

# Subcommittee on Federal Lands

Tom McClintock, Chairman  
Hearing Memorandum

September 8, 2015

**To:** Natural Resources Committee Members

**From:** Majority Staff, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, Terry Camp x 6-7736

**Hearing:** Legislative hearing on H.R. 3036 (MacArthur), "*National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act*"

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The Subcommittee will hold a legislative hearing on H.R. 3036, "*National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act*," **on September 11, 2015 at 9:00 AM in room 1324 Longworth House Office Building.**

## **Bill Co-Sponsors**

Rep Ken Calvert (R-CA); Rep Eliot Engel (D-NY); Rep Chris Gibson (R-NY); Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX); Rep Peter King (R-NY); Rep Carolyn Maloney (D-NY); Rep Michael T. McCaul (R-TX); Rep. Jerrold Nadler, (D-NY); Rep Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ); Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA)

## **Bill Summary**

H.R. 3036, introduced by Congressman Tom MacArthur (R-NJ), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award a grant not exceeding \$25 million each fiscal year to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc., for the operation and maintenance of the National 9/11 Memorial in New York City, New York. The grant authorized by this bill is exclusively designated for the public, open-air Memorial plaza, and does not affect the Memorial Museum or its contents.

Additionally, the bill requires the Foundation to provide a report to the Secretary of Interior and Congress that details the amount of grant funds obligated or expended, the purpose for which the funds were obligated and expended, and any other information the Secretary may require.

## **Invited Witness**

### **PANEL I**

*Congressman Tom MacArthur (R-NJ)*  
Member of Congress

*The Honorable Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)*  
Member of Congress

## **PANEL II**

*Ms. Debra Burlingame*  
Board of Directors, National September 11 Memorial & Museum  
Marlboro, New York

*Mr. Robert Kasdin*  
Board of Directors, National September 11 Memorial & Museum  
Baltimore, Maryland

## **Background**

The National 9/11 Memorial commemorates the September 11 attacks of 2001. The Memorial is the principal tribute of remembrance and honor to the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center site, near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon, as well as the six people killed in the World Trade Center bombing in February 1993.<sup>1</sup>

The 9/11 Memorial plaza opened on September 11, 2011, the 10th anniversary of the attacks. Since 2011, more than 21 million people have visited the plaza.<sup>2</sup> The Memorial plaza is located on the western side of the former World Trade Center complex. The Memorial's twin reflecting pools, each nearly an acre in size, sit within the footprints where the Twin Towers once stood. The names of every person who died in the 2001 and 1993 attacks are inscribed into bronze panels edging the Memorial pools. Entrance to the Memorial plaza is free and open to the public year-round.



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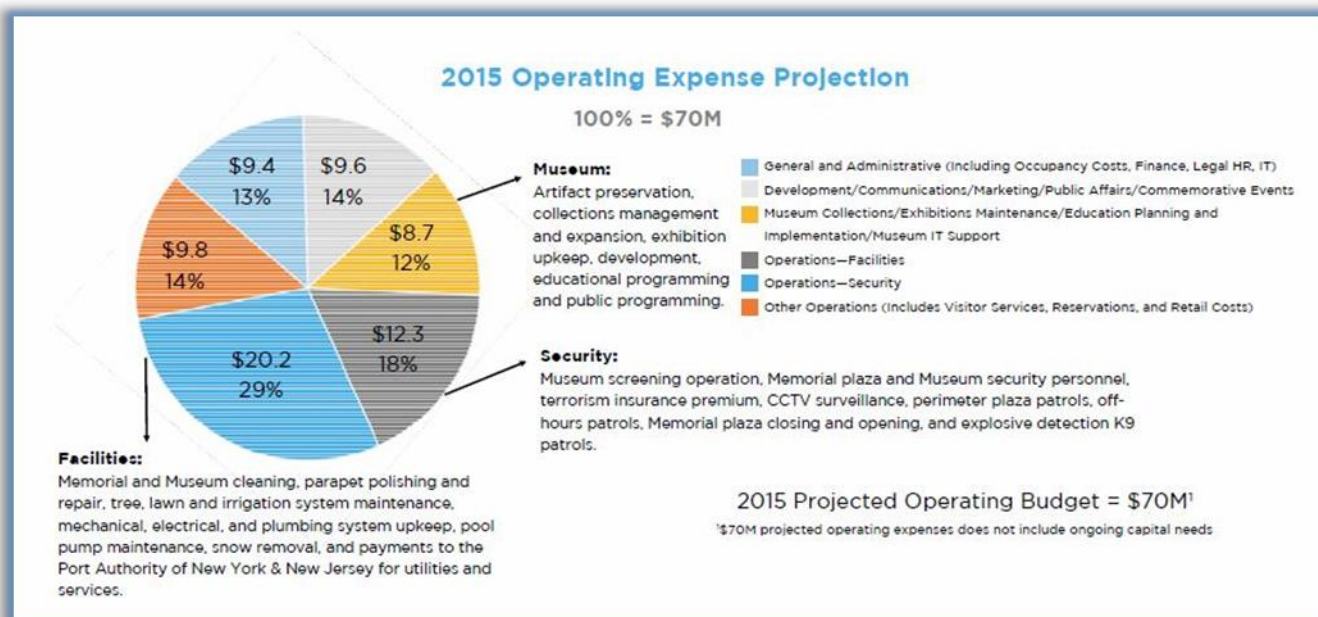
<sup>1</sup> "About the Memorial." 9/11 Memorial. National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Web. 7 Sept. 2015.  
<<http://www.911memorial.org/about-memorial>>.

<sup>2</sup> "Facts and Figures." 9/11 Memorial. National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Web. 7 Sept. 2015.

## Construction & Ongoing Operation of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc, a private, not-for-profit, operates the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. The Foundation began formal operations in the spring of 2005 and worked with the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation on the design and construction management plan. In the summer of 2006, the organization assumed responsibility for overseeing the design and working with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), the construction manager on the project.

Construction of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum totaled roughly \$700 million with ongoing operating costs of \$65-70 million.<sup>34</sup> The Memorial and Museum does not receive state, city or federal funding for its operations.<sup>5</sup> A breakdown of the 2015 estimated operating costs, as well as a table showing annual visitation to the Memorial and Museum compared to other memorial areas around the country can be seen below:



<sup>3</sup> Id. at 2

<sup>4</sup> See projection of 2015 operating expenses above. Chart provided by the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc.

<sup>5</sup> Id. at 2

INSTITUTION	YEAR	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	OPERATING EXPENDITURE PER VISITOR
Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island**	2011	4,800,000	\$24,000,000	\$5.00
USS Arizona Memorial**	2012	1,700,000	\$8,200,000	\$4.82
9/11 Memorial & Museum***	2015	6,000,000	\$70,000,000	\$11.67
Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum	2012	350,000	\$4,500,000	\$12.86
Gettysburg National Military Park**	2013	1,100,000	\$21,100,000	\$19.18
American Museum of Natural History	2013	5,000,000	\$162,200,000	\$32.44
U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum	2012	1,600,000	\$89,600,000	\$56.00
Museum of Modern Art	2012	3,100,000	\$193,300,000	\$62.35
Metropolitan Museum of Art	2013	6,200,000	\$415,500,000	\$67.02
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	2012	2,000,000	\$170,200,000	\$85.10

Table reflects data available based on public information, audited financial statements and Form 990s

\*Last year of full operations pre-Superstorm Sandy

\*\*Includes an estimate of National Parks Service expenses based on federal appropriations

\*\*\*2015 Projected Expenses estimated at \$65-70M

### **Administration Position**

Unknown at this time.

### **Cost**

A Congressional Budget Office cost estimate has not yet been completed for this bill.