

# Committee on Natural Resources

Rob Bishop, Chairman  
Markup Memorandum

January 29, 2016

To: All Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff, Terry Camp  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Markup: Markup on H.R. 3036 (Rep. Tom MacArthur, R-NJ), To designate the National September 11 Memorial located at the World Trade Center site in New York City, New York, as a national memorial, and for other purposes  
[February 2-3, 2016 1324 Longworth HOB

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## **H.R. 3036 (Rep. Tom MacArthur, R-NJ), “National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act”**

### **Bill Summary**

H.R. 3036, introduced by Congressman Tom MacArthur (R-NJ-3), 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.

### **Bill Co-sponsors**

71 bipartisan cosponsors

### **Background**

The National 9/11 Memorial commemorates the attacks of September 11, 2001. The Memorial is the principal tribute of remembrance and honor to the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terror attacks at the World Trade Center site, near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, 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 visited the plaza.<sup>2</sup> The Memorial plaza is

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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.

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.



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

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc, is a private, not-for-profit organization, that 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 annually.<sup>34</sup>

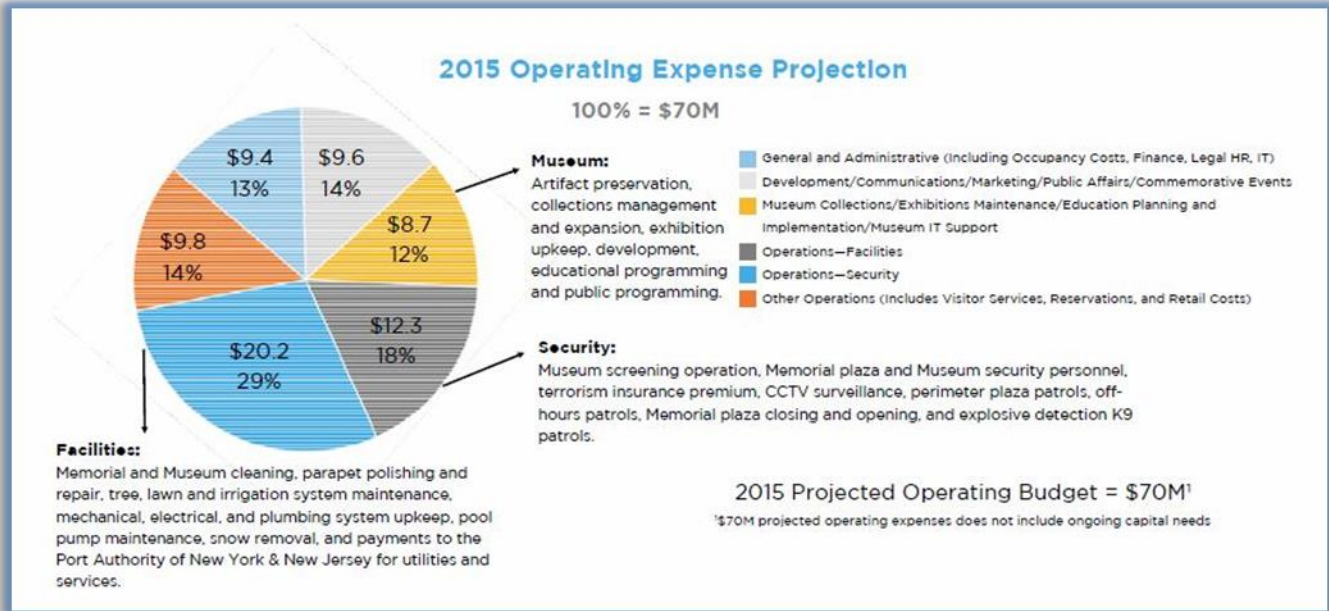
The Memorial and Museum does not receive state, city or federal funding for its operations.<sup>5</sup> A breakdown of the 2015 estimated operating costs, as well as a table showing annual visitation to the Memorial and Museum compared to other memorial areas around the country, can be seen below:

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<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  
<sup>\*</sup>Last year of full operations pre-Superstorm Sandy  
<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes an estimate of National Parks Service expenses based on federal appropriations  
<sup>\*\*\*</sup>2015 Projected Expenses estimated at \$65-70M

**Administration Position**

The Administration opposes this bill.

**Cost**

The Congressional Budget Office has not completed a cost estimate of this bill.

## **Amendments**

Representative MacArthur will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to award a single grant through a competitive process to an eligible entity for the operation and maintenance of any memorial located within the United States established to commemorate the events of and honor:

- (1) the victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 on September 11, 2001; and
- (2) the victims of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993.

In awarding the grant, the Secretary of the Interior must give greatest weight in the selection of an eligible entity using the following criteria:

- (1) experience in managing a public memorial that will benefit the largest number of visitors each calendar year;
- (2) experience in managing a memorial of significant size (4 acres or more);
- (3) successful coordination and cooperation with Federal, state and local governments in operating and managing the memorial;
- (4) ability and commitment to use grant funds to enhance security at the memorial; and
- (5) ability to use grant funds to increase the numbers of economically disadvantaged visitors to the memorial and surrounding areas.