

ZA00H
Miscellaneous Grant Programs

Lyric Opera House – Stage House Expansion (Baltimore City)

General Obligation Bonds **\$1,500,000** **Recommendation: Approve**
Nonbudgeted **\$2,000,000**

Bill Text: Provide a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Lyric Foundation, Inc. to assist in the expansion of the stage house area of the Lyric Opera House and improvements to the back stage rigging system and support areas, subject to the requirement that the grantee provide an equal and matching fund for this purpose.

Program Description: The proposed funds would assist in renovating the stage area and rigging system of the Lyric Opera House as well as making small improvements to the auditorium.

Prior Authorization and Capital Improvement Program

Authorization Uses
(\$ in Millions)

<i>Fund Uses</i>	<i>Prior Authorization</i>	<i>2011 Allowance</i>	<i>2012 Estimate</i>	<i>2013 Estimate</i>	<i>2014 Estimate</i>	<i>2015 Estimate</i>
Planning	\$0.750	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000
Construction	6.250	3.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Equipment	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	\$7.500	\$3.500	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000

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**Authorization Sources
(\$ in Millions)**

<i>Fund Sources</i>	<i>Prior Authorization</i>	<i>2011 Allowance</i>	<i>2012 Estimate</i>	<i>2013 Estimate</i>	<i>2014 Estimate</i>	<i>2015 Estimate</i>
GO Bond	\$3.200	\$1.500	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000
Nonbudgeted	4.300	2.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	\$7.500	\$3.500	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000

Program Analysis and Performance

The plans for renovation of the Lyric Opera House include the construction of a new exterior section to the stage house around the original stage house. The original back wall of the stage house will be removed, and a renovated fire curtain will be installed. The end result will be an expansion of the size of the stage to attract a wider range of events to the theater.

The rigging system would be replaced with one that can bear heavier loads and modern equipment. Additionally, within the auditorium, the project calls for the reorienting of side balcony seats to face the stage.

The Lyric Opera House has been the recipient of various capital grants from the State. In fiscal 2000, \$500,000 was provided to renovate the facility's restrooms. In fiscal 2004, 2005, and 2006, the State provided a total of \$1.4 million for expansion of the stage house and improvements to the rigging system. Finally, in fiscal 2008, \$300,000 was provided to the Lyric for construction, renovation, and capital equipping of the stage house area and for capital improvements to the back stage area.

Total costs for the current project are estimated at \$11 million. Of this total, the State is contributing 42.73% of the funds. The remainder of the costs will be borne by Baltimore City, donations, proceeds from naming rights to the facility, and private debt. This is consistent with the prior year's *Capital Improvement Program*.

Recommended Actions

Approve.