

State Of Maryland

2023 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Springsong Museum		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Smith		
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County	\$2,250,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Springsong Museum		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Senator William C. Smith, Jr.		will.smith@senate.state.md.us
Rebecca Henson		202-641-8431
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
Rachel Carson Place of Wonder Inc exists with the sole mission of creating a world-class community museum-- Springsong Museum-- inspired by Rachel Carson, celebrating and exploring our regional ecology and deep human connections to the land. Our 501(c)(3) public charity was founded in late spring 2021 and is based in Silver Spring, Maryland.		

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

World-renowned writer, scientist, and considered by many the "Mother of the Modern Environmental Movement," Rachel Carson lived her adult life in MD. Our plan creates a rich community asset and world-class museum inspired by Carson through the adaptive reuse of a long-vacant building. Located only 2.5 mi downstream from where Carson lived and wrote Silent Spring, we will transform this space into a welcoming museum where children and adults, locals and tourists alike, can explore her sense of wonder, respect for scientific rigor, and courageous advocacy for a healthier environment. As Carson's work centered on connections between living things and their environment, our museum will also connect visitors to the history of the land through the diverse communities that have lived here. With free admission and an interpretive framework centered on accessibility, this Silver Spring landmark will be a creative, transformative gathering place for all.

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	
Design	\$990,000
Construction	\$3,610,000
Equipment	
Total	\$4,600,000

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

2023 LBI (requesting)	\$2,250,000
2023 CDS (requesting)	\$750,000
Private Donor (secured)	\$100,000
Private Foundation Grants/Gifts (requesting)	\$890,000
Private Donor Gifts (requesting)	\$480,000
Corporate Gifts (requesting)	\$130,000
Total	\$4,600,000

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
Already begun	Approx. April 2024	Approx. June 2024	Approx. Aug 2025
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	
145000.00	0	40,000	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Rachel Carson Place of Wonder Inc 10620 S Dunmoor Dr Silver Spring, MD 20901		10701 Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20901	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	20 - Montgomery 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:	Rebecca Henson	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	(202) 641-8431		
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
10620 S Dunmoor Dr Silver Spring, Maryland 20901			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
1	6	75000.00	566000.00
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?			
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	
Montgomery Parks	15+ years		
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	4200		
Space to be Renovated GSF	4200		
New GSF	1700		

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

1930-1936

28. Comments

Our project is envisioned through the lens of the "Public Value" museum model, where community need and interests are driving factors in the product. The 2022 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and Survey data and findings steered us to develop a museum plan that was transit-accessible, wheelchair-accessible, language- and culture- diverse, attractive for an older population, and multi-use and multi-purpose. Montgomery County's 5th District has the largest proportion of People of Color and the lowest household income in the county. These factors directly influence our programmatic and interpretive plans, as well as our free admission policy.

Springsong Museum is aligned with the County's Thrive2050 goal of expanding resources along U.S. Route 29 and addresses the 2014 White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan recommendation calling for "Activat[ion] the Robert B. Morse Filtration Plant Buildings through a directed partnership, investing in the adaptive reuse of the structures and in improvements to environmental conditions at Northwest Branch."

We look forward to welcoming approximately 40,000 visitors annually to this site, which sits along Maryland's "Fall Line" where the Piedmont Plateau crashes into the Coastal Plain, with dramatic metamorphic boulders and gorgeous waterfalls. (While on a smaller scale, the Northwest Branch at Burnt Mills is formed from the same geological forces that created Great Falls on the Potomac River). In this inspiring location, Springsong Museum will work in partnership with a variety of groups including school systems from around the state, environmental groups, and senior centers. For older students, Springsong plans to use the Smithsonian's curriculum called: Environmental Justice! How can we create environments that are healthy for everyone?

While Rachel Carson resided most of her adult life in Silver Spring, she first lived in Baltimore (1929- 1937) where she attended graduate school at Johns Hopkins University and also where her career began with a job writing articles about the Chesapeake Bay for the Baltimore Sun. In Prince George's County, she taught Biology at University of Maryland College Park and was connected with the Patuxent Research Refuge through her later work at U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and while writing Silent Spring. Carson's life and work make for a true Maryland story.

Thank you for your consideration of our project!