

# State Of Maryland

## 2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

<b>1. Name Of Project</b>		
Riverworks Art Center		
<b>2. Senate Sponsor</b>	<b>3. House Sponsor</b>	
Feldman	Fraser-Hidalgo	
<b>4. Jurisdiction</b> (County or Baltimore City)	<b>5. Requested Amount</b>	
Montgomery County	\$400,000	
<b>6. Purpose of Bond Initiative</b>		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Riverworks Art Center property		
<b>7. Matching Fund</b>		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
<b>8. Special Provisions</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
<b>9. Contact Name and Title</b>	<b>Contact Ph#</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Sandy Wright		301-922-8507
<b>10. Description and Purpose of Organization</b> (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>Riverworks Art Center creates meaningful, fulfilling and healing community engagement through the arts, drawing inspiration from Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve, an area rich in beauty, history and heritage, through classes, workshops, performances, and events. Our mission is to cultivate creativity and connection in western, upper Montgomery County. We provide locals with unique and innovative opportunities to experience culture and art, and we invite visitors from across the county and the region to find inspiration in western, upper Montgomery County through immersive programs rooted in our restorative rural setting, which is unique among art centers in the region.</p>		

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

By revitalizing existing spaces such as historic buildings and dormant commercial properties in ways that celebrate local heritage, Riverworks aims to foster a future for Poolesville as a flourishing arts hub, bringing new cultural and economic vitality to the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve while engaging and partnering with artists and arts organizations across the greater Washington, D.C., region. Previous bond money supports the renovation and rehabilitation of the Old Methodist Church historic property in Poolesville into a state-of-the-art performing arts center. With the continued success and growth of Riverworks' arts programming, the current project seeks to purchase other property in Poolesville's downtown Cultural Arts District to provide additional space for art and performance studios, classes, rehearsals, and workshops.

*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**

<b>Acquisition</b>	\$1,500,000
<b>Design</b>	\$150,000
<b>Construction</b>	\$650,000
<b>Equipment</b>	\$200,000
<b>Total</b>	\$2,500,000

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

LBI 2026, proposed	\$400,000
Private/Foundation Gifts	\$1,000,000
Town of Poolesville Grants	\$25,000
Montgomery County Grants	\$200,000
Capital Campaign	\$875,000
<b>Total</b>	\$2,500,000

<b>14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)</b>			
<b>Begin Design</b>	<b>Complete Design</b>	<b>Begin Construction</b>	<b>Complete Construction</b>
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised</b>	<b>16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site</b>	<b>17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete</b>	
	0	4,000	
<b>18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years</b>			
<b>Legislative Session</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	
2023	\$200,000	Riverworks Art Center	
2024	\$300,000	Riverworks Art Center	
2025	\$250,000	Riverworks Art Center	
<b>19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee</b>		<b>Project Address (If Different)</b>	
Riverworks Art Center 19215 Beallsville Road Beallsville, MD 20839		Poolesville, MD	
<b>20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located</b>	15 - Montgomery County		
<b>21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)</b>			
<b>Local Govt.</b>	<b>For Profit</b>	<b>Non Profit</b>	<b>Federal</b>
[ ]	[ ]	[ X ]	[ ]
<b>22. Grantee Legal Representative</b>		<b>23. If Match Includes Real Property:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	Sandy Wright	<b>Has An Appraisal Been Done?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	301-922-8507		
<b>Address:</b>		<b>If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value</b>	
19215 Beallsville Road Beallsville, MD 20839			

<b>24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site</b>			
<b>Current # of Employees</b>	<b>Projected # of Employees</b>	<b>Current Operating Budget</b>	<b>Projected Operating Budget</b>
0	5	250000.00	500000.00
<b>25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)</b>			
<b>A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?</b>			Own
<b>B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?</b>			No
<b>C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?</b>			No
<b>D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:</b>			
<b>Lessee</b>	<b>Terms of Lease</b>	<b>Cost Covered by Lease</b>	<b>Square Footage Leased</b>
<b>E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:</b>			
<b>Name of Leaser</b>	<b>Length of Lease</b>	<b>Options to Renew</b>	
<b>26. Building Square Footage:</b>			
<b>Current Space GSF</b>	TBD		
<b>Space to be Renovated GSF</b>	TBD		
<b>New GSF</b>	TBD		

<b>27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion</b>	TBD
<b>28. Comments</b>	
<p>Established as a nonprofit in 2022, Riverworks Art Center has offered well over 200 art classes, performances, public events, exhibitions, receptions, concerts, children's activities and cultural programs at three locations in and around Poolesville in just its first few years. In partnership with the Poolesville Commissioners, local non-profit organizations, businesses, schools and civic organizations (e.g., Locals Farm Market, Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theater, Essence Dance Studios, Heritage Montgomery, Blackrock Center for the Arts, Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project, the Kay Family Foundation, the Butz Family Foundation, Poolesville Seniors, WUMCO, Historic Medley District, Upcounty Prevention Network, Poolesville Pride, Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Barnesville School), the arts center will continue to offer cultural events, and inspiration, and avenues to well-being to a diverse group of local and county residents and visitors, furthering Poolesville's renowned community connection.</p> <p>Because of Riverworks' success and growth, Riverworks needs more space for its arts programming in Poolesville. Riverworks has helped elevate Poolesville and the Agricultural Reserve, attracting visitors for increased visibility and economic activity for businesses and other cultural endeavors throughout the community, thus contributing to employment creation and increased income for local business. In fact, with Riverworks as the cornerstone, the Town of Poolesville is currently drafting regulations to create a Cultural Arts District in its historic downtown. It is there, in the heart of Poolesville, that Riverworks seeks to expand its facilities.</p> <p>We have deep community support for Riverworks Art Center, as evidenced by popular and sold out fundraising events. As a new organization, we were able to raise the \$2+ million needed for the performing arts center in a relatively short period of time. It is precisely this success and support that necessitates the need for further expansion of facilities. This LBI funding will represent important support in our efforts at creative placemaking in this section of Maryland and we would be honored to receive funding.</p>	