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July 27, 2012

Christie Administration Advances Emergent Repair Projects at PS 23 Annex in Jersey City

TRENTON – As part of Governor Christie’s commitment to ensuring New Jersey’s school facilities are safe learning environments for all students, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) has advanced construction of an emergent repair project at PS 23 Annex in Jersey City. More emergent projects have been completed by the Christie Administration than any other prior administration.

“The Christie Administration is committed to addressing the most critical needs of our districts,” said CEO Marc Larkins. “This project is just one of the numerous projects currently underway in Jersey City. We look forward to partnering with Jersey City Public Schools now and in the future to improve their educational facilities.”

The emergent repair project at PS 23 Annex will remove and replace the existing boilers and vacuum pump at the school.

Emergent projects are those deemed necessary in SDA Districts due to potential health and safety issues. The Emergent Project Program provides assistance to SDA District school facilities in need of repair and rehabilitation. Emergent projects include the repair or replacement of roofs; windows; exterior masonry; heating and cooling systems; and plumbing, electrical, mechanical and security systems, and also addressing water infiltration issues.

Prior to the Christie Administration, funds available for these projects were nearly exhausted and project review procedures were insufficient making it difficult to prioritize critical projects in a deliberate and cost efficient manner. In 2011, the SDA and Department of Education (DOE) launched its second statewide effort to identify and evaluate eligible emergent conditions in the 31 SDA Districts. The conditions reported by the districts were evaluated and validated by the SDA and the Department of Education (DOE).

The SDA manages many projects identified as emergent, while others are delegated for District management, depending upon the project’s scope and complexity. This emergent project has been delegated to Jersey City Public Schools for management. For those projects that are delegated, the SDA executes a grant agreement with the District, who is then responsible for procuring and disbursing payment to the consultants and contractors. The SDA maintains oversight throughout this process.

The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2.2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1B), additional projects in construction (\$198.3M), emergent projects (\$45.9M) and Regular Operating District grants (\$771M in state share)

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