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## **Christie Administration Announces the Start of Demolition Activities to Make Way for a New Elementary School in Irvington**

Irvington, NJ – The Christie Administration today announced the start of early site preparation activities for the Madison Avenue Elementary School -- another significant project being delivered through the efficient and responsible school construction program managed by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA). The demolition and site preparation activities will make room for a new elementary school to replace the former Madison Avenue Elementary School.

Following completion of demolition and site preparation activities, the SDA will construct a new, approximately 73,000 square-foot, 3-story school facility that will be designed to educate approximately 463 students in grades PK-5. The facility will contain 28 classrooms, a cafeteria, multipurpose room, playground, media center and required administrative spaces. The construction of the new elementary school will reduce overcrowding in the school district. The total estimated SDA project cost for the new school is \$35.4 million.

“I am happy to announce that the SDA has advanced preliminary construction work that will prepare the site for the construction of the new Madison Avenue Elementary School,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “We look forward to continuing our collaboration with Dr. Hackett and the Irvington School District as we work to deliver a new school to the Irvington community.”

D&K Construction Company of Middlesex, New Jersey was awarded a \$3,043,185 contract to perform demolition and site preparation activities. A Notice to Proceed was issued on April 4, 2016 for phase one work consisting of demolition and removal of all existing above ground and underground structures, removal of unsuitable and/or environmentally impacted soils, and restoration and preparation of the site. SDA will self-manage the early site work. All demolition and associated site work is anticipated for completion in October 2016.

In an effort to utilize practices that have proven successful for the SDA, the new Madison Avenue Elementary School 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 third quarter of 2016.

The SDA has invested more than \$107 million in completed projects in Irvington alone since the inception of the school construction program, including one new school.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project portfolios, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants. SDA currently has 12 school facilities projects in active construction.

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