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# *Commission Meeting*

of

## NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CAPITAL BUDGETING AND PLANNING

*“Capital Budgeting and Planning Teleconference Commission Meeting”*

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**LOCATION:** Conference Room  
33 West State Street  
Trenton, New Jersey

**DATE:** August 11, 2000  
10:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS OF COMMISSION PRESENT:**

B. Carol Molnar, Chair  
Anthony F. Annese, Vice-Chair  
Assemblyman Francis J. Blee  
Assemblywoman Barbara Buono  
Michael R. Ferrara  
Margaret M. Villane  
Robert A. Roth



**ALSO PRESENT:**

Gail Alexander  
(Representing Roland M. Machold)

John Geniesse, Acting Executive Director  
New Jersey Commission on Capital Budgeting and Planning

*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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(The New Jersey Commission on Capital Budgeting and Planning held a teleconference meeting on August 11 at 10:00 a.m. at 33 West State Street. The Commission member present was Michael R. Ferrara. Also present was John Geniesse, Acting Executive Director. Members of the Commission present via teleconference were B. Carol Molnar, Chair; Anthony F. Annese, Vice-Chair; Assemblyman Francis J. Blee; Assemblywoman Barbara Buono; Margaret M. Villane; Robert A. Roth; and Gail Alexander, representing Roland M. Machold)

MR. GENIESSSE (Acting Executive Director): My name is John Geniesse. I'm the Acting Executive Director of the Capital Budgeting and Planning Commission.

And, Madam Chair, I believe everybody is present or otherwise hooked up.

**B. CAROL MOLNAR (Chair):** All right.

I'd like to thank you all for your time, especially during the summer.

I'd like to call the meeting to order.

John, would you read the Open Public Meetings Act notice?

MR. GENIESSSE: In accordance with P.L. Chapter 231, Open Public Meeting Law, the Commission has provided adequate public notice of this meeting by giving written notice of time, date, and location. The notice of the meeting has been filed at least 48 hours in advance by mail and/or fax to the Trenton *Times* and *The Star-Ledger* and filed with the office of the Secretary of State.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you.

Could you take the roll call now?

MR. GENIESSSE: Yes.

Mr. Annese.

MR. ANNESE: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Mr. Roth.

MR. ROTH: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Senator Littell. (no response)

Senator Kenny. (no response)

Assemblyman Blee.

ASSEMBLYMAN BLEE: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Assemblywoman Buono.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Welcome to the Commission, Assemblywoman.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Thank you.

MR. GENIESSSE: Ms. Alexander for Treasurer Machold.

MS. ALEXANDER: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Commissioner Mintz. (no response)

Ms. Villane.

MS. VILLANE: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Mr. Ferrara.

MR. FERRARA: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Chairperson Molnar.

MS. MOLNAR: Here.

MR. GENIESSSE: Madam Chair, we have a quorum -- eight members present.

MS. MOLNAR: Terrific.

You stole my thunder. I'd also like to welcome our newest member, Assemblywoman Buono.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Thank you so much.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you for joining us.

Now, John, could you let the members know who there is present in the room and part of this presentation?

MR. GENIESSE: Yes.

Madam Chair, here to give a presentation on the agenda item is Mr. Charles Chianese, the Executive Director of the New Jersey State Building Authority. Also here is Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, Administrator of the Department of Law and Public Safety; Mr. Barry Roberson from the Division of State Police; Mr. Paul Shidlowski and Mr. Anthony Mazzella from the Division of Property Management and Construction, Department of Treasury.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you.

Now, we should let the members know that later on, if they're asking a question, they should give their names first because the record is being recorded. And that way, everyone knows who's speaking.

All right. Do you want to begin the presentation?

MR. GENIESSE: Yes. Mr. Chianese, I believe, will start.

**CHARLES CHIANESE:** Thank you, Madam Chair and members of the Commission. Good morning.

My name is Chuck Chianese. I am the Executive Director of the New Jersey Building Authority.

On July 18, the New Jersey Building Authority board approved the project report which is before you this morning for consideration. This project

report was submitted by the Treasury Department, on behalf of the Department of Law and Public Safety, to build a State Police multipurpose building and State Police Troop C Headquarters and Communications Center in Hamilton Township, Mercer County.

With me this morning, as Mr. Geniesse has noted, is Paul Shidlowksi from the Department of the Treasury, Division of Property Management and Construction; Tony Mazzella, from the Department of Treasury, Division of Property Management and Construction; Tom O'Reilly, Administrator for the Department of Law and Public Safety; and Barry Roberson, Acting Deputy Superintendent of the Division of State Police.

I would like to note that the New Jersey Building Authority has enjoyed a long-standing relationship with your Commission and appreciates the opportunity to come before you this morning.

At this time, with the approval of the Chair, I would like Paul Shidlowksi of the DPMC to begin the presentation to you, which will be followed by Tom O'Reilly of the Department of Law and Public Safety.

After the presentation, we would be happy to address any questions that Commission members may have.

Madam Chair, if this is acceptable to you, we will begin.

MS. MOLNAR: Sure, that's fine.

I'd like to thank Paul for coming and Tom.

**PAUL A. SHIDLOWSKI:** Good morning.

Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the Commission.

Last year, the Commission on Capital Budgeting and Planning approved a Building Authority project report for a new Division of Revenue building, a new State Police Troop C Headquarters.

On April 17 of this year, Governor Whitman decided that the Division of Revenue should remain in the city of Trenton, and the original project was terminated.

This amended project report before you today continues the Troop C Headquarters and Communications Center as originally planned. The State Police multipurpose facility provides for a consolidation of several State Police programs, including a new State Police forensic laboratory.

The State Police multipurpose building and Troop C Headquarters and Communications Center will be built on the same site in Hamilton Township that was acquired for the previous project. It has the same footprint and utilizes the same preengineered building as originally planned for the Revenue facility.

Consequently, all site work, footings, foundation work, and most of the permits that had previously been acquired for the previous project will be used for this project as well.

The total estimated project cost of the project before us today is \$73.4 million, which breaks down as \$48.5 million for the multipurpose facility and \$25 million for the Troop C Headquarters and Communications Center.

At this time, I'll turn over the presentation to Tom O'Reilly. I'd be glad to answer any questions at the conclusion of Mr. O'Reilly's presentation.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you, Paul.

**THOMAS J. O'REILLY:** Madam Chairwoman, members, good morning.

I'm Tom O'Reilly, Administrator of the Department of Law and Public Safety. And as indicated earlier, with me is Major Barry Roberson, who is the Acting Deputy Superintendent for the Division.

The project in front of you represents a major improvement for State Police operations. This project will accomplish two major objectives of some of the State Police reform activities that we're currently engaged in.

The first is an improved and consolidated Troop C Headquarters. Troop C Headquarters is currently located on Route 1 in Princeton, New Jersey. And as you can appreciate, this location has become very congested as it relates to traffic.

In addition, our service area-- Historically, we service the greater Mercer County area. The service area has shifted more towards the Millstone, Monmouth, Middlesex County areas, which are represented by the joining of Routes 195, 295, and 130, where the new site will be located at.

The selection of the site will also allow us to consolidate, in addition to the Princeton Barracks, the Wilburtha Barracks, which is currently under a lease, located in West Trenton, as well as the Hightstown Barracks, which is on Route 130, close to the Cranbury circle.

Also as part of the Troop C Headquarters is a central communications facility. This, for the first time in the history of State, will allow the Division of State Police, along with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Transportation, to collocate



a central communications facility, which will allow for better coordination in the event of disasters, emergency management, traffic issues, and things of that nature.

The second objective is to consolidate, in a state-of-the-art building, many of the technology-supported functions in the State Police. The records and identification function, as well as the information technology responsibility, is our special and technical services section, which includes a forensic laboratory and several of our investigative functions, which are currently located outside of either West Trenton or the city of Trenton.

Let me take two minutes just to review some of the State Police roles and give you some sense as to the importance of the multipurpose building or the technology building to the Division of State Police and its current services to local law enforcement.

As you're aware, State Police has two roles. The first role is to serve as primary law enforcement on the interstates and in those 75 to 100 towns where we are the only police department. And the second is to support the criminal justice system and local police as they engage in their responsibilities and activities.

The functions that are going into the technology building fulfill our responsibilities under that second area in terms of supporting criminal justice and local police.

The records and identification section, last year, provided background checks for over 150,000 criminal arrest processing. In addition, we've done 160,000 noncriminal arrests -- noncriminal background checks for teachers, youth workers, volunteers, home health aides, and other groups of

employees or volunteers that the Legislature has suggested, from a public safety perspective, need to have background checks done on them. In the year 2001, we're projecting that 160,000 growth to go to about 260,000 to 300,000 transactions, particularly on the noncriminal side.

In addition, that function supports the AFS, or the Automated Fingerprint System, which, since its start in 1970, has resulted in over 7000 arrests on the basis of our ability to search latent fingerprints at crime scenes. Historically, we were never able to do that until this computer was put in place. Again, there's a need for major expansion as local police departments become more reliant on that.

That section is also responsible for the National Crime Information Center, which is basically the system that every police department in the state relies on when they stop a motor vehicle to see whether the car's stolen, to see whether the drivers are wanted. And it's certainly a critical public safety issue, as well as officer safety issue, in order for us to keep that up and running.

The functions that will go into the new building in the area of technology will be the State Bureau of Identification, which deals with -- is a central repository for all arrest records in the state, as well as many of the registries that we function or operate, such as the ones associated with Megan's Law; the Information Technology Bureau, which is the internal bureau that's responsible for doing many of the State Police reform initiatives -- the in-car camera issues, the computer aided dispatch, and some of the other records that we're responsible for doing, particularly in the context of the current consent decree with the Department of Justice; the Criminal Justice Records Bureau,

which deals with all internal State Police records, in terms of traffic arrests and things of that nature, and also the field services support group, which provides training and technical assistance to local police departments.

This particular area is suffering from an enormous growth in the last couple of years. Some of it is court mandated, some of it is consent decree mandated, and some of it is self-initiated, in terms of good police practice. But we are suffering from a space shortage. And currently at West Trenton, at Division Headquarters, we had to result in using a configuration of about a-half-a-dozen trailers in order to relieve this situation.

In this building, also, will be housed consolidated investigative sections, which are located in various rental properties in the Central Jersey area. Some of the units that will go in there will be our narcotics squad, which is currently located at Bear Tavern Road; Arson; Fugitive Unit; Missing Persons; and perhaps the High-Tech or the Cyber Crimes Unit will also go there.

The third area is the Special and Technical Services section, which is the forensic science area. This is the one that you're probably familiar with. This would be DNA and the crime lab types of things -- many of the issues which came to the forefront during the O.J. Simpson trial.

Currently, our central laboratory, which is the flagship for the four regional configuration that we have, is located in the leased facility at Sierra Park in Ewing Township. That function includes our criminalistics lab, or crime scene investigation unit, the photo lab, and most importantly, the DNA facility.

Right now, there are a number of problems in that building, although it's accommodated us over the last couple of years. But we are starting to experience issues such as space, HVAC issues, that are particularly critical as we move into the more sophisticated area of DNA testing. Maintaining a very stable environment is critical for the reliability of DNA evidence. And the role that science has placed -- or the role that science has assumed in the crime field, as it relates to DNA, is extremely important. But as equally as important is making sure that we do everything that we can to make sure that the evidence analysis is reliable and the integrity of the process is maintained. As you know, the validity of forensic evidence is certainly subject to numerous attempts to be impeached on the stand.

In addition, one of the other emerging roles for DNA is also the establishment of innocence, and we've done that recently. There's been several cases where suspects have submitted DNA evidence. We've been able to indicate to the local police that these are not the particular individuals that committed that particular crime.

As you may also be aware, several states like Illinois have recently just downed all of their capital cases in order to further move ahead with having DNA evidence done on all pending cases to make sure the right individual has been identified.

That's a very quick overview in terms of the three sections that will move into there. All of them share a number of common issues. They're all heavily engaged in technology -- the issues, in terms of HVAC-- They share common types of requirements. The supports, such as uninterrupted power supplies and other things, make it a logical grouping for these three functions

to go into that building and allow us to leverage some of the new resources that will be placed in there.

I will be happy to answer any questions that, Madam Chairwoman, you or the Commission members have.

Thank you.

MS. MOLNAR: I'm not sure who this question is for.

Originally, this Commission approved \$55 million, and now the project is at \$73.5 (*sic*) million. Could someone explain, as the increase looks like it's not the headquarters -- Troop C Headquarters, it's mostly the multipurpose building?

MR. SHIDLOWSKI: It's actually a combination of the two.

Madam Chair, this is Paul Shidlowski.

Although I can't give you an exact reconciliation at this point in time, there are several enhancements to the project from the original -- how it was originally envisioned. There's the state-of-the-art communications equipment, which was not included in the original estimate. The original project had included an outdoor firing range to address the safety concerns expressed by the community. That's now going to be enclosed.

And as part of the permit received from Hamilton Township, we are required to complete the main access road that goes through the facility. That was also not envisioned in the original project.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you.

Do other members have questions?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: This is Assemblywoman Buono.

I have a question.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Actually, Madam Chair, I was going to ask the same question you did originally. But I think it's been fairly adequately answered. And it seems as though there has been a heavier increase of concentration in the technology. And for that, I just want to say that I have to own up to the fact that I'm probably responsible for, at least, part of that increased need, the bill that the Governor just signed requiring criminal background checks for child care workers. Also, I have another one up and coming to establish innocence regarding DNA testing of suspects.

But I did have a question with respect to the additional noncriminal background checks that are anticipated. I think -- I'm not sure what individual was testifying -- that you anticipated increasing from 160,000 to 300,000, particularly noncriminal. Is that accurate?

MR. O'REILLY: Yes, Assemblywoman. This is Tom O'Reilly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Hi, Tom.

MR. O'REILLY: That's our estimate at this point in time. The majority of the growth will be on the-- We're bringing in whole blocks of fairly large numbers like home health-care workers -- could bring as many as 30,000 individuals in.

The unpredictable area is in the volunteers -- the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, little league coaches, soccer coaches, those types of things is the part that's kind of a guesstimate at this point.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Do you envision that this -- that you'll be-- I know that there are--

I should ask you first. Is there a backlog, currently, with the facilities and the wherewithal that you have currently? Is there a backlog?

MR. O'REILLY: Yeah, there's some delay in the turnaround, although I have to say the majority of the delay is in processing the prints through the FBI. The process here is that a print is taken, usually at a local police department, which creates some consternation. Many of the PDs don't want to get engaged in this process.

The print, then, is mailed to the State Police. The State Police do a name check and a fingerprint check at West Trenton. The check then is-- The print hard copy is then sent to Washington, D.C. -- actually Clarksburg, West Virginia, where the FBI does their thing and comes back.

The delay, generally, has been on the FBI turnaround. And the reason for that is twofold. One, the movement from Washington to Clarksburg, West Virginia-- But second, and more importantly, is the conversion of the FBI to an electronic system. Right now, in New Jersey, we have put out what is called the live scan device. This is, literally, a Xerox machine type of device where an individual can put their hand on a piece of glass. It photographs, electronically, the fingerprint. It electronically transmits that to West Trenton. And then we, in turn, can transmit it to the FBI.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: In my understanding-- I know we've been talking about it and waiting for this -- I forget what it's called -- the FBI -- 24-hour turnaround time -- and some sort of technology-- We've been waiting and waiting, and that still hasn't arrived?

MR. O'REILLY: They are turning around -- I can't say in 24 hours, but usually within 72 hours, the prints that are sent to them

electronically. The problem is getting the wherewithal within the State of New Jersey to do so.

We do have a game plan, though, to do this. There are a couple of vendors out there that are willing to do these live scan devices for commercial purposes, which would allow them--

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Hello? (telephone interference)

MR. O'REILLY: Hello.

MS. MOLNAR: Hello.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Okay, couldn't hear you for a second there.

MR. O'REILLY: There are a couple of vendors out there that will use the live scan device in a commercial environment. I don't want to mention any names in particular, but several of these are groups that do major testing in tutorial programs around the state. The State already has contracts with them to do testing for nursing boards and things of that nature.

So, if we can get the electronic live scan hookups in place-- I think there's 27 of them now that are servicing the municipal police departments. But if we can get that regional network up, we will have that 24-to-48-hour turnaround.

We can provide you with additional materials, Assemblywoman, if you would like.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: I would really like that, yes.

And will this multipurpose building-- Will the increased technology that you have-- Will that help achieve what you have just been explaining to me in any way?



MR. O'REILLY: Yes.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Oh, good. Excellent. Excellent.  
That's all I have right now.

Thank you.

MS. MOLNAR: Any other--

MS. VILLANE: This is Maggie Villane.

I'd like to ask if the square footage would be the same as it was  
when the Revenue part was going to be in the building, also.

MR. SHIDLOWSKI: Yes, it will, Maggie.

The original building was 195,000 square feet. And that will  
remain the same for the multipurpose facility.

MS. VILLANE: Thank you.

MS. MOLNAR: Any other questions?

MS. ALEXANDER: Yes, this is Gail Alexander in Treasury.

I have a question on the permits. You said you can use the  
existing ones? They didn't have a shelf life? I mean, they didn't have a good  
for 30 days, 60 days--

MR. SHIDLOWSKI: My understanding is that all of the permit  
work that has been done to date is reusable.

MS. ALEXANDER: Okay.

And the environmental impact doesn't change because the usage  
is changed?

MR. SHIDLOWSKI: No. No. My understanding is that does  
not.

MS. ALEXANDER: Okay.

MS. VILLANE: This is Maggie Villane again -- one other question.

Do you have to go back for A and E, or are you going to use the same plan as you did before?

MR. SHIDLOWSKI: We're going to be reutilizing about 90 percent of the A and E work that has been done to date. We will have to go back and redo some of the layout and some of the utility work, as is my understanding.

MS. VILLANE: Okay.

MS. MOLNAR: Any other questions?

MR. FERRARA: Yeah. Mike Ferrara -- one question.

One time I asked it at the Building Authority meeting, but I think I'd like the Commission to hear it. And that is, we're vacating some space to move different organizations into this new facility. And my question would be, are any of these leased facilities that people are coming out of, and will we have some lease savings in the central rent budget or in your budget. And for the State-owned space we're vacating, do we have backfill opportunities that could, in fact, then lead to some additional lease savings?

MR. O'REILLY: Mike, the answer to that is twofold. One is that there are a number of lease spaces that are envisioned to fold into this. The primary one, or the major one in terms of cost-- I think it's about \$900,000 or \$1 million a year -- would be the Sierra Park lease. That's currently housing the laboratory.

The second one would be like narcotics, which is out on Bear Tavern Road in commercial space. That could fold in here, also. Some of the

other ones are less, 4000 or 5000 square feet types of leases located in various spaces around -- predominately the greater Mercer County area.

So, in terms of that issue, we see that as being a cost savings.

MR. FERRARA: Thank you, Tom.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay, any other questions? (no response)

If not, we can take action today since we have a quorum.

Is there a motion to accept?

MS. VILLANE: This is Maggie Villane. I'll make the motion to accept the revised project report.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: And Assemblywoman Buono. I will second that.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay, is there any discussion -- further discussion before we take the roll? (no response)

If not, John, can you take the roll call?

MR. GENIESE: Yes.

Mr. Annese.

MR. ANNESE: Yes.

MR. GENIESE: Mr. Roth.

MR. ROTH: Yes.

MR. GENIESE: Assemblyman Blee.

ASSEMBLYMAN BLEE: Yes.

MR. GENIESE: Assemblywoman Buono.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Yes.

MR. GENIESE: Ms. Alexander.

MS. ALEXANDER: Yes.

MR. GENIESSSE: Ms. Villane.

MS. VILLANE: Yes.

MR. GENIESSSE: Mr. Ferrara.

MR. FERRARA: Yes.

MR. GENIESSSE: Chairperson Molnar.

MS. MOLNAR: Yes.

MR. GENIESSSE: The motion passes.

MS. MOLNAR: Terrific.

I'd like to thank everyone, our presenters as well as our Commission members, for taking their time.

Our Commission will be meeting in September. I believe our first meeting will be September 15.

MR. CHIANESE: Madam Chair, this is Chuck Chianese. On behalf of the board, we would just like to thank you and the Commission members for your continued support.

Thank you.

MS. MOLNAR: Thank you.

John, is there any other business you want to bring before the members while we have them?

MR. GENIESSSE: No, not at this time, Madam Chair.

MS. MOLNAR: As far as you remember, I believe the 15th of September was our first meeting?

MR. GENIESSSE: That is correct.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay. And we'll get our packets a couple days before.

Are there any questions or comments from Commission members before we all hang up?

MS. VILLANE: I'll make a motion to adjourn.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay, do I hear a second?

MR. FERRARA: Second.

MS. MOLNAR: Okay, meeting's adjourned.

Thank you.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUONO: Thank you.

MS. VILLANE: Thank you.

MR. ROTH: Thank you.

**(MEETING CONCLUDED)**