

Capital Project Request FY 2023-2029

10/26/2021 9:52:26 AM

122 000122 OBSERVATORY - ASTRONOMY & PHYSICAL SCIENCE CENTER

Agency: 0680 Non City Agencies: Stamford Museum
Contact: Melissa H. Mulrooney - (203) 977-6565 - mmulrooney@stamfordmuseum.org
Location: 39 Scofieldtown Rd, Stamford, CT 06903
Neighborhood: North Stamford **Voting District:** 20

		Dept Priority	1	Tier	0
HTE Date		YTD Balance			
Encumbered		Amount Available			
Advanced	0.00	Unfunded			

Project Description - We are requesting a City of Stamford investment of \$4 million to support the development and construction of our \$10 million Phase II Planetarium & Observatory Center. This investment revitalizes and restores a key pillar of the SM&NC Mission. We are shovel ready and will confidently move forward to construction with the City's \$4 million commitment. In June 2022, we will professionally relocate (flatbed) our historic Gregory Maksutov telescope to the Astronomical Lyceum of the Magdalena Astronomical Society in New Mexico for our continued use "from a distance" in our new building. Our current Observatory, which opened in 1964, has been closed and condemned since October 2018 due to serious disrepair. The building was deemed unsafe, unhealthy, with irreparable conditions. After the telescope is relocated we will demolish the building and prepare the site for new construction. The Planetarium & Observatory Center will be a profound educational and community asset for the City and State. We will bring fresh STEAM programming together in one building for the first time in our 85-year history and be the premier destination for astronomy and science education, a signature of our Mission. This Planetarium & Observatory Center is a true cultural tourism and local economy game-changer for Stamford. Nowhere in the Mid-Atlantic corridor is there an attraction with the features that the Stamford Museum & Nature Center offers.

Detailed Project Cost		Justification for Inclusion in Capital Plan
Design Development	\$500,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost Savings
Construction Related	\$3,000,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Life Safety
Equipment Acquisition	\$0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continues On-Going Project
Miscellaneous Costs	\$0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leverages Other Funds
Professional Services	\$500,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure
Land Acquisition	\$0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of Life
Art Work	\$0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan Related
FY 22/23 Total	\$4,000,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Health
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mandated Legal
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Revenue Impact
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Operational Impact/Efficiency
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Method Used in Estimating Cost:	Estimated change in annual operating cost:
Architects estimate	\$0

Request		FY 22/23					Capital Forecasts						Total
Funding Source	Term	Dept	Planning	Mayor	BOF	Adopted	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	FY 25/26	FY 26/27	FY 27/28	FY 28/29	
Bond (City)	20	4,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,000,000
		4,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,000,000

Comments - This Phase II Planetarium & Observatory Center follows our highly successful Phase I Environmental Farmhouse complex which opened in November 2018, on time and on budget. This Phase II project has a \$10 million cost. Beginning in 2016, the State has invested \$5.75 million to our capital program with \$3 million committed to this astronomy center project.