

State of Maryland

2006 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
3021	SB988	3273	HB1621	Creation of a State Debt – Prince George's County - Historic Laurel Mill Ruins
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Sen. Giannetti				Del. Menes, et. al.
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Prince George's County				\$300,000.00
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State Debt to serve as a grant to the Patuxent River Commission and the Mayor and City Council of the City of Laurel for the repair, stabilization, and reconstruction of the Historic Laurel Mill Ruins.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
None.				
8. Special Provisions				
Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement.				
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
The Patuxent River Commission is a Maryland advisory Commission devoted to protecting the Patuxent River. The City of Laurel is a municipality located on the Patuxent which would administer funds and supervise the project. The Commission and the City of Laurel seek State funding for a collaboration to protect the ecology and water quality of the Patuxent and help retain, and restore the practical and economic value of the river for future generations.				
10. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)				
The purpose is stabilization and preservation of the Historic Laurel Mill ruins located near the base of the WSSC reservoir dam in Laurel. The Historic Laurel Mill was vital in 1800's trade which at that time depended primarily on moving goods up and down the river. Currently, the ruins have deteriorated due to neglect, and portions have begun to crumble and fall into the river channel. The resulting debris has an adverse effect on river flow and the structural decay presents some safety hazards to pedestrians, nearby residents and the entire river ecosystem. The "ponding" effect created by fallen rubble from the old mill creates standing water, mosquitos in the summer, restricts the passage of spawning finfish species and results in other negative impacts. Periodic releases of water from the upstream drinking water reservoir operated by Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) sometimes propels rubble from the old mill further downstream, creating "jams" and obstructions and magnifying the envelope of disturbance created by this long forgotten installation.				
<i>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.</i>				
11. Estimated Capital Costs				
Acquisition				-0-
Design				40,000.00
Construction				260,000.00
Equipment				-0-
Total				\$300,000.00

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
154	154	14.5 Million	14.5 Millions
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
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	1/4 acre		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	1/4 acre		
New GSF			
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion		Prior to circa 1845, undetermined	
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			
<p>The mill was at one point part of a major complex that was established prior to 1845 and was used for grain and cotton. As a decaying impediment, it burdens modern water quality and the flow of the river. As a stabilized and repaired structure it has symbolic and eco-tourism value as a historical landmark. The mill complex is linked to the Snowden family whose iron manufacturing empire dominated commerce in the upper portions of the Patuxent River from the 1700's. The mill was also fundamental to the founding of the City of Laurel. At its zenith, the structure was 40-50 feet tall and completely spanned the river. Today it is a forgotten landmark. Once repaired, it can stand for generations to come as a monument to what was once great and vital to the Patuxent River and the civilization that grew on its banks.</p>			

