

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1350
Appropriations

(Howard County Delegation)

**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010 - Howard County - Troy
Regional Park**

This bill prohibits the grant for the Troy Regional Park project, as specified in the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010, from terminating before June 1, 2014.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2012.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: Absent the bill, Howard County could lose access to the \$455,000 in matching funds authorized for this project.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 483 of 2010 authorized up to \$455,000 to the County Executive and County Council of Howard County, as grantee, for the design, construction, and capital equipping of the Troy Regional Park, located in Elkridge. The required matching funds may not consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2010 effective date of Chapter 483. The grantee is required to present evidence of matching funds by June 1, 2012. The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works by June 1, 2012. If any funds authorized remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2012, the amount of the unexpended

or unencumbered authorization must be canceled. Chapter 483 authorized two separate grants for this project; the bill's changes affect both grants.

Chapter 485 of 2009 authorized up to \$150,000 for the planning and design of active and passive recreation facilities at the Troy Regional Park, located in the Elkridge Planning Area. The required matching funds may not consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2009 effective date of Chapter 485. The grantee has already presented evidence of matching funds, and the proceeds of the loan have already been expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works.

Background: The Troy Regional Park project involves a public/private partnership with the Howard County Tennis Patrons and their leasing of approximately 14 acres of this park for a tennis facility. Howard County has delayed spending the grant for this project until the "Market and Economic Analysis for a Proposed New Tennis Complex at Troy Park in Howard County, Maryland" – a report by the Maryland Stadium Authority – has been completed and reviewed by Howard County to discover whether or not a tennis complex of this magnitude would be viable in Howard County. If the Howard County Tennis Patrons cannot provide proof of funding for their project and if they are unable to fulfill their lease agreement with the county, the current master plan will be subject to design changes to include these 14 acres. Howard County, the grantee, reports that extending the grant by two years will allow the county to adjust the plan if required and spend the grant funds responsibly.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Howard County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 14, 2012
mlm/ljm

Analysis by: Caroline L. Boice

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