

Continued Commitment To Camden

The Christie Administration And Local Partners Are Coming Together In A Historic Manner To Turn Camden Around

Governor Christie visited Holtec today, marking the completion of a 600,000-square-foot manufacturing and design facility on the Camden Waterfront. With this new installation that will bring thousands of jobs, the Christie Administration has kept its promise in charting a new course filled with opportunities for the City of Camden.

Holtec International is a diversified energy technology company, recognized as the foremost innovator in the field of carbon-free power generation, specifically commercial nuclear and solar energy. With the largest single investment of private capital in the City's history, Holtec's decision to locate its technology campus in Camden represents a new horizon for the City's economic and technological future. Bringing a large-scale manufacturing facility to Camden enhances the City's position in the manufacturing industry, and creates skilled jobs, as well as opportunities for suppliers both locally and throughout the State.

- Holtec's **\$260 million** investment in the facility is the largest ever capital infusion in the City of Camden. The company, which was approved for \$260 million in Grow NJ tax credits expects to employ nearly 400 people at the manufacturing facility, including welders, machinists, laborers, engineers and corporate staff at the site by summer. Holtec's CEO Dr. Kris Singh has indicated that he expects the company will employ more than 2,000 in Camden by the end of the decade.

The Christie Administration inherited a Camden that was in shambles. High crime, failing education, and low economic prospects were the norm in a City that was in crisis. Through Governor Christie's leadership and economic stewardship, the City of Camden is experiencing a revitalization, with a better education system, reduced crime rates, and brand new state-of-the-art job facilities that make Camden an attractive city to live, work, and do business.

GROWING THE CITY'S ECONOMY

In September 2013, Governor Christie signed the bipartisan Economic Opportunity Act (EOA), a sweeping overhaul of New Jersey's Economic Incentive Programs and the result of months of hard work from members of both parties. The EOA specifically refocuses New Jersey's incentive programs to drive jobs and investment to the State's most distressed communities through both lowered thresholds to qualify for the programs, as well as increased incentives available.

The EOA designates the most in-need communities as Garden State Growth Zones. The GSGZs are Camden, Trenton, Passaic, Paterson and Atlantic City.

In the City of Camden under the EOA Grow NJ program, 28 projects associated with private investment of **\$1.4 billion** are expected to create more than **1,860 new jobs** and **7,050 construction jobs**, and retain **3,550 jobs**.

- Under the EOA Economic Redevelopment and Growth (ERG) program, six projects in Camden are associated with more than **\$211 million** in private investment, and the creation of nearly 100 new jobs and more than 870 construction jobs.

Since the enactment of the EOA, under the ERG programs, **278 projects** have been approved for up to \$5.36 billion with capital investment of over \$8 billion throughout the State of New Jersey.

- These projects are expected to create more than **35,200 new jobs** and **30,400 construction jobs**, and retain more than **28,800 jobs**.

Camden Is Beginning To See Major Economic Development Projects:

- **Camden Waterfront Project:** In September 2015, Governor Christie announced the new \$700 million Camden Waterfront development project. The development is the largest private sector investment in Camden's history, creating thousands of construction jobs and bringing thousands of permanent jobs to the city. The plan calls for 1.5 million square feet of office space and includes a hotel and a residential component.
- **Cooper University Cancer Research Center:** The development of the new \$100 million cancer center created via a partnership between Cooper University and MD Anderson was supported by a \$1 million grant from the Economic Recovery Board for Camden in 2011. MD Anderson is one of the nation's premier cancer treatment and research centers.
- **Rutgers Nursing and Science Building:** Construction has begun on a new Nursing and Science Building at Rutgers University–Camden. The 100,000-square-foot building will be a state-of-the-art, \$62.5 million teaching and research facility that will allow Rutgers to expand its ability to prepare a new generation of science and nursing leaders for New Jersey and the region.
- **Philadelphia 76ers Practice Facility:** A ribbon cutting was held at the Philadelphia 76ers new 120,000-square-foot practice facility on the Camden riverfront in August 2016. Located on a four-acre tract of land that was previously a parking lot, the brand-new \$82 million building, which houses the team's front office operations, has brought more than 250 new and relocated jobs to the city.
- **Subaru of America Headquarters And Service/Training Center:** Construction is underway on Subaru of America's new headquarters and training center, which was approved for up to \$117.8 million in Grow NJ tax credits. This project involves the creation of 100 new jobs, and the retention of 500 "at risk" jobs.
- **Cooper Health Office Consolidation:** Cooper Health is expanding its footprint in the City by consolidating back office operations from various locations to one Camden facility rather than relocating these operations to Philadelphia. Cooper was approved for up to \$39.9 million in tax credits. The project involves the retention of 353 "at risk" jobs and the creation of 19 new jobs.
- **American Water:** A groundbreaking was held in early March for American Water's new 250,000-square-foot headquarters, hosted by American Water and Liberty Property Trust. American Water was approved for \$164 million in Grow NJ tax credits over 10 years, associated with the retention of 596 jobs at risk of leaving the State for Philadelphia, and creation of an

additional 100 jobs. The project will consolidate employees from other South Jersey office locations where leases are expiring.

- **EMR Eastern:** Scrap metal recycler EMR Eastern LLC, was approved in September for up to \$252.7 million in Grow NJ tax credits over 10 years, which the company has certified will be a material factor in its decision to either expand in Camden, a Garden State Growth Zone, or at an existing company location in New Orleans. The project is associated with more than 285 new jobs and 1,274 construction jobs and 156 positions at risk of leaving the state. Just 62 of the 156 possibly retained positions are counting towards the project's award eligibility, as they would be new to Camden and coming from other EMR facilities across the state.
- **Resintech:** A manufacturer of resins for water and waste water treatment was approved in October 2016 for Grow NJ tax credits of up to \$138.8 million associated with the creation of a group of buildings in Camden expected to house 173 new employees and 92 retained employees. The project could create more than 600 construction jobs.
- **Lockheed Martin Laboratory Facilities:** Defense contractor Lockheed Martin was approved for up to \$107 million in Grow NJ tax credits to create two fully integrated laboratory facilities in Camden, bringing 250 employees to the City.
- **Cooper Village:** Approved for up to \$6.1 million through the ERG program, this two-phase development will support demand for student and faculty housing in the city, help reduce vacant properties, and expand the stability of the Cooper Plaza Historic District. Developed by Broadway Housing Partners and Ironstone Strategic Capital Partners, Phase I includes the renovation of four buildings, which will house 21 residential units and one commercial unit; Phase II includes the construction of two new buildings, which will feature 38 residential units and one commercial unit.

To take advantage of the momentum in the City, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development is working with Mayor Dana Redd and Camden County College to advance a job training and readiness pathway for City residents. The job training and readiness program is centered on customized customer service, workplace ethics, job counseling, and HUD-certified financial literacy training.

UNPRECEDENTED COMMITMENT

Combating a public safety crisis, Governor Christie has taken aggressive action to bring about a sweeping reformation of police services in the City of Camden. With the support of the Christie Administration, the City and County of Camden implemented a ground-breaking reform by creating a county-wide police force that is putting more cops on the streets of Camden, and more resources at their disposal.

- **More Officers On The Streets:** Under the reorganization, the number of police officers patrolling Camden's streets has already increased from 160 to 376. With another class of cadets already in training, the force will increase to over 400 officers.
- **Cutting Edge Crime-Fighting Technology:** The new Camden County Police Force is utilizing state-of-the-art technology and techniques to combat the city's crime epidemic. From its Real-

Time Crime Center, the new force can monitor over 120 citywide cameras and 35 microphones which can instantly pinpoint the exact location of a gunshot.

- **A Focus On Community Outreach:** City and police officials are emphasizing outreach to community leaders and one-on-one interactions between officers and residents as a cornerstone to ingraining the new police force within the neighborhoods they patrol and making the people partners in the effort to curb violence.

Early Signs Of Progress:

2012 was the most deadly year in the City of Camden's history, earning the rank of the most violent city in the nation. While there is more work to be done, there have already been signs of progress in curbing crime in the city. As of 2016, Camden experienced sharp reductions in crime compared with the same point in 2012:

- 30 percent Percent Reduction In Homicides
- 43 percent Drop In Robberies
- 8 percent Reduction In Aggravated Assaults
- 21 percent Overall Drop In Violent Crime
- 34 percent Reduction in Non-Violent Crime

HISTORIC CHANGE TO CAMDEN'S SCHOOL DISTRICT

Believing further inaction in the face of a broken system to be immoral, Governor Christie took decisive action to reform the Camden School District. The Christie Administration, through the new state-appointed superintendent and leadership team, and in coordination with local and community leaders, is taking direct oversight in implementing the necessary reforms of the school district to start delivering better results for Camden students and their families.

Superintendent Paymon Rouhanifard has brought renewed energy to the district and implemented a number of significant steps to begin that reform in his first school year:

- The formation of a safety-corridor initiative along with Mayor Redd that creates safe walking routes for students to and from school;
- Tackling the issue of the number of school drop-outs by going door-to-door to re-enroll students;
- The creation of three new technology demonstration centers to give students access to computer labs and tools needed to prepare for success in a 21st century economy;
- A successful 100-day listening tour which resulted in the participation of hundreds of students, parents and community members who came together on behalf of the future of Camden and its schoolchildren;
- Launched the first annual Parent Survey to increase feedback; over 1,800 were completed during Parent-Teacher conferences;
- Increased feedback for teachers and more individualized instruction for all students, especially students with disabilities.

On Track For Graduation. Camden's graduation rate has increased for the fifth straight year, and stands at 70 percent for the 2015 - 2016 school year. (Leslie Brody, Camden Graduation Rate Hits 70%, [Wall Street Journal](#), 12/12/16)

- Since 2012, Camden City School District's graduation rate rose from 49 to 70 percent while the dropout rate fell from 21 to 12 percent.
- Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) continue to make gains with a graduation rate of 64 percent, up 26 points from 2012
- The dropout rate for English language learners is down a quarter since 2012, and the dropout rate for African-American students has been cut in half.