

State of Maryland

2017 Prior Authorization Fact Sheet

(1) Senate Sponsor	(2) House Sponsor	(3) Project Name
	Del. Frick	Imagination Stage HVAC System (repurpose to Interfaith Watershed and Restoration Outreach Project)
(4) Jurisdiction		(5) Contact Information
Montgomery County		Name: Elaine Hovell Email: bill.frick@house.state.md.us Phone:
(6) Legislator Request		
Extend the matching fund deadline from June 1, 2016, to June 1, 2019. Change the name of the project to the Interfaith Watershed and Restoration Outreach Project. Change the grantee to the Board of Directors of the Beth Sholom Congregation and Talmud Torah. Change the purpose of the project to a watershed and conservation green space for the new grantee. Extend the grant termination date from June 1, 2021, to June 1, 2025.		
(7a) Original Senate Bond Bill	(8a) Original House Bond Bill	
sb0392 of 2014		
(7b) Senate Chapter	(8b) House Chapter	
Ch. 463 Item: ZA02(BC-1)		
(7c) Senate Prior Authorization	(8c) House Prior Authorization	
(9a) Misc Chapter	(9b) Misc Prior Authorization	
(10) In your own words, please describe in detail the project's background and your need for a prior authorization.		
<p>The Interfaith Watershed Restoration and Outreach Project is located on Beth Sholom Congregation and Talmud Torah property and at the crossroads with St. James Episcopal Church. Our overall vision is that this project will be complementary to current and future projects along Seven Locks to create a Watershed and Conservation green belt that is inter-faith and inter-community.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Interfaith Watershed Restoration and Outreach Project are to (1) promote understanding of the green belt projects through the Early Childhood Center at Beth Sholom and the St. James Episcopal Children's School, the broader faith-based communities at both institutions, and provide a community workshop through Friends of Cabin John Creek, and (2) promote local usage of the walkway, including a small garden and educational opportunities.</p>		

(11) If you are requesting an extension of the date upon which evidence of a matching fund must be presented to the Board of Public Works, please explain the need for the extension. When do you expect to raise the requisite amount of matching funds, if at all?

The matching funds from the Chesapeake Watershed Restoration and Rainscapes community project are already committed and will be funded by the end of 2017. This project is shovel ready with all plans completed.

(12) If you are requesting a modification of the type of matching funds (e.g., real property, in-kind contributions, or prior funds expended) that can be used to meet your match, or are requesting the matching fund requirement be changed from an equal match to unequal match or removed altogether, please explain why the change is necessary.

The matching funds for to complete this project are already committed and will be funded by year end 2017.

(13) If you are requesting an extension of the date upon which the bond funds must be expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works, please explain the need for an extension. When do you expect to expend or encumber the funds?

The committed matching funds will be funded by year-end 2017.

(14) If you are requesting to use the funds for another purpose or to expand the scope of the project, please explain the reason and need for the change.

The Interfaith Watershed Restoration and Outreach Project advances the broader goals of Montgomery County. First, this project advances the promotion of healthy and sustainable communities and a strong and vibrant economy. It does so because all of the design, implementation, procurement of goods and services, maintenance, workshops, and outreach materials are Montgomery County-based resulting in the creation of local jobs in the community and support for local economies. The project promotes community understanding of local environmental and educational project goals and outcomes. Our project will support the overarching vision of the Watershed Implementation Plan by generating environmental restoration projects, improving neighborhood streams, protecting our drinking water sources, promoting an understanding of environmental issues and ensuring a legacy for the future of children and families in our communities.

As a result of the joint planning for this project, both congregations have agreed that the space will serve as a community space for learning about watershed restoration efforts. Through the project, there will be experiential and sensory based learning opportunities through the colors, fragrances, sounds, visuals of the new park space, with interpretive signage subject to approval by Montgomery County. We are also developing new relationships with organizations like Friends of Cabin John Creek who have more extensive experience in developing workshops on education for the community. We hope these new relationships will also become of our on-going support and understanding of our environmental impact in our community. All of these activities complement on-going programming at our congregation that emphasizes community engagement and social action.

(15) If you are requesting to modify the name of the grantee organization, add another grantee organization, or remove a grantee organization, please explain the reason and need for the change. If applicable, do those organizations being added or removed as grantee consent to the change?

The request to change the name of the grantee organization to Beth Sholom is to reflect the correct institutional oversight entity that will manage the project from start to finish. The Beth Sholom staff will maintain the proposed improvements on an ongoing basis.

(16) If this is an emergency bill, please explain the need for such action.

We must use the funds committed by the Chesapeake Watershed Restoration and Rainscapes community project by the end of the 2017 calendar year. Therefore to complete the project as proposed the requested matching funds must also be funded in the concurrent time frame.