

State of Maryland

2006 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
3547	SB1010	3634	HB1661	Creation of a State Debt – Baltimore City - Lyric Opera House
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Sen. Jones and Hughes				Del. Paige and Marriott
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Baltimore City				\$1,000,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$1,000,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Lyric Foundation, Inc. for the construction and capital equipping of the stage house area and capital improvements to the back stage rigging system and support areas of the Lyric Opera House.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
This bill requires a standard match.				
8. Special Provisions				
The bill requires the grantee to convey to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its interest in the property.				
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>The Lyric Foundation (and its subsidiary, Lyric Productions, LLC) attracts and supports high quality theater and opera productions, popular concerts and dance, educational events and community-based events at The Lyric Opera House. In addition, it undertakes responsibility for the maintenance, improvements and operations of Baltimore’s oldest continuously operating theater, and one of its most treasured architectural landmarks.</p> <p>The Lyric is a major multi-purpose venue with a steady stream of great moments since its opening in 1894. The Lyric is world-renown for its fine acoustical qualities; its auditorium was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986. It continues to be a cultural and entertainment hub of the State of Maryland as it skillfully adapts to changing times. Audiences are drawn from the entire mid-Atlantic region for popular shows.</p> <p>Today, the organization's mission is to nurture the region’s cultural climate by acting as the steward for a financially viable cultural performing arts venue. The Lyric hosts and presents wide-ranging forms of performance art of superior quality and strengthen community relationships through performing arts education.</p>				

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

Undoubtedly, the most important element to ensure The Lyric's place in the future as a first rate multipurpose hall is the Lyric Foundation's plan for the expansion and modernization of the stage-house. Despite a number of renovations, The Lyric stage has changed very little in last century. It is one of a handful of theatres that still hosts touring musicals, plays, operas and major concerts using a hemp rigging system. Its limited stage depth prohibits it from accommodating the biggest theater and opera productions. The upcoming capital project will modernize the theatrical technical systems, enlarge its stage, remove obstructing structural columns in the wings, and upgrade safety features and building code compliance.

The modernized stage-house will increase the venue's capacity to bring larger and more lucrative productions to Maryland. At present, users struggle with the physical characteristics of the stage-house and its limited technical systems (no counterweight system). Also, loading is cumbersome and time-consuming, requiring more crew time and unusual techniques to load modern scenery and equipment with old hemp sets (sand bags). The proposed new stage-house will be more efficient, permitting the staff to book a wider range of productions and reduce operating costs. The facility will compete more successfully with presenters and booking agents who measure The Lyric's amenities against those in other cities as they plan their season.

The enhancements will also increase the capacity of the Baltimore Opera Company. It is alone among American companies of its size in performing in such an out-dated stage-house. The modest stage size hinders the company's ability to frequently rent or share scenery and limits the ability of its designers and directors to stage productions comparable to their peers. The renovated stage-house will reduce labor costs, improve safety, and save money.

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	
Design	700,000
Construction	8,000,000
Equipment	900,000
Total	9,600,000

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

Source	Amount
Requested 2006 State Grant	1,000,000
Requested 2007 State Grant	1,000,000
Requested 2008 State Grant	1,000,000
2005 State Grant	250,000
2004 State Grant	150,000
City of Baltimore	2,000,000
Private gifts, loans and operating fund	4,200,000
*estimated cost of project with largest stage depth and height - depending on funding, project could be altered to reduce cost	
Total	9,600,000*

13. Project Schedule			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
03/05	01/07	05/07	4/08
14. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised as of January 2006	15. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	16. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
750,000	250,000	325,000	
17. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2005	250,000	Renovation of stage-house	
2004	150,000	Renovation of stage-house	
2000	500,000	Interior renovations including ladies restroom expansion	
1996	550,000	Southern expansion of facility	
18. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Lyric Foundation, Inc. 110 West Mount Royal Avenue Baltimore, MD 21201			
19. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone	Email Address
V. Sandy Richmond, Executive Director		410-685-5087	vsr@lyricoperahouse.com
H. Mebane Turner, Chair - Executive Committee		410-889-4896	
Edward Brody, Trustee			
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			45-46
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	John H. Denick, Esq.	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-727-6900		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Denick and Associates 20 S. Charles Street, Suite 300 Baltimore, MD 21201			
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
65	80	\$2,000,000	\$2,250,000
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?			Yes
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
Baltimore Opera Company	Yearly	27,600	6,570
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	Existing Square Footage: 127,249		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	After the renovation/expansion: 133,595		
New GSF			
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			