

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 380 (Senator Rosapepe)
Budget and Taxation

**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2005 - Prince George's County -
Paint Branch Creek Restoration**

This bill repeals the requirement that the Board of Directors of Anacostia Watershed Society, Inc., as grantee, provide a matching fund for Paint Branch Creek restoration, as provided in the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2005. The bill also expands the authorized locations for use of grant funds to include Paint Branch and Little Paint Branch watersheds down to the confluence with the Northeast Branch.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill would not affect the finances or operations of Prince George's County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 445 of 2005 authorized up to \$218,000 in matching funds for the planning, design, restoration, erosion abatement, and stabilization of the portion of Paint Branch Creek located between the north gate of the University of Maryland and Interstate 495 in College Park. The grantee was required to present evidence to the Board of Public Works of the required matching funds by June 1, 2007.

Background: Restoration of the Paint Branch Creek is designed to stabilize the creek basin, protecting the area's trails and trees. The restoration is also intended to reduce sediment loading, allowing unobstructed fish passage through the creek.

Matching funds for the project were certified in May 2007 and vendors were approved; however, the Comptroller's Office advises that many of the planned expenditures were not eligible under Department of General Services' guidelines due to the nature of the work. In order to avoid forfeiting State grant funds, the bill removes the matching fund requirement.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of General Services, Board of Public Works, Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 2008
mcp/ljm

Analysis by: Suzanne O. Potts

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510