

State of Maryland

2007 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
1352	SB264	1839	HB360	Storyville Children's Learning Center
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Klausmeier				Schuler
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Baltimore County				\$250,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
Grant to the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library, Inc. for the construction and reconstruction of a children's learning center at the Rosedale Public Library.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
Grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act				
8. Special Provisions				
None				
9. Contact Name and Title			Contact Phone	Email Address
Debra Thomas			410-887-3282	dthomas@bcpl.net
10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>In 1999, based on the vision of Library Director Jim Fish, the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library was established in order to provide much needed additional financial and volunteer support for the library. Shortly thereafter, a 501 c-3 tax-exempt status was obtained, a board of directors was recruited, a president was named, and fund raising began.</p> <p>Between 1999 and 2005, the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library has provided funding for a number of projects benefiting Baltimore County Public Library users and library staff. Some of the larger fundraising projects completed include: updated, more comfortable furniture for all library branches; the Read Rover Plus bookmobile - a "library on wheels" used for visits to hundreds of day-care and at-risk communities; updated computer technology in branches throughout Baltimore County; and funding the My First Library Card program which helped 20,000 kindergartners and preschoolers across the county sign up for their first library card while providing a book and backpack to each child.</p> <p>The mission of the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library is to continue to raise funds for a superior public library system where opportunities for literacy, reading enrichment, and lifelong learning are available for all.</p>				

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

By creating Storyville, an interactive early childhood learning center, in the Rosedale Library of the Baltimore County Public Library, we will provide a free community resource for parents to succeed as their children's first teachers and increase awareness of the importance of early childhood as critical learning years. The Storyville center is an innovative and exciting model. In addition to providing information and literacy materials, we will provide hands-on experiential learning opportunities for parents and caregivers as they play, read and learn with their children in a fun, interactive and literacy-rich environment. The activities in the early childhood center are being designed to support the skills identified in the Maryland Model for School Readiness. By supporting this model we join other community agencies in providing a consistent, statewide approach to enhancing school readiness. And because Storyville is a free service any child can use it. A child's level of language and literacy skills is the single greatest indicator of later learning success, and the library has a important role in the community assuring that parents, caregivers and children have access to programs and services that support reading and learning for children.

Storyville will be divided into seven distinct areas: a children's library within the center and six thematic play areas built into a interactive townscape. The townscape will include - a construction zone, a general store, a house with a garden, a theater for putting on impromptu plays, a baby garden, and a toddler area with a Chesapeake Bay theme. Each venue is whimsical and detailed to appeal to the adults as well as the children. Each thematic area has three primary purposes: 1) to provide developmentally appropriate play activities to promote readiness skills, 2) to provide suggestions for nurturing, supportive adult-child interactions to advance development, 3) to provide age appropriate books and materials to promote early literacy skills and reading.

Each thematic area is designed to be "self-service" for parents, caregivers and their children to interact, play, read and learn together. Signage in each area will highlight the skill supported by the activity, the suggested adult-child interactions; and recommended books and early literacy activities for various stages of child development. By utilizing a "town" theme for the center, learning will be related to children's everyday life experiences making learning activities both meaningful and motivating. The activities in Storyville align with the "Communities that Support Family Life" components included in the Maryland Results for Child Well-Being 2006 Report.

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.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	NA
Design	\$42,000
Construction	\$508,000
Equipment	NA
Total	\$550,000

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

Source	Amount
Corporate donations	\$64,000
Contributions from individuals	\$151,000
Foundation grants	\$68,000
Outstanding pledges	\$17,000

Proposed State Bond 2007		\$250,000	
Total		\$550,000*	
14. Project Schedule			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
September 2006	June 2007	July 2007	December 2007
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised as of January 2007		16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
\$300,000		258,691	283,691
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
NA			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
The Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library 320 York Road Towson, MD 21204		Rosedale Library 6105 Kenwood Ave Baltimore, MD 21237	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			8
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:	Jeffrey D. Herschman, President	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-580-4174		NA
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
6225 Smith Avenue Baltimore, MD 21209			
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
31	**32	For Rosedale Library \$2,150,000	For additional staff and Storyville maintenance expenses **\$2,204,162
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?			***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
NA			
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
NA			
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	20,000		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	2,864		
New GSF	none		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion		late 2007	
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			

A few important notes to clarify our Bond Bill Form. The Foundation raises funds for programs and projects outside of Baltimore County Public Library's annual budget. Sometimes in answering questions about a project like Storyville we believe that the funder wants library information and not Foundation information. Questions from Items # 13, # 24 and #25 are examples of this.

* Item #13 asks for budget costs and from where the proposed funds are coming. The figures used are from the Foundation Storyville budget.

** Item #24 asks about impact on budget and staff, we used BCPL staff and budget numbers because those are the entities that will be impacted, and not the Foundation.

*** #25 asks about ownership BCPL, not the Foundation, owns and will operate the facility.

When the Storyville project was publicly announced as a fundraising campaign in April 2006, much of the concept work was completed but the design phase had not begun. Regardless, the campaign dollars grew quickly and by the end of June 2006 the community provided enough funds for the Foundation to make an initial gift to the library of \$100,000 toward Storyville. As of 2/1/07 \$12,000 of those funds have been spent by the library.

Initial cost estimates for building Storyville provided by architect, James Bradberry, were in the \$500,000 range. Once the design is finalized and bids are requested this figure may rise. From the beginning, the board understood that intital costs were fluid and have prepared several options to address this situation. In addition to the prepared options, the Foundation board of directors are committed to seeing Storyville to its completion. Each member of the board made a personal gift to Storyville adding \$21,000 toward the overall goal. Additionally, this all volunteer board actively solicited funds from other sources in order to make Storyville a reality for the children in and around Baltimore County and Baltimore City.