

From Peter Merrill

5/24/23

LD 1163 – A/A to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Improvements for Arts and Cultural Facilities

Selection Criteria

The Cultural Affairs Council will use the following general selection criteria in awarding grants. The funds available will not meet the demand, therefore priorities must be set. These criteria set both policy priorities as well as practical requirements to ensure that the limited funds will be put to the best use and have the most impact.

- 1) Projects that will preserve and improve the State's historic, arts, and cultural structures. Projects must be eligible for inclusion on the National Historic Register.
- 2) Projects that will enhance community and economic development.
- 3) Non-profits and municipalities may apply.
- 4) Target smaller organizations with fewer resources. Operating budget may not exceed \$2,000,000 for non-profits; no limit for municipalities.
- 5) Pressing need. The immediacy of the work to be done.
- 6) Rehab, repair, and expansion. Any requests for expansion must support the existing use.

- 7) Match. Applicant must provide a 25% match.
- 8) Organizational capacity. Financial and administrative. Ability to successfully complete the work and implement an ongoing maintenance plan.
- 9) Geographic distribution.
- 10) Project methodology. Use of best practices. Solid budget estimates.