

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1420
Appropriations

(Delegate Luedtke, *et al.*)

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010 - Montgomery County -
Sandy Spring Museum

This bill extends the deadline – from June 1, 2012, to June 1, 2013 – for the Board of Trustees of the Sandy Spring Museum, Inc., as grantee, to provide evidence that a matching fund will be provided for the Sandy Spring Museum project as required by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010. The bill also specifies that the proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by the grantee by June 1, 2013.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2012.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: The bill does not affect the operations or finances of Montgomery County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 483 of 2010 authorized up to \$65,000 for the planning, repair, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Museum. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2010 effective date of Chapter 483, but it may not consist of real property. The proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2012.

Chapter 46 of 2006 authorized up to \$200,000 for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Museum Library and Archives. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2006 effective date of Chapter 46, but it may not consist of real property. Evidence of a matching fund contribution had to be shown by June 1, 2008. The proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2013.

Chapter 445 of 2005 also authorized up to \$75,000 for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Library and Archives. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2005 effective date of Chapter 445. Evidence of a matching fund contribution had to be shown by June 1, 2007. The proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2012.

Background: The Sandy Spring Museum is dedicated to the history and culture of Sandy Spring. Sandy Spring was the center of a network of rural villages settled in the 1720s. The first settlers were members of the Religious Society of Friends, otherwise known as Quakers. However, these first settlers were soon joined by others, including Anglicans and freed slaves, which give the area a unique history and culture. There are permanent exhibits that document one of the oldest sustained communities of African American landowners in the nation, the tradition of Sandy Spring social clubs, and Sandy Spring commercial achievements. There is also a general store and a farm house kitchen.

The museum also maintains a research library, which includes the original minutes published as *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, a multivolume record of one of the community's numerous social clubs. These groups of 14 to 16 families began meeting after the Civil War and continue meeting monthly to the present.

The grant will primarily fund installation of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units for the museum's rural life interpretive areas. The grantee reports that the project has been delayed because the museum lost its executive director in December 2011, and the position has not yet been filled. The grantee reports it has developed the plans for the project and, once the executive director position is filled, it is anticipated that construction will begin.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 1038 (Senator Montgomery) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Montgomery County, Sandy Spring Museum, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2012
ncs/ljm

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