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FY22 Miscellaneous Grant
Historic Annapolis, Inc.

SUBMITTED TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE CAPITAL BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEES

MARCH 9, 2021

Amount Being Recommended by DBM: \$1,000,000

Title of Project: Historic Annapolis Inc. James Brice House Capital Project

Background: The state-owned James Brice House was placed in the care of Historic Annapolis (HA) by the State of Maryland in December 2014. It is a rare 18th century building whose historic documentation is on par with Monticello and Mount Vernon and retains an unusually large quantity of original historic fabric. A restoration, estimated to cost \$22,000,000, requires the highest level of expertise and conservation techniques. The project budget and corresponding scope were developed with the goal of restoring the building as authentically as possible (much like the Old Senate Chamber in the Maryland State House) while also increasing its ability to perform more efficiently and safely for the public. To date, there has been \$7,590,000 in prior authorizations (\$6,975,000 state funding and \$615,000 non-state/private funds), the majority of which has been encumbered and spent.

Project Description/Use of Funds: FY22 funds will go towards the continued restoration of the James Brice House, a state-of-the-art project that began in 2016. Planning and investigative took place from 2016 – 2018. The construction that began in 2019 and continues to present day, included replacing the roof and beginning exterior masonry work on the center block and west and east hyphens/wings, along with interior framing and plaster and paint conservation. The proposed \$1,000,000 in FY22 Capital Miscellaneous funds will pay for the next phase of construction which includes continued masonry and interior framing work at the west wing/hyphen, east wing/hyphen of the house; continued window restoration and replacement work; and a new lightning protection system. Additionally, chases, pathways and grounds will be investigated and prepared for future mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection systems. This work will contribute significantly to completing the exterior envelope work for the project and creating a protective barrier to outside elements allowing the project to safely continue with interior conservation work in subsequent years.

Outcomes: The James Brice House is a public asset that can provide valuable and unique educational and historical insights into 18th century construction methods, preservation, conservation, architecture, social classes, enslaved living/working conditions, and master craft trades and laborers. The full ability to share these stories with as broad and audiences as possible will only be achieved once the building has been fully restored and is open to the public on a regular basis (pre-pandemic, HA was conducting hard hat tours during construction). As with all the state-owned properties under HA's care, the organization is committed to the responsible stewardship of the James Brice House as a reflection of Maryland's capital city and its designation as a National Historic Landmark. Once open to the public, HA anticipates doubling its attendance from 100,000 to an estimated 200,000 visitors and foresees increased partnership opportunities with the heritage tourism community, locally, regionally, and potentially state-wide.

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