



PRESERVATION  
MARYLAND

*Celebrating 80 Years of Protecting the Irreplaceable*

## **Advocacy Alert!**

**Budget Numbers Released. Hearing Dates Announced.**

Governor O'Malley has released his budget numbers for FY2013. As expected, this year's budget was hard on preservation and cultural heritage programs. The Non-Capital Grant Program and the Museum Advancement Grant program both received no funding while the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and the Maryland Humanities Council saw their funding reduced. The African American Heritage Preservation Grant program, the Neighborhood BusinessWorks programs, and the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit received level funding. The Community Legacy program received a slight increase in funding. Below is a rundown of how preservation-related programs fared.

- **Sustainable Communities Tax Credit:** \$7 million (level funding from FY2012)
- **Maryland Historical Trust Grant Programs:**
  - The Non-Capital Grant Program:** \$0 (decrease of \$40,000 from FY2012)
  - The Museum Advancement Grant Program:** \$0 (second year of no funding)
  - Capital Grant Program:** \$0 (fourth year of no funding)
- **Maryland Heritage Areas:** \$1.85 million (decrease \$650,000 from FY2012)
- **African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program:** \$1 million (level funding from FY2012)
- **Maryland Humanities Council:** \$43,500 (decrease of \$10,000 from FY2012)
- **Main Street Maryland**
  - Community Legacy:** \$6 million (increase of \$1.75 million from FY2012)
  - Neighborhood BusinessWorks:** \$4.25 million (level funding from FY2012)

The Maryland General Assembly is now in the process of reviewing Governor O'Malley's budget. **Your representatives in the General Assembly need to hear from you about the importance of these funding programs to preservation efforts in your community.**

Hearing dates have been set, but are subject to change. The Committee Assignments and tentative hearing dates for the various budget items are as follows:

## SENATE

### **Senate Budget and Taxation Committee: Public Safety, Transportation & Environment Subcommittee**

**James E. DeGrange, Sr.**, *Chair* (410) 841-3593, (301) 858-3593

- **Budget Items:** The Non-Capital Grant Program, Maryland Heritage Areas, The Museum Advancement Grant Program
- **Hearing:** Friday, February 10, 1:00 PM - Miller Senate Office Building, Schweinhaut Subcommittee Hearing Room
- **Amount in Governor's Budget:**
  - \$1.85 million for Maryland Heritage Areas
  - \$0 for Museum Advancement Grant Program and Non-Capital Grant Program

### **Senate Budget and Taxation Committee: Capital Budget Subcommittee**

**James E. DeGrange, Sr.**, *Chair* (410) 841-3593, (301) 858-3593

**Douglas J. J. Peters**, *Vice-Chair* (410) 841-3631, (301) 858-3631

- **Budget Items:** Sustainable Communities Tax Credit, African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, and the Capital **Grant** and **Loan** Program
- **Hearing:** Tuesday, February 7, 4:00 p.m. - Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West
- **Amount in Governor's Budget:**
  - \$7 million for the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit
  - \$1 million for the African-American Heritage Preservation Grant Program
  - \$0 for the Capital Grant and Loan Program

## HOUSE

### **House Appropriations Committee: Transportation & the Environment Subcommittee**

**Tawanna P. Gaines**, *Chair* (410) 841-3058, (301) 858-3058

**Steven J. DeBoy, Sr.**, *Vice-Chair* (410) 841-3328, (301) 858-3328

- **Budget Items:** The Non-Capital Grant Program, Maryland Heritage Areas, The Museum Advancement Grant Program
- **Hearing:** Wednesday, February 15, 1:00 PM - House Office Building, Room 120
- **Amount in Governor's Budget:**
  - \$1.85 million for Maryland Heritage Areas
  - \$0 for Museum Advancement Grant Program and Non-Capital Grant Program

### **House Appropriations Committee: Capital Budget Subcommittee**

**Adrienne A. Jones**, *Chair* (410) 841-3391, (301) 858-3391

**Melony G. Griffith**, *Vice-Chair* (410) 841-3557, (301) 858-3557

- **Budget Items:** Sustainable Communities Tax Credit, African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, and the Capital **Grant** and **Loan** Program
- **Hearing:** Wednesday, February 8, 10:00 PM - House Office Building, Room 120
- **Amount in Governor's Budget:**

- \$7 million for the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit
- \$1 million for the African-American Heritage Preservation Grant Program
- \$0 for the Capital Grant and Loan Program

### **Take Action!**

- 1) **If your representative is listed as a member of these important committees,** please contact them to encourage their support of the preservation agenda. Otherwise, please contact the committee chairs. **Be sure to give them examples** of museums, historic sites and tax-credit projects in their district which have benefited from these programs.
- 2) **Familiarize yourself with the issues through the links to the websites for the programs above. Also, familiarize yourself with the legislative process and the way the General Assembly works. Our advocacy resource page has everything you need to begin advocating for preservation in Maryland.** Among the resources are a rundown on how the legislative process works, important dates to remember, and talking points on key budgetary issues.
- 3) **Make sure you know your representatives on a state and federal level by clicking here.**
- 4) **You can join colleagues** immediately before the **Maryland Historical Trust Awards** for an advocacy training opportunity at 2:30 PM on January 31st. The program is organized and presented by the Maryland Association of History Museums. **Click here for more details and registration information.**

Your voice is crucial to funding these important programs. Thanks for your support!

Tyler Gearhart  
Executive Director