

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Directors of the Corporation

FROM: Peter Maricondo

Acting Chief Executive Officer

DATE: October 26, 2005

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation (SCC)

September Progress Report

### Mission Statement

Create a brighter future for our children by renovating, building and funding costeffective 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

Program highlights in September included a dedication ceremony and open house to celebrate the completion of major expansions of Manchester Township's elementary, middle and high schools. In Irvington, a beam-signing and topping-off ceremony marked the progress of construction of the new Mount Vernon Elementary School that will provide 21<sup>st</sup> century educational opportunities for nearly 600 students. Meanwhile in Kenilworth, officials unveiled a unique public-private carpentry apprenticeship program for students at Union County Vo-Tech Schools. Also in September, the SCC executed 44 Section 15 grants that impacted 35 schools in 11 counties with 16 districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. These grants supported projects totaling more than \$19 million – with a state share totaling over \$7 million.

Since inception, SCC has committed support to over 2,700 school construction projects at nearly 1,800 schools. Currently, SCC has 73 new school projects completed or under construction and another 59 in the pipeline. SCC is building early childhood education centers, launching school-based community revitalization efforts and strengthening the economy by creating job and business opportunities for companies large and small.



# New Public-Private Partnership Will Create More Jobs, Train Young Adults in Skilled Labor Trade

Union County Vo-Tech Schools Team Up with NJ Regional Council of Carpenters, NJ Schools Construction Corporation and NJ Department of Labor To Offer Student Apprenticeship Program

Officials of the Union County Vo-Tech Schools unveiled a new initiative September 8<sup>th</sup> aimed at training local students in the craft of carpentry through an innovative collaboration with the New Jersey Regional Council of Carpenters (NJRCC), the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) and the SCC.

Hailed by officials at a joint press conference as the first of its kind in New Jersey, this public-private partnership will help provide jobs for young adults in the community who have completed an extensive apprenticeship. Ten qualified students are guaranteed slots in the pilot apprenticeship program, which will be run by Union County Vo-Tech Schools and funded by the SCC through the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The event at the Carpenters Training Center in Kenilworth included Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Superintendent of UCVTS; LWD Commissioner Thomas Carver; Frank Spencer, President of the statewide Carpenters Council; and Jerry Murphy, SCC Chief Operating Officer, and E. Tracie Long, SCC Labor/Workforce Coordinator. Also participating were UCVTS carpentry student Christine Glasgow and county Freeholders Rick Proctor and Dan Sullivan.



## Manchester, SCC Celebrate Completion of 3 School Expansions

Manchester Township School District and the SCC held a Dedication Ceremony and Open House September 10<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the completion of a major construction program that expanded and improved Manchester High School, Manchester Middle School and Whiting Elementary School.

The three schools underwent extensive additions and renovations as a result of a \$30 million bond referendum approved overwhelmingly by local voters. Under an agreement with the district, SCC managed the project while providing \$12 million – 40 percent – toward the costs. The expansion – completed on time and under-budget – will benefit over 2,100 students and was the result of the cooperative efforts of SCC, the school district and Greyhawk



Construction, SCC's project management firm. Officials noted that the expansion will not only enable Manchester to meet the needs of its students for years to come, but the district also expects to return a significant amount of money to township taxpayers once construction costs are finalized.

Superintendent, Dr. William DeFeo remarked, "The \$30 million dollar project designed to help teachers reach for the highest instructional level would not have become a reality without the help and cooperation of the SCC. Their expertise and efficiency helped provide Manchester with outstanding facilities at a reasonable cost. In fact, the district will be returning thousands of dollars to the taxpayers of Manchester. This was a very successful joint effort on the part of Manchester and the SCC."

"Building schools on budget, and on time, are key objectives for the SCC moving forward. These projects in Manchester Township are representative of the direction we are taking toward meeting those goals and restoring public confidence in New Jersey's school construction program," stated Peter Maricondo, the SCC's newly appointed Acting Chief Executive Officer.



# SCC, Irvington Hold 'Beam Signing' at New Mount Vernon School

Irvington Township School District and SCC officials held a beam-signing and topping-off ceremony September 19<sup>th</sup> to mark the progress of construction of the new Mount Vernon Elementary School. Students signed their names on a steel beam to be hoisted into place as a permanent part of the new \$24.3 million school. It will replace the adjacent, original Mount Vernon Elementary School, which dates back to 1909.

The new 93,821-square-foot elementary school will be a multi-story facility with 31 classrooms for 582 pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade students. The school, projected to open in September 2006, will include a media center, gymnasium and auditorium. The old school will eventually be demolished to provide athletic fields and play areas for the new school. STV Architects, Inc. designed the project. Austin Helle Co., Inc. is the general contractor. Bo vis Lend Lease is managing the project for the SCC.

# **Construction Update**

## **Construction Starts**

The SCC awarded 5 construction packages in 4 districts during the month of September for combined construction cost estimates totaling \$18,329,265. These awards involve 6

schools in districts including: Jersey City, Gloucester City, Irvington and Union City. (Exhibit A)

As of September 30, 2005, the SCC has entered into construction contracts that total \$2,465,574,448 since the inception of the program.

### **Contractor Procurement**

The SCC advertised one construction package in September impacting schools in the Barnegat district. (Exhibit B)

## **School District Grants**

In September 2005, the SCC executed 44 Section 15 grants with 16 districts receiving less than 55% of their funding in state aid. The grants impacted 35 schools in 11 counties throughout the State. The total project costs for these grants are \$19,463,102, which qualified for a state share totaling \$7,087,651.

Several districts received multiple grant awards in September, including the Cherry Hill Township District in Camden County, which will receive grants for 19 school projects costing a total of \$8,733,696 with a state share of \$3,461,857.

From its inception in 2002 through September 30, 2005, the SCC has executed 2,294 Section 15 grant agreements in all 21 counties with districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. Total project costs amount to \$6,829,573,581, for which the state share totaled \$2,118,737,405. In 2005 alone, 169 districts in 21 counties have been earmarked for \$474,580,317 in direct property tax relief as the state share of project costs that totaled \$1,453,933,917.

# Division of Diversity, Small Business, Government And Community Affairs

The Schools Construction Corporation Division of Diversity, Small Business, Government and Community Affairs 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 our target population. In



others, it is working with our project management firms (PMF) and other internal SCC divisions to encourage business opportunities and equal employment opportunities in the school construction program. The Division encourages firms that do business with the SCC to support diversity within their ranks and in their hiring. At every opportunity, the Division 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 at www.njscc.com.

### **Conferences/Presentations**

Press Conference on Workforce Training, 9/8/2005, Kenilworth

Manchester Township Schools Construction Project Dedication Ceremony, 9/10/2005, Manchester Township

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute 2005 Public Policy Conference, 9/12/2005, Washington, DC

Beam Signing Ceremony for the New Mount Vernon Elementary School, 9/19/2005, Irvington

Hispanic Business Summit and Networking Event, 9/20/2005, East Rutherford

Congressional Black Caucus 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Conference, 9/21/2005, Washington, DC

Hudson County Office of Minority & Women Business Enterprise, 9/21/2005, Secaucus

Public Presentation of the Lincoln Elementary School Project, 9/22/2005, Orange

Peter Maricondo

Prepared by: Kevin McElroy

Attachments

## **Construction Award Status Report**

<b>District</b>	<u>Schools</u>	Description of Work	Contract Awar	Notice to Proceed
Jersey City	PS 3 Elementary School, MS 4 Middle School	IT Integration firm to purchase, install, test and validate systems operations, train and provide operations manuals for information technology electronics, hardware and software.	\$1,082,684.00	9/8/2005
Gloucester	New Middle School	Asbestos abatement, removal of above ground storage tanks, demolition of existing buildings, removal of structures and backfilling of excavations for 85 properties with 64 structures.	\$1,222,648.00	9/14/2005
Irvington	Augusta ES	New 3-story addition of 32,000 SF and Renovation of 16,100 SF of 2-story building space, as well as site improvements and new utility services. School will not be occupied during construction. Asbestos Removal and Selective Demo work is completed by others. IT Cabling is by others.	\$11,344,812.00	9/23/2005
Union City	New Monastery Fields Middle School	Installation of artificial turf and related utility work.	\$1,848,000.00	9/27/2005
Union City	New Elementary School	Demolition of existing structures & site elements, and site improvements for new K-6 school.	\$1,275,000.00	9/30/2005

Exhibit A 1

Construction Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of October 26, 2005

Package #	District	Description of Work	# of Schools	Advertised Web Date	Advertised Newspaper Date	Bid Due Date
ET-0002-T01	Barnegat	Furnish and install Networks, Servers, Computers, Peripherals, and Audio, and Audio Visual	1	9/29/05	10/5/05	10/27/05