

State Of Maryland

2025 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Peerless Rens Club Outdoor Restoration		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
	D. Jones	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Anne Arundel County	\$40,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Peerless Rens Club Outdoor Restoration project		
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
Briayna Cuffie		443-623-8925
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The Peerless Rens Club (PRC) building is a monument to the culture, heritage and achievements of African Americans in Eastport; once its own incorporated town and now a neighborhood in Annapolis, the presence of its Black community goes back to 1870, and at its height was 40% of the population. The Peerless Rens Club is a historic social club founded and built by a group of African American men in 1948, the sons and nephews of the original group of men/friends that began in 1919 as a neighborhood basketball team. Two generations of military members, U.S. Naval Academy workers, watermen, boat builders, and tradesmen. The location has been a hub for civic engagement, camaraderie, fellowship, and - with the completion of the 2nd floor in 1955 - safe, chaperoned children's activities.</p>		

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
12/2024	04/2025	10/2025	04/2026
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	
675.00	300	1,000+	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
21-314	\$70,000	Foundation repairs, roof repair, simple exterior and int	
23-332	\$75,000	Restoration of 1st level bathrooms, office and storage	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Peerless Rens Club, Inc.		406 Chester Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	30A - Anne Arundel 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:		Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:			
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
0	0	0.00	45000.00
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?			Own
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	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	6560		
Space to be Renovated GSF	2200		
New GSF	6560		

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

1948

28. Comments

The membership of PRC work constantly to preserve the community's 150+ year old history, partner with surrounding organizations who meet additional needs of the following generations, and nurture genealogical and kinship ties that span half a dozen counties and hundreds of years. As a part of their efforts to "bring Peerless into the 21st century," they also face an uphill battle in addressing a generation's worth of maintenance lapse due to population (and trade/skill) loss. By starting "from scratch" on multiple fronts, the club will be better suited to have a reserve analysis completed and follow a regimented maintenance plan that is proactive rather than reactive.

As descendants and remaining original members come together to configure how to maintain the character of the early gatherings and essence of Black Eastport culture, they are also working to expand what Peerless Rens is known for; in this new era, we aspire to serve as an ancillary site for entrepreneurs, local businesses, civic organizations, and after school programs. Neither ward 8 nor ward 7 in the City of Annapolis have a multi-purpose venue fit for community use. Given the increasing longevity of the demographic changes of the residential blocks surrounding Peerless Rens, it is important now more than ever, that there continue to be a place that reminds District 30 residents of the future to honor the past as they enjoy the present.