

State of Maryland

2011 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
lr2720	sb0795	lr2891	hb1194	Mount Vernon Place Conservancy
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Jones-Rodwell				Haynes
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)			5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore City			\$500,000	
6. Purpose of Bill				
<p>Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Mount Vernon Place Conservancy, Inc. for the repair, renovation, and reconstruction of the Washington Monument and historic masonry in Mount Vernon Place</p>				
7. Matching Fund				
Requirements:		Type:		
Equal		The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund		
8. Special Provisions				
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian		
9. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone	Email Address	
Karen Footner		410-433-0354	kmfootner@aol.com	
10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (Limit Length to Visible area)				
<p>The Mount Vernon Place Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) organization that incorporated in 2008 and received its tax exempt status in 2009. The Conservancy formed to enter into a long-term partnership agreement with the City of Baltimore to restore Mount Vernon Place, and to ensure its future maintenance and management through shared resources. The Conservancy will become the single management entity for Mount Vernon Place. It will manage the squares' day-to-day functioning, undertake a \$12 million capital campaign to restore the park infrastructure, and oversee management of the Washington Monument. The Conservancy's goal is to make Mount Vernon Place a world class cultural attraction, strengthening residential redevelopment and attracting tourists from the Inner Harbor to Mount Vernon Place and the area's cultural institutions. The City will be a full partner in this project, contributing both services and funding. The Conservancy's first act was to commission a Master Plan by Olin Partnership. Completed in 2010, and largely approved by CHAP, the Master Plan includes recommendations for a Secretary of the Interior's Standards restoration. The Conservancy will work closely with the MD Historical Trust.</p>				

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit Length to Visible area)

Mount Vernon Place is the centerpiece of the Mount Vernon Place National Historic Landmark District. It is Baltimore City's most iconic historic site, recognized world-wide. Its significance lies in its Washington Monument, the nation's first public monument to honor George Washington. This project will restore Washington Monument, including all of its marble masonry and its highly ornamental cast iron fence designed by Robert Mills. In the four park squares, the masonry restoration embraces marble balustrades, ornamental fountains, retaining walls and granite steps, all designed by Carrere & Hastings, and recognized as their finest surviving urban landscape design. The Master Plan included a complete conservation analysis performed of the Washington Monument and its cast iron fence, and the parks' stone masonry. This project is the first stage of a comprehensive restoration of Mount Vernon Place, including virtually all of its components. It is the goal of the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy and the City of Baltimore to restore the Monument by the bicentennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the Monument in 2015.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	0
Design	
Construction	\$1,406,000
Equipment	\$521,000
Total	\$1,927,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
City of Baltimore, Bond Bill -	\$1,000,000
State of Maryland, Bond Bill	\$500,000
MD Heritage Area Authority	\$100,000
Private grants and contributions	\$327,000
Total	\$1,927,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
		Spring 2012	Summer 2014
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised		16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
\$1,000,000		site closed	225,000
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
none			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Mount Vernon Place Conservancy, Inc. P. O. Box 26285 Baltimore, MD 21210		Mount Vernon Place N. Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21201	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	44 - Southeastern Baltimore City		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Donald McPherson	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-580-4213		no
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
DLA Piper 6225 Smith Avenue Baltimore, MD 21209			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
0	0	\$90,000	\$125,000
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			na
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			na
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			na
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
na			
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
City of Baltimore	Partnership agr to be finalized		
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF			
Space to Be Renovated GSF			
New GSF		na	
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			1815

28. Comments: (Limit Length to Visible area)

Mount Vernon Place and the Washington Monument are among Baltimore's most important visitor destinations, as well as a vital component of the State of Maryland's upcoming War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration. The Monument restoration is expected to spur new tourist activity and make Mount Vernon Place one of the most desirable residential neighborhoods in the City of Baltimore.

In Mount Vernon Place Baltimoreans' demonstrated their belief in the ideals of American democracy. After defeating the British in the Battle of Baltimore in 1814, effectively ending the War of 1812, on July 4th 1815, Baltimoreans laid the cornerstone of a monument to George Washington on land donated by John Eager Howard.

The Washington Monument, designed in marble by architect Robert Mills, stands in testimony to Baltimoreans' civic pride in their decisive role in securing the liberty of the United States. Completed in 1829, when the statue of Washington by Henrico Causici was placed upon the top of the Doric column, the monument and its highly decorative cast iron fence of Mills' design formed the centerpiece of an urban square, also designed by Mills.

As the nineteenth century progressed, the four squares became a highly desirable place to live, giving rise to examples of residential architecture by both locally- and nationally-recognized firms, the latter represented by Stanford White and John Russell Pope, and cultural institutions, include the Peabody Institute and the Walters Art Gallery.

In 1877 Mills' plan for the squares--large rectangles of grass surrounded by high iron fences--was redesigned in part by the noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. The new design removed the fences and created curvilinear walkways and planting beds, with granite retaining walls in the style of the then popular Aesthetic Movement.

This design remained until 1917 when America entered World War I. In solidarity with the French people who had helped the Americans during the Revolutionary War, Baltimoreans broke ground in Mount Vernon Place for a statue honoring the Marquis de Lafayette.

This groundbreaking led to a redesign of the squares by the New York firm of Carrere & Hastings, among the most prestigious architectural firms of the time. In redesigning the squares the firm strove to make them harmonize with their centerpiece, the Washington Monument.