

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 251 (Senator Peters)
Budget and Taxation

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2009 - Prince George's County -
Whitemarsh Turf Field

This bill changes the grantee of the Whitemarsh Turf Field project, as specified by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2009. The current grantee is the Board of Directors of the Bowie Boys and Girls Club, Inc.; the bill specifies that the project's grantee is the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bowie.

The bill establishes a deadline for the grantee to present evidence of a matching fund. The proceeds of this loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2013.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: Absent the bill, the City of Bowie may lose access to the \$25,000 in matching funds authorized for this project.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 485 of 2009 authorized up to \$25,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of the Bowie Boys and Girls Club, Inc. for the construction of the Whitemarsh Turf Field, located in Bowie. The matching funds may consist of in-kind

contributions but may not consist of real estate property or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2009 effective date of Chapter 485.

Background: According to the application materials submitted prior to the passage of Chapter 485, the grantee advised that the project would allow one of Bowie's most popular athletic venues to be transformed from natural grass to a synthetic "field turf" surface. The capacity for White Marsh Park has allowed for the field to be used five months per year for one sport as repairs and maintenance required the field to close for more than half of the year. Converting to a turf surface would allow the field to be used year-round, despite seasonal changes and wear and tear.

According to documents submitted in 2009, the \$600,000 project is being funded by State and local grants, as well as private sources. The grantee did not respond to attempts made by Legislative Services to obtain more recent information regarding this project.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 547 (Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of General Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2011
ncs/ljm

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