



MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors of the Corporation

FROM: Kevin McElroy
Senior Public Information Officer

DATE: November 15, 2006

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation (SCC)
October Progress Report

Mission Statement

Create a brighter future for our children by renovating, building and funding cost-effective and efficient state-of-the-art community schools that support high quality learning environments to better prepare students for successful careers and leadership in the 21st Century in New Jersey and beyond.

Partner with communities and leaders in business, education and government to support our programs, policies and projects to create greater opportunities for our children, businesses and workforce.

Introduction

During October, SCC representatives joined school district officials, students, parents and community supporters to celebrate three construction milestones:

- The dedication of a newly expanded and renovated high school in Neptune;
- The opening of a new elementary school in Perth Amboy;
- The groundbreaking for a new elementary school in Passaic.

The SCC hosted a successful Contractors Conference in Edison. With \$1 billion in new school construction projects due to be bid over the next few years, the SCC convened the conference to attract new contractors into the bidding process and update contractors already involved in its statewide building program. The event drew representatives from over 200 firms from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Also in October, CEO Scott Weiner and Chairman Barry Zubrow testified before the Assembly Education Committee and the Joint Committee on Public Schools. The SCC appeared before the committees to update the lawmakers on the SCC's progress and to provide them with an overview of the 3rd Interagency Working Group Report, which recommended additional funding for New Jersey's school construction program.



SCC, Passaic Educators Break Ground For New Main Avenue Elementary School

Passaic School District and SCC officials held a groundbreaking ceremony October 3rd to mark the start of construction for Main Avenue Elementary School. It will ease overcrowding in the district, enhance academic achievement in the elementary grades and provide much-needed early childhood educational programs for 3- and 4-year-olds.

Dr. Robert H. Holster, Superintendent of Schools, remarked, "This new Main Avenue School will provide a learning environment conducive with greater opportunities for our students." The new school will accommodate over 700 students from pre-kindergarten through 5th grade.

Scott Weiner, CEO of SCC, stated, "This is a significant step for the students and community of Passaic. It is an example of the positive collaboration among the district, the SCC and Department of Education. I look forward to being back here for the grand opening of Main Avenue Elementary School."

The new 154,190-square-foot, four-story Main Avenue Elementary School will include 10 pre-kindergarten classrooms, four kindergarten classrooms, 12 classrooms for grades 1st through 3rd, eight classrooms for 4th and 5th grades, five classrooms for special education and four small-group instruction rooms. The school will include community features such as a gym, cafeteria and media center/library that will be accessible to residents after school hours and on weekends. The school is being built on a narrow strip of land on Main and Highland avenues in Passaic on the border of Clifton. Due to the lack of space for outdoor recreation and parking in the urban neighborhood, the school will have a

rooftop playground and underground parking. Hillier Group Architecture designed the school. Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. is the general contractor. Skanska USA Building Inc. is managing the project for the SCC.



SCC, Perth Amboy Educators Dedicate Dr. Herbert N. Richardson Elementary School

Officials of the Perth Amboy School District and SCC held a dedication ceremony October 6th for the new Dr. Herbert N. Richardson Elementary School, named in honor of the first African-American teacher and principal in this Middlesex County community.

The ceremony was followed by a tour of the school that will help to ease overcrowding in the district, enhance academic achievement for students from kindergarten through 4th grade and provide much-needed early childhood educational programs for 3- and 4-year-olds.

Dr. John M. Rodecker, Superintendent, stated, “The Dr. Herbert N. Richardson 21st century school is the most recent example of modern construction in Perth Amboy in recent years. The students in Perth Amboy deserve a modern state-of-the-art school to attend, and we are grateful to have the ability to bring this facility to them.” Scott Weiner, CEO of SCC, remarked, “I am certain the new Richardson School will be a source of pride for present and future generations of children and residents of Perth Amboy. It will not only provide 21st century learning

opportunities for the students, but it also will serve as a positive focal point for many community activities.” Weiner noted the new facility is the result of consistent and effective communication and collaboration among the SCC, the Perth Amboy School District and the Department of Education.

The new 110,000-square-foot school at Stockton and Fayette streets accommodates 801 students. It includes 22 classrooms, 14 basic skills rooms, three special education rooms, six kindergarten and three pre-kindergarten rooms, a music room, an art room and a playground. The school also has community features such as a gymnasium, cafetorium and a media center/library accessible to residents after school hours and on weekends. The school was designed by Vitetta of Marlton and built by Bergen Engineering Co. of East Rutherford. Epic Management of Piscataway managed the project for the SCC.



SCC, Neptune Educators Celebrate High School Expansion

Neptune School District and SCC officials held a ceremony October 14th to dedicate a major addition to Neptune High School that will ease overcrowding and enhance student achievement in the township. Also, the expansion nearly completes the district’s five-year Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP).

David Mooij, Superintendent of Schools, stated, "The opening and rededication of the new Neptune High School, while not the final school project in Neptune, is certainly the capstone project for the entire community. This very visible facility located in the center of the township has served Neptune students for over 50 years. Due to the expansion and renovation, it will serve students here for well beyond another 50."

Scott Weiner, CEO of SCC, remarked, “We are proud to have been able to contribute to Neptune’s achievement of providing new and greatly improved facilities that will ensure 21st century educational opportunities for students from pre-school through high school. This body of work clearly demonstrates what consistent and effective communication and collaboration among the SCC, the Neptune School District and the Department of Education can accomplish for the betterment of all concerned.”

With the completion of the high school, the only remaining project on Neptune’s LRFP, the Midtown Community Elementary School, is under construction and expected to be completed by summer 2007. Other completed projects funded and managed by the SCC include Neptune Early Childhood Center, Summerfield Elementary School, Green Grove Elementary School, Shark River Hills Elementary School, Gables Elementary School, Neptune Middle School and the Neptune High School Annex – a former bank that was renovated to serve as swing space during the high school expansion. The annex now will

be used for vocational educational programs and administrative offices. The high school project completely renovated the existing 128,000-square-foot building on Neptune Boulevard while adding 134,000 square feet of new construction. Existing classrooms and cafeterias were renovated and enlarged, and floors, lighting and ceilings were replaced. The addition has eight new classrooms, an



auditorium, math, science and technology wings, a library, computer-aided drafting labs and graphic arts printing. The project incorporated environmentally friendly and energy efficient geothermal heating and air conditioning. The school accommodates over 1,300 students in 9th through 12th grades. District-wide student enrollment is 4,692. The project was designed by Kellenyi Johnson Wagner and constructed by Torcon Inc. Gilbane Building Company managed the project for the SCC.



SCC Holds Contractors Conference To Attract New Firms to School Construction Program

With \$1 billion in new school construction projects due to be bid over the next few years, the SCC held a Contractors Conference October 30th to draw new contractors into the bidding process and update contractors already involved in its statewide building program. The SCC outreach effort at the New Jersey Convention Center in Edison featured panel sessions focusing on prequalification, labor issues, payment and bidding processes, and change orders. Representatives of the SCC and other state agencies also were available at information tables throughout the day to answer questions about the building program.

Over 400 people representing 220 firms from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware registered to attend. Half of the firms registered have never worked on SCC projects.

“This is an opportunity for general contractors to learn about the bidding opportunities that exist on upcoming school projects. They will also learn about how our improved



management capabilities, systems and business practices have improved the way we do business with contractors,” said keynote speaker Scott Weiner, CEO of the SCC.

“While much work has been completed, and many school projects remain under construction, the SCC still has approximately \$1 billion in projects on the current capital plan that will go out to bid over the next several years. Through this conference we are hoping to attract companies interested in actively competing for this work,” Weiner said.

Weiner noted that reforms undertaken by the SCC were acknowledged in a recent report by Governor Corzine's Interagency Working Group, which recommended the SCC receive \$3.25 billion in new funding for future school construction projects. The issue of additional funding is now under consideration by the Administration and Legislature.

Construction Update

Construction Starts

As of October 31, 2006, the SCC has entered into construction contracts that total \$2,861,477,185 since its inception in 2002.

Contractor Procurement

Three construction bids were advertised in October for school projects in Camden and Cumberland. (Exhibit A)

School District Grants

From its inception in 2002 through October 31, 2006, the SCC has executed 2,554 Section 15 grant agreements in all 21 counties with districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. To date, 1,425 schools in 474 districts have been impacted by the Section 15 grant program. Total project costs amount to \$7,124,856,232 for which the state share totaled \$2,214,907,488. In October 2006 alone, the SCC executed eight grants that impacted eight schools in five districts. These grants amounted to \$3,682,788 toward the total project costs of \$9,181,669.

Office of Contractor And Workforce Compliance

The SCC Office of Contractor and Workforce Compliance is dedicated to increasing the availability and accessibility of construction opportunities for small, women, and minority-owned businesses, and to individuals and their families in New Jersey.

In some instances this means working with other State agencies and departments to serve the SCC's target population. In others, it is working with SCC project management firms (PMF) and other internal SCC divisions to encourage business opportunities and equal employment



opportunities in the school construction program. The Office encourages firms that do business with the SCC to support diversity within their ranks and in their hiring. At every opportunity, the Office endeavors to promote the use of New Jersey's diverse business and workforce communities on SCC projects. Further programmatic information is available on the SCC website.

Conferences/Presentations

Main Avenue Elementary School Groundbreaking, 10/03/2006, Passaic

Dr. Herbert N. Richardson School Dedication, 10/6/2006, Perth Amboy

Neptune Senior High School Dedication, 10/14/2006, Neptune Township

NJ Institutional Investors Forum IX, 10/26/2006, Newark

SCC Contractors Conference, 10/30/2006, Edison

Kevin McElroy

Attachment

