

State of Maryland

2007 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
2563	SB728	2690	HB810	Rosie Parks Restoration Project
3. Senate Bill Sponsors			House Bill Sponsors	
Middleton			Haddaway	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)			5. Requested Amount	
Talbot			\$225,000	
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State Debt to serve as a grant to the Board of Governors of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Inc. for the repair, renovation, and reconstruction of the skipjack Rosie Parks.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. The fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of the Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
Requiring the grantee to grant and convey a certain easement to the Maryland Historic Trust.				
9. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone	Email Address	
Stuart Parnes		410-745-2916	sparnes@cbmm.org	
10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the culture and maritime heritage of the Bay and its people. Our mission is to educate residents and tourists, adults and children to value the extraordinary heritage of the Bay and to become stewards of one of America's most important maritime regions. Taking a broad, multidisciplinary approach to the cultural and natural history of the region, the Museum's programs and exhibitions explore the relationships of nature and humankind, both in the past and in the present.</p> <p>Founded in 1965, the Museum is today the leading museum focusing on the Chesapeake Bay. With visitor experience as a top priority, the Museum attracts 70,000 visitors a year to its 18-acre waterfront campus on St. Michaels harbor. The CBMM features the nation's most complete collection of Chesapeake Bay artifacts, visual arts, and indigenous watercraft. These collections fill 13 exhibit buildings, a working boatyard, a state-of-the-art collection storage building, and a well-regarded maritime library. The Museum promotes inquiry and understanding of the Chesapeake region and its people through year-round exhibitions, educational programs, and events. Through its Center for Chesapeake Studies, the CBMM conducts and promotes regional folklife and historical research. With a staff of 50, an annual operating budget of \$3 million, nearly 7,000 members, and almost 300 active volunteers, the Museum is one Maryland's most important cultural institutions.</p>				

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

What makes Rosie Parks unique to the state of Maryland is her provenance, history, and virtually untouched state. In many people’s minds she is still the preeminent skipjack on the Bay, despite her desperate need for restoration.

Rosie Parks was built in 1955 in Wingate, Maryland by renowned boat builder Bronza Parks. He built her for his brother, Cap’n Orville Parks, who had owned and worked several skipjacks during his career and knew exactly what he wanted in a new boat. Bronza built three skipjacks to that plan in 1955, the Lady Katie and the Martha Lewis joined the Rosie as part of the working oyster fleet in that first winter of ’55-’56.

Orville Parks was sometimes referred to as the “Admiral of the Chesapeake,” and his sailing skills were widely known and admired. The skipjacks of that day did more than dredge for oysters, they also raced for fun and prize money. Orville was intent on getting first place money and bragging rights every race, and under his skilled hand Rosie Parks won nearly every race she entered.

When Cap’n Orville retired from dredging in 1974 he sold the Rosie to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. The news was the lead story in the Baltimore Sun. For another 20 years, she continued to sail under the Museum burgee in many of the same races that she had dominated for so long, and she welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Museum.

In the last decade, Martha Lewis, Lady Katie and many other Bay skipjacks have been extensively rebuilt using modern techniques and materials. The work was needed to keep these boats sailing, but it changed their original construction and altered the builder’s original design and methods.

Rosie Parks is the exception. Though a century of hard use has left her in dire need of rebuilding, she has never been inaccurately repaired. She is the last authentic skipjack - her construction still just as it was when she was launched in 1955.

The CBMM is uniquely qualified to restore her according to Bronza Parks’ original plans, techniques and materials. The work will be done within the Museum’s restoration boatyard, and will be open to visitors throughout the 2-year process. In addition to preserving this extraordinary artifact, the Museum will be preserving the skills that originally built her. Young apprentices will work alongside master builders every step of the way. When restored, the Rosie Parks will be the only historically accurate skipjack sailing on the Bay.

To see a skipjack under sail is to feel the pull of Maryland history, when generations of watermen made a living off the most beautiful and bountiful inland estuary in the world. Already recognized as the State Boat of Maryland and a National Historic Landmark, it is time to restore Rosie Parks to her rightful place as Queen of the Fleet.

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	
Design	\$35,000
Construction	\$415,000
Equipment	
Total	\$450,000

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

Source	Amount
2007 Maryland Bond Bill	\$225,000
Real Property	\$65,000
Grant	\$60,000

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
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			
Space to Be Renovated GSF			
New GSF			
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			