

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1273  
Appropriations

(Delegate Davis)

---

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2009 - Prince George's County -  
District Heights Field Renovation

---

This bill extends the deadline to June 1, 2013, for the Mayor and City Commissioners of the City of District Heights, as grantee, to present evidence that a matching fund will be provided for the District Heights Field Renovation project as required by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2009. The bill also specifies that the proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by the grantee by June 1, 2013.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

---

Fiscal Summary

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

**Local Effect:** Absent the bill, the City of District Heights may lose access to the \$200,000 in matching funds authorized for this project as the two-year timeframe to present evidence of the match in order to utilize these monies expires June 1, 2011.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** Chapter 485 of 2009 authorized up to \$200,000 in matching funds to the Mayor and City Commissioners of the City of District Heights for the design, construction, renovation, and capital equipping of recreational fields in the city. The

required matching fund may consist of real property but may not consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2009 effective date of Chapter 485.

**Background:** The city advises that it has submitted the documents necessary to certify matching funds. According to the city, the project was delayed due to difficulties obtaining an appraisal of the value of the fields to meet the matching fund requirement; after multiple attempts to compel the company to perform the appraisal, the city was forced to terminate its relationship with the initial company hired to appraise the value of the real estate. In February 2011, the city hired a different appraisal company, which subsequently appraised the value of the land at about \$400,000.

According to the city, the planning and design phase of the project is complete and construction is set to begin on May 1, 2011. The city anticipates that the project will be completed roughly 60 to 90 days thereafter.

The project involves the redevelopment and restoration of the city's athletic fields and related facilities. The athletic fields consist of two baseball fields, one football field, and a track. The fields are used regularly by members of the community. Local Boys and Girls Clubs previously used these fields for various athletic and recreational purposes, but the run-down condition of the fields resulted in these groups using other facilities. The city advises that the fields have been used for over 40 years and are in need of restoration. The project will alleviate drainage problems, replace the track, and renovate and resod the fields. The project will also include the installation of eight light towers for the fields. New scoreboards, bleachers, backstops, goalposts, and a press box will also be constructed at the site.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 16, 2011  
ncs/ljm

---

Analysis by: Michael T. Vorgetts

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