

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 206
Appropriations

(Talbot County Delegation)

Budget and Taxation

**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2013 - Talbot County - Oxford
Community Center**

This emergency bill allows matching funds for the Oxford Community Center project, as specified in the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2013, to consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2013 effective date of Chapter 424 (the fiscal 2014 capital budget).

Fiscal Summary

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

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

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 424 of 2013 authorized a total of up to \$100,000 in matching funds to the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Community Center, Inc., for the repair, renovation, and capital equipping of the Oxford Community Center, located in Oxford. Matching funds may not consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2013 effective date of Chapter 424. The grantee has until June 1, 2015, to present evidence that matching funds will be provided. The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works by June 1, 2020. If any funds remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2020, the amount of the unexpended or unencumbered authorization must be canceled.

Background: The Oxford Community Center serves as a community, visitors, and performing arts center. Each year it hosts a number of events, ranging from art shows and movie screenings to community dinners and youth summer camp programs. The center's values include the environment, the arts, education, outreach, youth activities, and history. In 2006, the center was advised that its building needed certain upgrades and renovations to improve the building's safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency. While the center's upgrades and renovations were completed in 2012, it incurred a number of unanticipated costs as a result of rotten floor joists, asbestos removal, and underground oil tank remediation, among other things.

The center advises that it requested \$100,000 in 2013 to pay down the debt it incurred during the center's upgrades and renovations. Currently, the center is unable to raise the requisite amount of cash from community and private donors to meet the matching fund requirement in Chapter 424. The center further advises that if matching funds can consist of funds expended prior to the June 1, 2013 effective date of Chapter 424, it will be able to meet the \$100,000 matching fund requirement.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 7 (Senator Colburn) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, City of Oxford, Oxford Community Center, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 2014
ncs/ljm

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