

State Of Maryland

2019 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Racheal Wilson Memorial Park		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Nathan-Pulliam		
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore City	\$260,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Racheal Wilson Memorial Park, including the installation of playground equipment		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements: Equal	Type: The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund	
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
George Collins	410-258-7546	A AFFHS54@gmail.com
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The African American Fire Fighters Historical Societys(AAFFHS) mission is to collect, preserve and disseminate historical data, and information relating to the contributions made by fire fighters of color, and others who have made a contribution to such history; to be used for the purpose of education, fire prevention and mentoring. A 501C (3) Charitable Organization incorporated in Maryland, The A AFFHS recognizes individuals who may be first to have accomplished a goal, such as getting promoted, filling a position or who has performed a heroic act. We also like to identify deserving organizations who have reached any historic milestone or anniversary as it pertains to African American fire fighters. In addition, we like to recognize significant dates in fire service history, with the goal of highlighting African American unsung heroes contributions.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

Racheal Wilson Memorial Park is an opportunity to turn a large vacant lot and abandoned dilapidated houses in West Baltimore, in to a community open greenspace. The idea to transform this neighborhood eyesore has been a vision of the Boyd-Booth Concerned Citizens and the family of Fire Fighter Wilson for over 10 years. On February 9, 2007 Wilson became the first woman fire fighter to be killed in the line of duty in the history of the Baltimore City Fire Department. Working with Wilson's family, the neighborhood and Baltimore City's Baltimore Green Network, The AAFFHS would like to create a memorial park which will include a playground for the younger residents, including the elementary and middle school students who participated in the after-school tutoring and martial arts program in front of the park at the Riley Hawkins Avengers Foundation. It is also to be used by residents of the community, churches, and other community partners.

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	\$180,000
Design	\$20,000
Construction	\$400,000
Equipment	\$200,000
Total	\$800,000

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

Baltimore Green Network	\$355,000
INSPIRE Program	\$100,000
Bond Bill	\$260,000
Private Foundation Grants	\$85,000
Total	\$800,000

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
4/18/2017	1/23/2019	6/17/2019	5/31/2020
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
85000.00	50		1,000
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2016	\$250,000	Acquisition and renovation of Oliver Community Fire	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
African American Fire Fighters Historical Society, Inc. 1401 Severn Street Suite #C200 Baltimore, Maryland 21230		145 South Calverton Road Baltimore, Maryland 212	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	44A - Baltimore City		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	George Collins	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410.258.7546		
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
C/O African American Fire Fighters Historical Society, Inc. 1401 Severn Street Suite #C200 Baltimore, Maryland 21230			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
0	0	0.00	0.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Lease
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee 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	
Mayor of Baltimore and City Council	Unlimited	Continuous	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	.72 acres or 31,363 sq. ft.		
Space to be Renovated GSF	.72 acres or 31,363 sq. ft.		
New GSF	.72 acres or 31,363 sq. ft.		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

2019 Demolition of houses

28. Comments

On February 9, 2007 Cameron Richardson 10, his 8-year-old sister Princess Davis and the Boyd/Booth community forged a bond. When Fire Fighter/EMT Recruit Racheal Michelle Wilson at age 29, became Baltimore City Fire Department's (BCFD) 1st Line of Duty Death for a Woman. Community leaders Ms. Jerlene Boyd and Mrs. Bertha Nixon could not get over the tragic experience of having a fallen fire fighter killed in their community. The incident being part of a (live burn) training exercise in a West Baltimore row house located at 145 South Calverton Rd, resulted in that property and 3 adjacent houses being torn down. The community leaders saw the now vacant lot as hallowed ground and took a personal interest in Recruit Wilson's children. They took 2 pieces of wood from out of the rubble from the torn down houses and put up a makeshift cross to mark the place where Recruit Wilson spent her last living moments. From that dreadful day to now Fire Fighter Wilson's family visits the location where their mother was killed. As the neighbors noticed the family visiting regularly, they took it upon themselves to start an annual Mother's Day cookout on the Calverton Rd lot, in memory of Fire Fighter Wilson.

June 2014 at The African American Fire Fighters Historical Society's 5th Annual Salute Dinner, we Saluted Black Women in the Fire Service. This was special because it was the 20th Anniversary for Mrs. Carrey Brown who was appointed by President Clinton, (which sent his regards) as the First women and First African American US Fire Administrator; the person in charge of all fire departments and fire service policy across the country. It was also the saddest because we were honoring Fire Fighter/EMT Recruit Racheal Wilson, BCFD's 1st woman killed in the Line of Duty. It was fulfilling to see Recruit Wilson's daughter Princess 7 years later as a high school student when she accepted her mother's recognition that was presented. Prior to that our last memory of Princess was at her mother's funeral, when she gave out a blood curdling scream as she and Cameron looked at her mother's body for the family final viewing. I remember seeing grown men, strong, tough, fire fighters at that point unable to hold back tears because they knew that could have been any of our children up there and as long as they are in that job it always could be. During these times everyone is there for the show to project the fire fighter family image. Then for others it is a way to protect their public image of showing support of fire fighters. At all fire fighter's funerals people always promise to be there for you from now on. That didn't last long and only a few of us maintained that commitment. It was great to see how Princess had matured into a well-adjusted High School student, as her brother Cameron had moved to Louisiana with his father and grandparents.

On February 9, 2017 The AAFFHS reunited Cameron and Princess along with other family and friends, to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of Fire Fighter/EMT Recruit Racheal Wilson's Line of Duty Death. This was the lunch of an alliance of elected and government officials, community stake holders like Bon Secours Hospital, Neighborhood Design Center and local churches. To ban together to support The Wilson family and Boyd /Booth community to create a Living Memorial on this sacred ground in their community. This open greenspace will have a mural, mosaic, a customized headstone, park bench, fire fighter playground equipment in addition to the grass, flowers and trees. We look forward to The Racheal Wilson Memorial Park to be a community asset to replace the current blight on Calverton Rd. This will be fitting, to memorialize the memory of a mother, motivating fire school classmate and 1st Woman killed in Maryland fire service history.