

**State College Area School District  
Office of Physical Plant  
Ed Poprik, Director**

**VI-B**

To: Board of School Directors  
From: Ed Poprik  
RE: State High Project Planning Update  
Date: July 14, 2014

The following memo is a summary of work on the State High Project over the last several weeks, as well as a look ahead at upcoming events and updates.

A Geo-technical services RFP was issued by Crabtree Rohrbaugh and Associates (CRA) and a firm has been contracted to complete the work. The borings are scheduled to be completed during summer with special attention being paid to minimizing disruption of pool parking and the upcoming marching band practice schedule. While the finished report will become public, Board updates would only be necessary if problems were discovered that impacted the scope or budget of the project. Another upcoming item is the traffic study, which will be completed by ELA. Due to the need for accurate traffic counts, this work cannot be completed until September.

Massaro Construction Management Services (MCMS) has agreed to begin work on a contingent basis while the final details of their contract are negotiated. Consequently, the core project team (SCASD, CRA, and MCMS) conducted a “kick-off” meeting on July 3, 2014. Bi-weekly coordination meetings are planned for the immediate future.

State College Borough Council has scheduled an “open house” type meeting with the various Borough authorities, boards, and commissions who may be involved in the approval process moving forward. This is an introductory meeting to the project and no actions will be taken. Penni Fishbaine will thank the Borough for this opportunity and introduce the

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design team who will speak about the project and field any questions. The meeting is scheduled for July 14 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at the Borough Building. The following have been invited:

Borough Council  
Planning Commission  
Design Review Board  
Historic Resources Commission  
Redevelopment Authority Traffic Commission

The next SCASD Board update is planned for the July 28, 2014 meeting. Items to be addressed in this update include:

- 1) Progress Update
- 2) Presentation of 2 versions of the project calendar
  - Version 1: a graphic overview of the project through bidding
  - Version 2: a comprehensive detail of all activities through 30%
- 3) Construction Management Update
  - Presentation of comprehensive strategy
  - Review of SCASD internal staffing as related to strategy
  - Draft contract for MCMS

After July 28, with the exception of any special requirements, Board updates during the preconstruction phase of the project are planned for the 30%, 60% and 90% milestones. The 30% review is planned for September. During the construction phase of the project, Board updates will occur monthly.

Once a 30% review package is complete, the preconstruction review process is one that spans between several weeks to a full month. During that process, the package remains static and any Board direction or modifications are integrated into the 60% package. The Board should review and comment on the tentative sequencing offered below as well as a process for review of community feedback.

**Step 1:** CAC for Facilities reviews and issues comments

**Step 2:** Board of School Directors reviews package and CAC comments

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**Step 3:** Public meeting for review

**Step 4:** Board of School Directors will take action to “accept” the package and issue any direction regarding comments

**Step 5:** Board direction will be integrated into the 60% package

The process will be repeated at both the 60% and the 90% phases.

Recent actions at the Capitol have lifted the Plancon moratorium. While funding is still significantly backlogged, the district will be able to submit an application for the project. The entire process will be integrated into the project calendar and Board approvals will be required at each stage. The most significant and immediate requirement is that an updated District Wide Feasibility Study be completed in conjunction with the Part A submission. According to the current rules, the study must be less than 2 years old. CRA, who has provisions for this work in their existing contract with the district, is working on specific details that will be shared with the Board at a later date. It is envisioned that this effort will be an update to the 2009 plan and will include the prioritization of the High School project. It is important to remember that the 2-year window mandates that any future Elementary School or other projects will require yet another update to the Master Plan.