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THE MARYLAND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

HORIZONS '76 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

September 1974

Background

The County Bicentennial Commissions (CBCs) have made known their need for technical assistance in developing meaningful Horizons '76 projects. Horizons projects generally will require inputs of persons trained in architecture, engineering, planning and community development disciplines. Unfortunately, the limited resources of the CBCs preclude the employment of highly experienced personnel in these technical fields. One of the potential untapped resources available to the CBCs is the Maryland graduate school program which can provide qualified personnel to assist the local CBCs in developing a meaningful Horizons project.

The Program

The Maryland Bicentennial Commission (MBC) has approved and funded the following program of assistance to the CBCs through the Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). DECD will establish a fellowship program with Maryland colleges and universities designed to attract the best qualified graduate students or instructors to serve as technical assistants to each of the participating CBCs.

The individuals, who will come from many disciplines, will be assigned to develop projects under the direction of the CBCs. Graduate Fellows in architecture, engineering, planning and relative community development disciplines will be nominated by the universities and colleges beginning the spring semester of 1975. It is anticipated that the Horizons '76 Fellows, depending upon their academic year, will be available to work with the participating CBCs as early as Spring 1975 and certainly throughout the Summer of 1975. They will be asked to suggest developmental alternatives for specific community projects which have been identified by the CBCs. The individuals will be expected to develop data which can be considered by the CBCs in determining the viability of a project. Hopefully, the concentration of professional talents on one or two CBCs identified Horizons projects will culminate in the development of viable projects

which have maximum developmental and implementation potential for the community.

Function of the County Bicentennial Commissions

The County Bicentennial Commissions (CBCs) are requested to identify a maximum of three potential Horizons projects for which they would like professional assistance. (However, only one will be selected.) The CBCs should indicate the nature of the project, the suggested time frame for the individual to be assigned to carry out the project, and the type of assistance to be provided. The projects should be listed in priority. A letter of request should be sent to Mrs. Patricia Hoffman, County Liaison, Maryland Bicentennial Commission, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. The deadline for submission will be November 30, 1974.

How the Program Will Work

The Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) will formally invite Maryland's universities and colleges to participate in the Horizons '76 Fellowship Program. They will be asked to nominate outstanding graduate level students or instructors as potential Fellows. DECD, in cooperation with the Maryland Bicentennial Commission (MBC), will review applications and will select up to twenty-three (23) Fellows. These individuals will be assigned to the CBCs to carry out projects identified by the counties. Individuals will be selected based upon the skill requirement necessary to carry out projects identified by the CBCs. DECD will screen applications and make recommendations to the MBC for recognition as a Horizons '76 Fellow. The Fellows will be assigned to work with the participating CBCs. Each of the Fellows will be awarded a stipend of \$750. Generally, Fellows will be available for periods of eight weeks during the Spring or Summer of 1975; however, DECD recognizes the academic program of schools varies considerably, and it may be more propitious if the individual's fellowship period runs for a greater length of time such as part time over the entire academic semester. This will ensure that students who must have work experiences in order to continue their education will not be precluded from participating in the program.

Eligibility

Horizons '76 fellowships will be made only to individuals involved in graduate level academic programs. The Horizons Fellows may be granted only to individuals who are enrolled in graduate level programs in Maryland universities or colleges, or for individuals employed in academic or teaching positions in a Maryland school although they are taking advance studies in schools outside of Maryland. The individual must be nominated by the President of the school, or the Chairman of the department of the discipline of which the individual is enrolled.

Conclusion

Hopefully, the result will be a community-supported proposal acceptable to locally elected officials so that the project may be included as part of the community's capital improvement program. As part of a capital improvement program, the project would be eligible for funding through Federal, State or other sources.

To: Members of the Worcester County Bicentennial Commission,

PLEASE BE THINKING ABOUT
3 PROJECTS FOR US TO SUBMIT.

Bob Robertson

This communication was received recently. Please read and give consideration to possible "Horizon" projects for the county. There will be a meeting of the Worcester Bicentennial Commission on Tuesday, November 19, 1974 at the Snow Hill Library at 8 p.m. Please try to come.

Robert H. Robertson, Jr., Chairman

Mildred C. Brittingham, Sec.-Treas.

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