

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: 11/13/2001

Reference No.: CR-79-2001

Proposer: Estep

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Estep

Item Title: A Resolution approving the project submitted by the
Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. Hard Bargain Farm
Environmental Education Center

Drafter: Ralph E. Grutzmacher
Legislative Officer

Resource John Timms
Personnel: Legislative Aide

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: __/__/__

Executive Action: __/__/__

Committee Referral: 11/6/2001 THE

Effective Date: __/__/__

Committee Action: 11/8/2001 FAV(A)

Date Introduced: 11/6/2001

Public Hearing: __/__/__ :__ __

Council Action: 11/13/2001 ADOPTED

Council Votes: RVR:A, DB:A, JE:A, IG:A, TH:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE DATE: 11/8/01

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 4-0, (In favor: Council Members Estep, Gourline, Hendershot and Shapiro)

Staff gave an overview of the legislation and informed the Committee of referral comments. CR-79-2001 would approve the application of the project and for allocation of tax credits of \$50,000 to benefit the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Education Center. The Neighborhood and Community Assistance Program via the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development assist nonprofit organizations in carrying out approved projects in designated revitalization areas, to encourage businesses to invest in designated revitalized areas, and to strengthen public-private partnerships. The Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Education Center resides on the Potomac River in Accokeek, Maryland, which serves Charles, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

Tracey Bowen, representing the Alice Ferguson Foundation, spoke in support of CR-79-2001. Ms. Bowen indicates that 50% of the students served reside in Prince George's County. The Alice Ferguson Foundation provides on-site and off-site educational programs. Ms. Bowen states that they are currently working with new science teachers in the County, providing a two-week course that directly supports teachers as they implement environmental education objectives in their classrooms.

The Office of Law finds CR-79-2001 to be in proper legislative form. The Office of Audits and Investigations determines that there should not be any negative fiscal impact on the County as a result of adopting CR-79-2001.

CR-79-2001 was amended in Committee to add a signature line for the County Executive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This resolution will approve the application submitted by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Education Center for participation in the Neighborhood Partnership Program. The Alice Ferguson Foundation is a nonprofit organization that operates conservation and environmental education programs at the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Education Center in Prince George's County for the benefit of school age children who reside in numerous Designated Neighborhood Revitalization Areas. The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD/DHCD) will set aside an allocation of tax credits for business entities that contribute to the Alice Ferguson Foundation. Pursuant to Article 83B, Section 4-705(c) of the Maryland Annotated Code, the MD/DHCD may not approve a proposal for participation in the Neighborhood Partnership Program unless the proposal is approved by the governing body of the county in which the Designated Neighborhood Revitalization Areas benefited by the project are located.