

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1321 (Delegate Proctor)
Appropriations

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2006 - Prince George's County -
Accokeek Foundation

This bill expands the authorized uses of matching funds for the Accokeek Foundation project, as established by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2006. The bill specifies that matching funds may be used for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of the Accokeek Foundation site, including the boat dock.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Prince George's County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 46 of 2006 authorized up to \$125,000 in matching funds to the Board of Trustees of The Accokeek Foundation, Inc. for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of the boat dock at the Accokeek Foundation site in Piscataway Park, located in Accokeek. Matching funds may not consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2006 effective date of Chapter 46.

Background: The grantee advises that the project includes (1) the replacement of a boat dock damaged by Hurricane Isabel in 2003; (2) enhancements to the Saylor Grove Pier, rebuilt by the National Park Service in 2005; (3) new entrances to the Visitor Center and the National Colonial Farm; and (4) improvements to the visitor parking area. The grantee estimates that the project is expected to increase visitation to the park by 5,000 to 10,000 people per year and will also improve access to the resources of the park and the Potomac River.

The grantee advises that the original grant language only allows for the matching funds and the grant funds to be spent on the boat dock project. However, the grantee's intent was to be able to perform various types of qualifying work at the park to meet the matching fund requirement. The change is necessary in order for the grantee to use matching funds for the various upgrades included in the project.

The Accokeek Foundation manages a portion of Piscataway Park in cooperation with the National Park Service. The Accokeek Foundation operates a number of educational and public programs and maintains the site year-round. Programs include the National Colonial Farm, the Ecosystem Farm, the Native Tree Arboretum, and the Bluebird Trail.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): The Accokeek Foundation, Inc.; Prince George's County; Department of General Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2011
mc/ljm

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