

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 161 (Senator Munson, *et al.*)
Budget and Taxation

**Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004 and Maryland Consolidated
Capital Bond Loan of 2007 - Washington County - Barbara Ingram School for the
Arts**

This bill changes the grantee from the Mayor and City Council of the City of Hagerstown to the Board of Directors of the Hagerstown Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc. for the renovation of the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts, as provided in the Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004 and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2007.

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 directly affect the finances or operations of Washington County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 204 of 2003 authorized \$12.7 million for community initiative projects approved by the House of Delegates under the Community Based Regional Initiatives Loan of 2004. In addition, Chapter 204 authorized \$17.7 million for community initiative projects under the Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004.

Of that, \$12.7 million was for projects initially approved by the Senate and \$5.0 million was for community initiative projects as agreed upon by both houses. Chapter 432 of 2004, the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan, modified those amounts to \$15.2 million for projects initially approved by the Senate and \$2.5 million for projects initially approved by the House.

Of the Senate total, Chapter 432 authorized up to \$400,000 for the acquisition, planning, design, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts in Hagerstown. The Mayor and City Council of Hagerstown, as grantee, is required to provide a matching fund of \$270,000 and convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust as a condition of award.

Chapter 488 of 2007 authorized an additional \$150,000 in matching funds for the repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Barbara Ingram School on the condition that the Mayor and City Council of Hagerstown, as grantee, convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust.

Background: The Barbara Ingram School for the Arts is a four-year high school designed to provide students with specialized training in one of four disciplines: visual arts, music, theatre, and dance. The school will initially serve an estimated 150 students in Washington County and the surrounding area, with the possibility of future expansion.

The City of Hagerstown no longer owns the property on which the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts is located, transferring the property to the Hagerstown Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc. in order to qualify the project for historic preservation tax credits. The bill would ensure that the new property owner is able to access State grant funds to complete the project.

The Department of General Services advises that the match for the 2004 grant of \$400,000 has been certified, and the majority of funds have been expended. A matching fund has not yet been certified for the 2007 grant of \$150,000.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Board of Public Works, City of Hagerstown, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 28, 2008
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