

State of Maryland

2006 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
3421	SB949	3511	HB1590	Creation of a State Debt – Baltimore City - Legends Park
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Sen. Jones				Del. Haynes, et al.
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Baltimore City				\$323,000.00
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$323,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Baltimore Development Corporation for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of Legends Park.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
This bill requires a matching fund of \$168,000. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of the Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
None.				
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) will be the grantee and project manager for this project, working in close collaboration with the Pennsylvania Avenue Redevelopment Collaborative (PARC). PARC hosts the Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street Program, which is one of the ten Baltimore Main Streets Programs.</p> <p>The Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street program is a collaborative of various community organizations and invested parties who target commercial revitalization with a principled belief in historic preservation. The program uses minimal public funds to leverage private sector investment. The Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street program follows the “Main Street Approach,” which was created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and provides the program with the proper education and expertise in commercial area revitalization.</p> <p>The Pennsylvania Avenue commercial corridor is a targeted development initiative area for Baltimore City and the BDC. Current commercial revitalization programs such as the Main Street Program and the Retail Business District Licenses (RBDL) Program, which the Pennsylvania Avenue merchants take part in, along with city initiatives such as the Baltimore City Heritage Trail, represent diverse sources of public and private funds and expertise currently invested in the Pennsylvania Avenue business district.</p>				

10. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

This project will transform an existing fenced public space into a welcoming park. The intent of the project is to provide an attractive and usable public space that can be used for organized activities such as concerts, outdoor markets and the screening of films. Another important use is as a casual outdoor meeting area for people to eat, play chess (there has been an active chess club that is currently without a playing location), spend time with family and otherwise relax outdoors.

This space is also envisioned as a location for the display of memorial plaques dedicated to notable figures in the area's history. We have spoken with the director of the Baltimore City Heritage Area, and it is possible that this location would be a stop on the pending Pennsylvania Avenue Heritage Trail--even just as a location to pick up brochures about the Trail.

The location of the parcel is central and convenient. It is located just off Pennsylvania Avenue across from the side entrance to the Avenue Market and also across from the Upton station on the Metro line. This project is an important component of a wide-reaching strategy to improve and enliven the Pennsylvania Avenue commercial district through physical improvements.

Other complementary projects planned in the area include streetscape improvements along Pennsylvania Avenue plus the 600 block of Laurens Street and the section of N. Fremont Avenue immediately adjacent to this space. These improvements include pedestrian lighting, decorative trash cans, physical, aesthetic and safety enhancements to key intersections (including the intersection of Pennsylvania and Laurens near the Legends Park site), bus stop benches, sidewalk and tree well repairs, as well as gateway signage welcoming visitors to the business district. A storefront improvement program is underway in the adjacent blocks of Pennsylvania Avenue which will result in enhancements to several commercial building facades. Pennsylvania Avenue itself is scheduled to be repaved, and some improvements will be made to the plaza area of the Upton Metro station. Across N. Fremont Avenue from the site (1300 block) a private construction project valued at 2.2 million will begin in the spring of 2006. This project will produce a very attractive funeral home business approved by the community.

This site is currently owned by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, under the jurisdiction of the Baltimore Development Corporation, and therefore does not need to be acquired.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (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.

11. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	N/A
Design	included
Construction	\$491,000.00
Equipment	included
Total	\$491,000.00

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

Source	Amount
Bond Bill Request	\$323,000.00
Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (tentative)	\$168,000.00

Linda Pompa, Business District Specialist, Baltimore Main Streets/City of Baltimore Development Corporation		(410) 779-3807	lpompa@baltimoredevelopment.com	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			44	
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)				
Local Govt.		For Profit		Non Profit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative			23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	City of Baltimore Solicitor's Office		Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	(410) 396-3297			N/A
Address:			If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
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	N/A	N/A	
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)				
A. Will the grantee <u>own</u> or <u>lease</u> (pick one) the property to be improved?				yes
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
N/A				
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:				
Name of Leaser		Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
N/A				
26. Building Square Footage:				
Current Space GSF			N/A	

Space to Be Renovated GSF		N/A
New GSF		N/A
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion		N/A
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)		
<p>This project is supported by the community and business organizations in the area. Currently the space is surrounded by a fence with one opening. It is an unwelcoming, blank patch of land in an area whose residents, business owners, visitors and customers are very interested in improving the physical landscape. The plan includes a stage for musical and other performances, seating areas, attractive landscaping, lighting, and also provides a place for ongoing scheduled activities. The plan includes signage that can be used to announce upcoming public activities. The plan also provides a mechanism for memorial plaques to be installed on an ongoing basis. The site will hopefully host memorial "unveiling" ceremonies for years to come.</p>		