

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1476
Appropriations

(Delegate Rudolph)

Budget and Taxation

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010 - Cecil County - Lower
Susquehanna Heritage Greenway

This emergency bill adds the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Perryville as a grantee to the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway project, as established by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010. The bill also extends the deadline – from June 1, 2012, to June 1, 2014 – for the grantees to provide evidence that a matching fund will be provided and specifies that the proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by the grantees by June 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the operations or finances of Cecil County. The Town of Perryville will gain access to up to \$150,000 in matching funds as a co-grantee for the project.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 483 of 2010 authorized up to \$150,000 in matching funds for the construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, located in Perryville. Matching funds may consist of real property and in-kind contributions, but they may not include funds expended prior to June 1, 2010, the effective date of Chapter 483. The grantee has until June 1, 2012, to present evidence that the required matching funds will be provided. The proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by the grantee by June 1, 2012.

Background: In 2010, funding was requested by the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc. to complete the renovation of Rodgers Tavern, including restoring the building, creating trail connections, and creating water access to the property.

Rodgers Tavern is a two-story stone structure built in 1695 on the east bank of the Susquehanna River next to former ferry and bridge crossings. The tavern played a role in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War, and it was frequented by General George Washington. Renovation and restoration of the Rodgers Tavern property is being conducted as a joint *partnership* between the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway and the Town of Perryville, which owns the Rodgers Tavern property.

According to the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc., funds have been spent to construct a 750-foot pier at Rodgers Tavern that will be used for a water taxi service between Perryville and Havre de Grace and to provide transit boat slips. All matching funds have been certified, but the project is awaiting approval by the Board of Public Works. Extension of the timeframe beyond June 1, 2012, will provide a grace period in case there are any delays in obtaining this approval.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Cecil County; Town of Perryville; Department of General Services; Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc.; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 23, 2012
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