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# *Commission Meeting*

of

## NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CAPITAL BUDGETING AND PLANNING

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**LOCATION:** Meeting via Teams

**DATE:** February 21, 2025  
10:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:**

James Rutala, Chair  
Liz Mahn, Vice Chair  
Senator Paul A. Sarlo  
Assemblyman William W. Spearman  
Assemblywoman Nancy F. Muñoz  
Aaron Binder  
David Drescher



**ALSO PRESENT:**

James Langsdorf  
*Executive Director*

Brian Onda  
*Assistant Executive Director*

Christine Trappe  
*Executive Assistant*

*Meeting Recorded and Transcribed by*  
The Office of Legislative Services, Public Information Office,  
Hearing Unit, State House Annex, PO 068, Trenton, New Jersey

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**JAMES RUTALA (Chair):** Good morning.

This is Jim Rutala, Chair of the Commission of Capital Budgeting and Planning.

I would like to call this meeting to order.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commission has provided adequate notice of this meeting, including written notice of the time, date, and location. Notice of the meeting was filed at least 48 hours in advance by email and by fax to *The Trenton Times, Newark Star-Ledger*, and filed with the Secretary of State.

Roll call, please.

MR. LANGSDORF: Thank you, Chairman.

Senator Sarlo. (no response)

Senator Steinhardt.

SENATOR SARLO: Present; present.

MR. LANGSDORF: Assemblyman Spearman.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPEARMAN: Here.

MR. LANGSDORF: Assemblywoman Muñoz.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUÑOZ: Here.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. Aaron Binder. (no response)

Mr. David Drescher.

MR. DRESCHER: Here.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Lisa Almeida. (no response)

Mr. Samuel Kovach-Orr. (no response)

Mr. Patrick Brennan. (no response)

Mr. James Rutala.

MR. RUTALA: Here.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Liz Mahn.

**LIZ MAHN (Vice Chair):** Here.

MR. ONDA: And, Jamie, I believe we have Aaron Binder -- is here as well.

Maybe you can just go back to roll for him.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. Aaron Binder. (no response)

Aaron, your mic is muted.

Aaron, if you can hear us, can you unmute your mic and verify your attendance?

MR. BINDER: Can you hear me now?

Sorry; my computer is not working.

MR. LANGSDORF: Very good.

Thank you.

Chairman, we have a quorum.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Can I have a motion for approval of the minutes for December 13, 2024?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Any questions or comments? (no response)

Roll call.

MR. LANGSDORF: Thank you.

Senator Sarlo. (no response)

Senator Steinhardt.

SENATOR SARLO: I'm going to vote yes; Sarlo is a yes.

Sorry.

MR. LANGSDORF: OK, thank you.

Senator Steinhardt. (no response)

Assemblyman Spearman.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPEARMAN: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Assemblywoman Muñoz.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUÑOZ: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. Binder.

MR. BINDER: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. David Drescher.

MR. DRESCHER: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Lisa Almeida. (no response)

Mr. Samuel Kovach-Orr. (no response)

Mr. Patrick Brennan. (no response)

Mr. James Rutala.

MR. RUTALA: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Liz Mahn.

MS. MAHN: I'm not sure if I have to vote -- if I have to abstain.

Because, I wasn't here.

MR. ONDA: Yes, you can abstain. That's fine.

MS. MAHN: OK.

MR. LANGSDORF: Therefore, Chairman, the motion moves.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Next, we have the Fiscal 2026 Capital Recommendations.

Mr. Langsdorf, if you could walk us through these.

MR. LANGSDORF: Sure; thank you.

The Joint Management Commission -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Agriculture -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Children and Families -- \$370,000 is recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Corrections -- \$8.554 million is recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Education -- \$1.1 million in projects was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Environmental Protection -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions?

MR. ONDA: Sorry, Jamie.

We can use the total recommended column.

MR. LANGSDORF: So, I should start over or I could just start from DEP, right?

MR. ONDA: Yes, DEP -- you can just start with DEP, yes. The rest (indiscernible).

MR. LANGSDORF: OK.

The others were not provided any funding in any other way?

MR. ONDA: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: All right.

Environmental Protection -- \$169,571,000 was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Palisades Interstate Park Commission -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Health -- \$3.206 million is recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Human Services -- \$8.027 million is recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Law and Public Safety -- \$2.195 million was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Juvenile Justice Commission -- \$1.676 million in projects was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Military and Veterans Affairs -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

New Jersey State Library -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Department of Transportation -- \$1.526794 billion was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Interdepartmental -- \$157.127 million was recommended.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Higher Education -- there were no recommendations.

Are there any questions? (no response)

Chairman, that gets us through the recommendations.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Can we have a motion to approve the recommendations as read?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Motion.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you--

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. RUTALA: Do we have a second? Thank you.

Roll call.

MR. LANGSDORF: Senator Sarlo. (no response)

Senator Sarlo. (no response)

Senator Steinhardt. (no response)

Assemblyman Spearman.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPEARMAN: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Assemblywoman Muñoz.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUÑOZ: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. Aaron Binder.

MR. BINDER: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Mr. David Drescher.

MR. DRESCHER: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Lisa Almeida. (no response)

Mr. Samuel Kovach-Orr. (no response)

Mr. Patrick Brennan. (no response)

Mr. James Rutala.

MR. RUTALA: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: Ms. Liz Mahn.

MS. MAHN: Yes.

MR. LANGSDORF: That's six in the affirmative.

Brian.

MR. ONDA: Yes, we need one more as well.

If Senator Sarlo could say yes.

Technically, according to the bylaws, we need seven.

SENATOR SARLO: I apologize.

I am a yes.

My microphone, for some reason -- I'm at a remote office.

Yes.

MR. ONDA: All right, thank you, Senator.

MR. LANGSDORF: OK, we have seven in the affirmative.

Therefore, the motion moves.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Is there any other business to come before the Commission?

MR. ONDA: There is not, but I would like to make everyone aware of the next Commission meeting. It is currently scheduled for April 25, and that would be for the annual debt report presentation.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

SENATOR SARLO: Will there be any more after that, as we go through budget cycles, or -- at that point in time, (indiscernible), and then we'll wait until the next budget cycle to reconvene. Is that correct?

MR. ONDA: Yes, that is correct.

SENATOR SARLO: OK.

Thank you, everybody.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUÑOZ: Thank you.

MR. RUTALA: Motion to adjourn.

SENATOR SARLO: Sorry for the screw-up on the microphone;  
I apologize.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

MR. RUTALA: No problem.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MUÑOZ: Second.

MR. RUTALA: Thank you.

Everyone have a nice day, and good weekend.

Take care.

**(MEETING CONCLUDED)**