provide some or all  
4 of the financing for the Project in order to assist in making it financially feasible; and

5 WHEREAS, the proposed Project is located within a priority funding area pursuant to  
6 Section 5-7B-02 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of  
7 Maryland; and

8 WHEREAS, the Project will conform with all applicable County Zoning Ordinance  
9 requirements; and

10 WHEREAS, State law requires the approval of the County governing body for the  
11 designation of a Community Legacy Area and funding of a Community Legacy Area Project;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the County Executive, by his signature, also expresses approval of this project.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's  
15 County, Maryland, that the County governing body hereby approves the application, attached  
16 hereto as Attachment 2, to the Community Legacy Program submitted on behalf of the Langley  
17 Park neighborhood.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George’s County,  
19 Maryland, hereby endorses the Projects in the Area and approves the total Project Financing in  
20 the form of grants/loans in the approximate amount of \$464,385.00.  
21

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of the  
2 Department of Housing and Community Development of the State of Maryland for consideration  
3 by the Community Legacy Board.

Adopted this 28th day of November, 2006.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas E. Dernoga  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jack B. Johnson  
County Executive

ATTACHMENT 1  
**CASA OF MARYLAND, INC.**  
**COMMUNITY LEGACY PROGRAM PROJECT**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

CASA of Maryland, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with over 20 years of experience serving the low-income Latino and immigrant community, has contracted with Prince George's County to provide employment services and training and educational programs for day laborers in the International Crossroads Area.

CASA is Maryland's largest Latino service and advocacy organization, operating principally in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, as well as in Baltimore City. CASA provides educational programs, employment placement services, legal consultations and representation, health promotion and counseling, and community organizing programs to over 20,000 low-income Latinos and immigrants every year.

CASA brings 14 years of experience of establishing a managing a Center for Employment and Training in the neighboring neighborhood of Long Branch in Montgomery County, which serves the employment and related service and educational needs of thousands of low-income Latinos and immigrants every year. The Center for Employment and Training was created in response to growing numbers of day laborers seeking work at unofficial locations in East Silver Spring. Workers sought jobs in the rain, cold, and heat, were unprepared for dangerous jobs, and often were unaware of their workplace-related rights. In addition, local businesses and neighborhood groups were concerned about how the growing number of day laborers was affecting local businesses and public safety. Since its opening, the Center has placed over 2,000 workers in permanent jobs, and has placed workers in over 25,000 day and temporary jobs. Using the same model, CASA opened a new worker's center in Wheaton, Maryland, which has placed over 100 workers in permanent jobs in its first 9 months of operation.

In response to a similar situation of growing numbers of day laborers seeking work at unofficial locations in Langley Park, the Crossroads Task Force was convened in 2000, and the Crossroads

Development Commission was reconvened in 2006. One of the primary recommendations of the task force was to create an official worker's center in Langley Park on the corner of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue to provide employment placement services, vocational training, and related support services for the approximately 100-200 workers seeking work at the site daily. Secretary of Housing Victor Hoskins recommended that CASA apply for Community Legacy Funds to support the renovations of a site so that it can be functional as a worker's center.

After a thorough search for alternative sites, and having found no suitable alternatives, CASA and Prince George's County have entered into an agreement to lease 6,300 square feet of unfinished basement space on New Hampshire Avenue at the University Boulevard intersection. The space is unimproved and is estimated to cost \$459,460 to renovate and rehabilitate so that it can be usable as a worker's center. CASA has already secured \$327,460 in in-kind donations and government grants. CASA respectfully requests the remaining \$222,000 in Community Legacy Funds to support the renovations of the site so that it may be converted into a multi-use worker's center to serve a critical need in Langley Park (i.e. International Corridor).

Although CASA has not been a direct Community Legacy grant recipient in the past, the organization has worked closely with the Redevelopment Authority of Prince George's County and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development on a number of projects.

This project presents a unique opportunity for public-private partnership to respond to a critical issue affecting Langley Park residents. It will add value to a currently unused site, and will provide needed services to a vulnerable population. It is within the recommendations of the Community Legacy Plan for the International Corridor, and has significant public support through the Crossroads Task Force. It is the ideal time and location for an investment in improving the life conditions and employability of Langley Park's immigrant workers.

ATTACHMENT 2 AVAILABLE IN HARD COPY ONLY