

State Of Maryland 2018 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate LR # Bill #		House LR # Bill #		2. Name Of Project
		lr3300	hb0970	Aberdeen Proving Ground Discovery Preview Center
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
				Lisanti
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Harford County				\$250,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Discovery Preview Center				
7. Matching Fund				
Requirements: Unequal \$50,000			Type: The matching fund may consist of real property or in kind contributions.	
8. Special Provisions				
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title			Contact Ph#	Email Address
Bernard J. Michel			410-459-2304	bmichel455@gmail.com
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)				
<p>Harford County lost its largest tourist attraction when the Army Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Ground closed due to Base Realignment and Closure legislation. At its peak, the Museum drew over 100,000 visitors per year and was an economic driver for the region. In 2014, former APG employees and business leaders began planning the replacement for the Ordnance Museum. Recognizing that APG's 100th Anniversary was an opportune time to tell the story of APG's contributions to national defense and civilian life, the APG Centennial Celebration Association formed and developed a year of 150 events to celebrate the region's history and build momentum for the Ordnance Museum's replacement. With the centennial year concluded, the Board turned to launching the APG Discovery Center and drew plans for its first phase - a Preview Center at the Aberdeen Train Station.</p>				

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

The APG Discovery Center will be a place where students of all ages explore, experience, invent, create, and play with technology, leading them to a greater understanding of the scientific principles at play and the history of that technology's development. With exhibits, a classroom, auditorium, and community meeting space, the APG Discovery Center will be a regional attraction, drawing people from Harford, Cecil, and Baltimore Counties, and surrounding states, providing a major economic impact to the region. This bond bill will help establish Phase 1 of the APG Discovery Center, a "Preview" Center in a 1,200-SF space at the Aberdeen Train Station. The Preview Center will feature prototype exhibits and space for meetings, visitors, fundraising, community events, conservation, and artifact storage. This space will offer visitors an opportunity to experience a small taste of what the larger Discovery Center will offer, generating community excitement and support.

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	\$70,000
Construction	\$198,000
Equipment	\$92,000
Total	\$360,000

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

Bond Bill	\$250,000
Corporate Grants/Sponsorships	\$80,000
Philanthropy (Foundations)	\$30,000
Total	\$360,000

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
7/1/2018	10/1/2018	1/1/2019	6/30/2019
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
60000.00			20000
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
N/A			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Aberdeen Proving Ground Centennial Celebration Association, Inc. dba/APG Discovery Center 2021-D Pulaski Highway Havre de Grace, MD 21078		18 E Bel Air Ave. Aberdeen, MD 21001	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	34A - Harford County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Barney Michel	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-459-2304		
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
2021-D Pulaski Highway Havre de Grace, MD 21078			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
.5	1	250000.00	520000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Lease
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
City of Aberdeen	5 years	Yes	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	0		
Space to be Renovated GSF	1200		
New GSF	1500		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

1943

28. Comments

The APG Discovery Center fills an urgent need for additional STEM programming to improve student competency in these subjects. It is imperative that we strengthen northeastern Maryland's STEM learning ecosystem so our students are prepared to pursue high-paying, in-demand jobs in STEM fields, many of which are located in our region. The APG Discovery Center will fill a key role in anchoring our region's STEM programming and providing students opportunities to interact with technology and STEM professionals. Numerous studies show that these interactions are the most effective ways to encourage students to pursue STEM careers.

The APG Discovery Center will leverage the groundbreaking technological development and incredible braintrust of the region's scientists and engineers. Exhibits featuring virtual reality will give visitors the opportunity to drive a tank, to test a UAV, or to visit a lab from 1917 when APG was founded. Other exhibits will explore the history of computing and the future of high performance computing. Visitors will discover the physical and chemical properties behind common technology, like the cell phone, with interactive exhibits. After-school programs, free tutoring, mentoring, access to technology beyond anything available in a classroom, an auditorium and theater, and community meeting areas are among the non-exhibit features of the APG Discovery Center.

Seed funding provided in FY2017 and FY2018 by Harford County Office of Economic Development was leveraged to raise over \$250,000 in corporate donations. The Discovery Center Board used these funds to conduct events for the APG 100th Anniversary, underwrite historical programs, develop information material, identify artifacts for collection, conduct a feasibility study, develop a business plan, and build relationships with partners on and off post, laying the foundation for the Discovery Center. One of the initiatives undertaken with these funds was a feasibility study to assess whether the region's demographics will support a Discovery Center, and if so, what size.

The APG Discovery Center is now looking to raise \$520,000 in Phase 1 to construct a Preview Center at the Aberdeen Train Station in FY2019, as a first step toward the permanent facility. The Preview Center will serve as a visitor's center, meeting and work space, artifact storage area, exhibit area, and will provide funders and visitors a preview of the planned Discovery Center. Discovery Center programming for K-12 students will be developed and launched as part of Phase 1 efforts.

Design and construction of the permanent 10,000-SF Discovery Center exhibit space, in Phase 2, will begin in FY2021 and is estimated at approximately \$2,690,000. FY2022 will be the first full year of operation for the Discovery Center.

The Discovery Center will once again look to double its exhibit footprint after FY2023 to 20,000-SF so it can serve 100,000 visitors per year. The families of northeastern Maryland are hungry for a resource like the APG Discovery Center!