

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 257 (Senator Montgomery)
Budget and Taxation

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010 - Montgomery County -
Sandy Spring Museum

This bill extends the deadline – from June 1, 2013, to June 1, 2014 – for the Board of Trustees of the Sandy Spring Museum, Inc., as grantee, to provide evidence that a matching fund will be provided for the Sandy Spring Museum project as required by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2010, as amended. The bill also specifies that the grant may not terminate before June 1, 2014.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Montgomery County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 483 of 2010 (SB 142) authorized up to \$65,000 for the planning, repair, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Museum. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2010 effective date of Chapter 483, but it may not consist of real property. Chapter 639 of 2012 (SB 1037) extended the deadline for the proceeds of the loan to be encumbered by the Board of

Public Works or expended from June 1, 2012, to June 1, 2013. Likewise, Chapter 639 also specified that the grant may not terminate before June 1, 2013.

Chapter 46 of 2006 (SB 370) authorized up to \$200,000 for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Museum Library and Archives. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2006 effective date of Chapter 46, but it may not consist of real property. Evidence of a matching fund contribution had to be shown by June 1, 2008. The proceeds of the loan must be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2013.

Chapter 445 of 2005 (HB 340) also authorized up to \$75,000 for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the Sandy Spring Library and Archives. The matching fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2005 effective date of Chapter 445. Evidence of a matching fund contribution had to be shown by June 1, 2007. The proceeds of the loan had to be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended by June 1, 2012.

Background: The Sandy Spring Museum is dedicated to the history and culture of Sandy Spring. Sandy Spring was the center of a network of rural villages settled in the 1720s. The first settlers were members of the Religious Society of Friends, otherwise known as Quakers. However, these first settlers were soon joined by others, including Anglicans and freed slaves, which give the area a unique history and culture. Permanent exhibits document one of the oldest sustained communities of African American landowners in the nation, the tradition of Sandy Spring social clubs, and Sandy Spring commercial achievements. There is also a general store and a farm house kitchen.

The museum also maintains a research library, which includes the original minutes published as *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, a multivolume record of one of the community's numerous social clubs. These groups of 14 to 16 families began meeting after the Civil War and continue meeting monthly to the present.

The grant will primarily fund installation of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning units for the museum's rural life interpretive areas. The grantee reports that an extension is necessary because the museum was without an executive director to lead the project for six months. A new executive director was hired in May 2012, and she is confident that, with an extension, matching funds will be secured and construction will be able to begin. The executive director anticipates Montgomery County will include matching funds for the project in its budget to be released in June 2013.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 358 (Delegate Zucker, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Sandy Spring Museum,
Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/ljm

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