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Christie Administration Announces Start of Design-Build Contract for New Trenton Central High School

TRENTON, NJ – The Christie Administration today announced the start of the design phase of the design-build project to build a new Trenton Central High School, another significant project being delivered through the efficient and responsible school construction program managed by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA).

“When I first started at the SDA, I spoke to the students of Trenton and promised that we would provide them with a modern learning environment,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “The start of the design phase for the new building is the next step in delivering a first rate, state-of-the-art school for New Jersey’s capital city students.”

The new Trenton Central High School will be a 350,000 square-foot school designed to educate 1,850 students in grades 10 through 12. The school will include five Small Learning Communities (SLC) and provide Career Technical Education programs related to Health Sciences, Culinary Arts, Construction, Physical Fitness and Automotive. Each SLC will consist of 10 classrooms, two science labs, one art/project lab, five specialized instructional areas, a learning resource center and support areas. In addition, the school will include a gymnasium, auxiliary gymnasium, swimming pool, dance studio, fitness center, weight room, cafeteria, media center, auditorium, two ROTC classrooms and one large group instruction room.

Terminal Construction Corp. of Wood Ridge, New Jersey was awarded a \$116 million design-build contract and issued a notice to proceed with design on April 7, 2016. As part of its design-build engagement, Terminal Construction Corp. will work with Design Ideas Group Architecture + Planning, LLC of New Brunswick, New Jersey on the design of the school within the parameters previously approved by the Trenton School Board. SDA recently issued an advertisement for the procurement of a firm to perform construction management services for the project. More information on that procurement can be found here: <https://www.njsda.gov/njsda/advertisement/WT-0022-M01.pdf>.

Utilizing practices that have proven successful, the new Trenton Central High School will be constructed using a design-build approach, with the SDA Kit-of-Parts as its foundation. The design-build method differs from the traditional approach by allowing for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement. The school will be built on the site of the former school which was recently demolished. The early site preparation activities are anticipated for completion later this month.

Construction activities are currently forecasted to begin toward the end of 2016. The building is anticipated for completion prior to the start of school in September 2019. The total estimated SDA project cost for the new school, inclusive of all previous expenditures, is \$154.9 million.

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

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