

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 471 (Senator Garagiola)
Budget and Taxation

**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2007 - Montgomery County -
Woodstock Equestrian Park**

This bill changes the grantee from the Board of Trustees of the Montgomery County Parks Foundation, Inc. to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the Woodstock Equestrian Park project as provided in 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 Montgomery County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 488 of 2007 authorized up to \$500,000 in matching funds for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Woodstock Equestrian Park in Beallsville. The grantee is required to present evidence of the required matching funds by June 1, 2009. The grantee is also required to convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust as a condition of award.

Background: The Woodstock Equestrian Park is a public equestrian facility located in Montgomery County. The park, which was donated to the county in 1999, is being developed to include trails, additional courses and facilities, and an indoor arena. The \$7.0 million project is being financed with a combination of State, county, and private funds.

Chapter 488 of 2007 names the Board of Trustees of the Montgomery County Parks Foundation, Inc. as the grantee for the improvement project. The foundation is a nonprofit organization that fundraises on behalf of the Montgomery County park system. This bill proposes to name the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission as grantee, because the commission owns the land on which improvements will be made.

A memorandum of understanding does not exist between the foundation and the commission for fundraising or administration of the grant. Lacking this agreement, it is uncertain how funds previously pledged to the foundation would be affected by the proposed change.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 104 (Delegate Hixson, *et al.*) – Appropriations.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Montgomery County Parks Foundation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2008
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