

State of Maryland

2015 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
lr1547	sb0309	lr0540	hb0783	Early Literacy Center
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Raskin				Hixson
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)			5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County			\$110,000	
6. Purpose of Bill				
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Early Literacy Center project				
7. Matching Fund				
Requirements:		Type:		
Equal		The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund		
8. Special Provisions				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian		
9. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone	Email Address	
Kathlin Smith		3015854369	ksmith@clir.org	
10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (Limit Length to Visible area)				
<p>Friends of the Library, Montgomery County (FOLMC) was founded in 1982 and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, independent organization in 1983. Its mission is to strengthen, promote, support, and advocate for the public library system in order to enrich the lives of area residents and meet the diverse needs of our communities. In support of this mission, FOLMC and its 17 local chapters provide program support (financial as well as volunteer), matching funds, and materials and equipment to augment public resources. FOLMC provides opportunities for citizen philanthropic participation to benefit the public library system.</p> <p>The Silver Spring Chapter (FOLSS), was formed in 1995 to provide adult programming, which was not then included in the budget for the MC Public Libraries. During the recession, the county cut Summer Reading and other child and youth programs, and FOLSS changed its programming priority to address this need. In recent years, the program focus has been on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities, to support the emphasis on STEM in the public</p>				

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit Length to Visible area)

Bond funding will be used to complete an Early Literacy Center in the new Silver Spring Library, scheduled to open in spring 2015. The Center will be a state-of-the art learning space to help children acquire the pre-literacy skills that will lay the foundation for their schoolwork. Comprising a coordinated series of interactive pods, panels, and modules, it will be the first learning space of its kind in the Montgomery County Library system.

The project aims to address a serious need: almost three of ten students who enter kindergarten in Montgomery County are not well prepared in language and literacy. In 2012, some 28% of the county's kindergarten students were found to be not fully ready in the area of language and literacy to start school (Maryland State Board of Education 2012, p. B71). For Hispanic and African American subgroups, which are heavily represented in Silver Spring, the scores were worse: 43% and 31%, respectively, were found to be not fully ready for kindergarten.

Research has shown that the development of early literacy skills in a child's life can better prepare that child for success in reading when he or she enters school.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$10,000
Construction	
Equipment	\$210,000
Total	\$220,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
Community donations (individual)	\$105,000
Carl M. Freeman Foundation	\$5,000
Bond Bill funding	\$110,000
Total	\$220,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
5/7/2014	12/1/2014	12/1/2014	Phase I: 4/20/2015 Phase I
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised		16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
110000.00		236,500 (whole library)	250,000-300,000 annually, conservatively
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
None			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Inc. 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310 Rockville, MD 20850		Silver Spring Library (to open spring 2015) 900 Wayne Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910 NOTE: Until April 2015 (or further notice),	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Jim Polk, Treasurer, Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	301-565-2974 x 2420		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
1903 Stratton Road Silver Spring, MD 20910-1739			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
8.3 FTE (library whole; currently no Early Lit Center exists)	21.8 FTE (library whole; expanded building; does not exist)	716470.00	1850400.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	N/A: no Early Literacy Center exists in the current building		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	N/A: this is new construction		
New GSF	Early Literacy Center will occupy 2,000 square feet		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			N/A

28. Comments: (Limit Length to Visible area)

Phase I of the project (\$110,000) involves three large core installations, with 15 interactive panels and a "house" kiosk puppet place. Phase II of the project (\$110,000) will complete the project with a fourth installation plus additional interactive panels, pods and panels that target the development of specific early literacy skills. Design, shipping, and installation are included in these prices.

Language, reading, and writing evolve from a number of earlier skills, such as alphabet knowledge; phonological awareness and memory; rapid automatic naming of letters or digits, or objects and colors; and print knowledge, among others. These are the areas the Early Literacy Center will target.

Examples of interactive panels included in the Early Literacy Center are: a word wheel (a full alphabet is arrayed on three wheels; children spin each wheel and can make sounds or actual words); a texture match (hand-carved texture pairs, aimed at developing ability to identify and articulate similarities and differences in objects); "How Many Books" magnetic slider board where kids can show how many books they read and the time they read them; and a free-standing world map with coins from each country embedded in the country of use.

For many young children, the public library is their first contact with the world of books and reading. Library staff are ideally suited to inform parents and caregivers about early literacy research. The Early Literacy Center at Silver Spring Public Library will enhance the learning connection between adults and children around literacy. It will offer young children and their families or caregivers a fun, welcoming, interactive, literacy-based learning environment that is not available in homes or elsewhere in the community, and is available free of charge.

Silver Spring Library serves--and will continue to serve in its new space--a large population that is probably the county's most diverse in terms of ethnicity, race, and economic status. According to the 2010 census, District 5 (which includes most of the area within a 5-mile radius of the library) has the highest percentage of minorities and the lowest median household income in the county, yet it ranks third in terms of residents holding graduate degrees.

Given the new library's central location in downtown Silver Spring close to the Metro, as well as on bus routes and the potential future Purple Line, we anticipate that the Early Literacy Center will be well used not only by the local community, but also by residents elsewhere in Montgomery and neighboring counties.