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Christie Administration Announces Demolition Activities to Clear Site for Future Elementary School 3 in Jersey City



JERSEY CITY, NJ – Committed to the advancement of capital projects around the state, Christie Administration officials were on hand to announce the demolition activities at a site in Jersey City to make room for a new elementary school. The Elementary School 3 Project was selected for advancement as part of the Schools Development Authority’s (SDA) 2011 Capital Portfolio announced by the Governor in March 2011.

Formerly home to industrial buildings, the 2.8 acre site is being readied for the future construction of a new Elementary School 3. The new 122,000 square foot elementary school facility will be designed to educate approximately 775 students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grades. The school will be the fourth new building constructed by the SDA in Jersey City, and will help to relieve overcrowding that exists in the district.

“The SDA continues to aggressively address education facility needs in Jersey City with the advancement of the ES 3 project,” said SDA CEO Marc Larkins. “The volume of school construction work being advanced by the Christie Administration will play a key role in helping to stimulate the local and state economies while ensuring that New Jersey students have the learning environments they need to excel.”

Tricon Enterprises, Inc. of Keyport was awarded a \$1,869,000 general construction contract to perform phase one work consisting of clearing the site, removal of sub-surface footings and foundations, removal of slabs and unsuitable soils, removal of Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) and importation of clean fill to be placed, compacted and graded. All demolition and associated site work is expected to be completed this Spring.

In an effort to utilize practices that have previously proven successful by the SDA, the new Elementary School 3 will be constructed using a design-build approach. The design-build method differs from the traditional approach toward bidding projects by allowing the SDA to contract with one firm for both design and construction of school facilities projects. SDA anticipates advertisement of this design-build contract in the first quarter of 2013 and a projected completion date for the 2016-2017 school year.

The SDA has invested nearly \$275 million in completed projects in Jersey City alone since the inception of the school construction program. This includes three new facilities - Frank R. Conwell Public School 3, Frank R. Conwell Middle School 4 and Franklin L. Williams Middle School.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1 billion), additional projects in construction (\$86 million), emergent projects (\$43 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$743 million state share).



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