

State Of Maryland

2022 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Montgomery History Office Relocation		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Kagan	Gilchrist	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County	\$500,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of a property to serve as the Montgomery History office		
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 Cheryl C. Kagan		Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us
Matthew Logan		301-340-2825
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>Montgomery History, founded as the Montgomery County Historical Society, has been serving the county and the region through its research library, exhibits, adult programs, educational activities for students, and history-themed conferences for 78 years. Montgomery History's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and share the history of all Montgomery County residents and communities. As the only organization addressing the entire scope of county history, we serve a distinctive role as a cultural repository and source of dependable information. Our goal is to help create a shared sense of place among residents old and new and to build a safe and welcoming community.</p>		

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

Montgomery History, to rectify an issue that has plagued the organization for at least two generations, is seeking a new home for its Sween Library and Special Collections (in most other counties the historical library is a function of local government); storage of its 10,000-piece collection of historic artifacts; flex space for public programming (including hands-on workshops, demonstrations, lectures, an artifact conservation lab, and a studio for creating digital content); and its administrative offices. Our intent is to bring all these activities under one roof as the Montgomery County History Center. We have a contract on a 9,000 square foot office building located at 1686 E. Gude Drive in Rockville that fits our needs. It will require extensive interior modifications, especially the removal of walls to open the space, as well as the installation of an elevator and collapsible shelving on tracks for the library and artifacts to maximize the use of the space.

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	\$1,300,000
Design	\$53,000
Construction	\$382,000
Equipment	\$250,000
Total	\$1,985,000

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

State of Maryland, LBI (pending)	\$500,000
Montgomery County (pending)	\$385,000
Montgomery History (proceeds of sale of real property)	\$1,100,000
Total	\$1,985,000

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
05/15/2022	08/01/2022	08/15/2022	02/15/2023
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	
	3,000 pre-Covid (incl. 500	7,500 on-site and 15,000+	
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)	
Montgomery History 111 W. Montgomery Ave. Rockville, MD 20850		1686 E. Gude Dr. Rockville, MD	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	17 - 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:		Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:			No
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
5.5 FTE	6.5 FTE	542000.00	670000.00
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	9,000		
Space to be Renovated GSF	6,600		
New GSF			

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

1983

28. Comments

Montgomery History's operations have been based on the Beall-Dawson House campus, owned by the City of Rockville, since 1965. While it was a suitable home for the organization in those early years, for decades it has hindered our ability to adequately serve Montgomery Countians. There are no spaces to accommodate exhibits, meetings, or workshops of more than 25 people; the Sween Library and Special Collections--the county's most comprehensive source for local history and genealogy resources--is housed in an old garage and is filled beyond capacity; the 10,000-piece artifact collection is stored in basements, closets, and attics with poor environmental controls; and our offices, located in an adjacent house owned by Montgomery History, are badly in need of repairs.

The new Montgomery County History Center will provide a home for all our functions under one roof. Not only will the space meet professional museum standards for the storage of artifacts, including an isolation room and conservation lab, it will provide open flex space for a video/audio recording studio, educational programs, hands-on workshops, symposia, small exhibits, and other public activities. The entire lower level will be devoted to the Sween Library and Special Collections.

The new space will allow us to realign our resources to better serve the community and the benefits will be immediate and enormous. For instance, instead of warehousing our artifacts, our goal is to activate them. Within the museum and library communities, open access is a proven practice, allowing visitors to view and interact with the objects on a personal level. They will see how the documents, photographs, and artifacts are cared for and the infrastructure required to do so, making our operation accessible and transparent. In virtually every institution where "open access" has been adopted, it has stimulated public interest, driven new lines of research, and uncovered new opportunities for programs for people of all ages.

Equally important, we will create a small, flexible studio to produce digital content which is critically important to our growing audience, especially younger people such as recorded presentations, podcasts, and oral histories. Utilization of new technologies allows us to reach, at a far lower cost, larger, more diverse audiences (in terms of age, race, geography, physical abilities, etc.) who may otherwise face barriers to access. Our plans for FY23 forward dependent upon having such a home for creating professional quality digital media. We have been successful with a makeshift studio this past year, but it has infringed on our other programs and has been extremely limiting in terms of professional product. Nevertheless, the potential is great.

Our investment in facilities and technology is critical because it will enable us to even better advance the County's Racial Equity and Social Justice priority, which is shared as a core value of Montgomery History. We have worked and will continue to work tirelessly to share new voices and create more complete historical narratives. We believe we have a responsibility to counter long held histories of privileged whites and served to buttress a social order that devalued Blacks, women, immigrants, and other groups who were relegated to supporting roles in the historical record.