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Miscellaneous Grant Programs
Historic Annapolis, Inc.

SUBMITTED TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE CAPITAL BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEES MARCH 13, 2017

REQUEST FOR FY18: \$1,000,000

Use of Funds in FY18: Historic Annapolis, Inc. (HA) manages and maintains 12 historic properties, 11 of which are State-owned, including the James Brice House, a National Historic Landmark located in downtown Annapolis, MD. The Miscellaneous Grant funds that are being requested for FY18 will go toward restoring the James Brice House. This extensive multi-year project will address a number of structural and material deficiencies in the exterior and interior of the property, historic conservation work, and provide necessary upgrades that will allow for public access. The result will be a state-of-the-art distinctive restoration that will be undertaken with meticulous care and attention to detail.

Brief History of Project: Built 1767 – 1773, the James Brice House is an extraordinary five-part Georgian house. In December 2014, the State of Maryland purchased the James Brice House from the International Masonry Institute (IMI) and asked HA to manage, preserve, and share the property with the public as part of its stewardship of State-owned properties. Preliminary estimates indicated a cost of approximately \$3,000,000 to get it ready for public use. In June 2016, HA hired an architect and a team of experts to begin historic and architectural investigations on the building. Over the last 8 months several significant findings have revealed a larger range of preservation needs and the truly one-of-a-kind nature of the building. William Graham, the former Curator of Architecture at Colonial Williamsburg, describes it as one of the top houses from Colonial America because of its masterful construction, architectural embellishments, and rare surviving journal. Recent discoveries have indicated that the Brice House is a stand-alone nationally significant building that is on par with Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello and George Washington’s Mount Vernon. As a result, the scope and size of the project have grown to an estimated cost of \$6,000,000 - \$7,000,000. Once the restoration is complete, HA anticipates it serving hundreds of thousands of visitors each year through exhibits, research, tours and community events, as well as continuing to serve as office space for HA.

Prior Funding and Future Needs: Prior authorizations for the project include a FY16 \$250,000 matching Bond Bill and FY17 \$1,000,000 Miscellaneous Grant. HA is also listed in the Capital Improvement Program for \$1,000,000 for FY19-22.

FY16 Prior Authorization	FY17 Prior Authorization	FY18 Request	FY19 Estimated	FY20 Estimated	FY21 Estimated	FY22 Estimated	Total
\$ 250,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$ 6,250,000

Should future Miscellaneous Capital Grant requests be funded, HA would direct that money towards the full completion of the Brice House project. In addition to the \$250,000 match to the FY16 Bond Bill, it is important to note HA is also seeking private funding through a capital campaign. While the Brice House is included in the campaign, it is not the only funding priority. According to a recently completed professional assessment, the 12 properties maintained by HA will need more than \$12,000,000 over the next 10 years in projected maintenance and capital repairs. It is the combination of State and private funding that will allow HA to properly maintain and interpret all of the buildings under its care.

Impact: Providing the requested funds allows HA to fulfill its mission to preserve and protect the historic places, objects, and stories of Maryland’s capital city, and provide engaging experiences that connect people to the area’s diverse heritage. Since its founding in 1952, HA has served as the leading nonprofit preservation and history organization in Annapolis, MD. It was responsible for securing the Colonial Annapolis Historic District designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1965, and has helped save more than 300 historic buildings from demolition within the Historic District. The State-owned historic properties under HA’s stewardship serve as local and national models for preservation and interpretation, contribute greatly to the economic development and heritage tourism of Annapolis, provide engaging experience for millions of residents and visitors each year, and create valuable partnership and educational opportunities. HA is honored to entrusted by the State of Maryland to care for these priceless assets.

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