

February 2009

MCCPTA Capital Improvement Program Committee Report

Chair: Steve Augustino

1. Budget update. On January 15, County Executive Ike Leggett proposed his CIP budget for the county. Leggett's budget funds the Board of Education's entire proposed CIP request except for a new \$500,000 water compliance item. All school projects and all countywide projects would proceed on schedule under Leggett's proposed budget. The County Executive warned that he may be forced to revisit the recommendations after the state legislative session if the county does not receive the funding expected.

On January 21, Governor O'Malley proposed his budget for the state. The budget includes \$260.3 million for school construction aid. Unless Montgomery County receives a larger percentage of these funds than in years past, it is likely that the county will receive less than the \$40 million assumed in the Recommended CIP.

2. CIP Resolution. After receiving Board input at the January BOD meeting, the Committee presented a resolution to the Delegates regarding CIP funding. This resolution is scheduled for consideration at the February Delegates Assembly.

3. Restroom Assessments. In January, Kay Romero and I met with Joe Lavorgna and his staff to discuss the process for conducting the next round of restroom renovations. In the next full CIP (FY 2011-16), MCPS plans to assess 102 schools and propose a schedule for completing renovations at these schools. We discussed both the criteria used for evaluating restrooms and the process for receiving public input on the restroom renovation project. I have posted on the Board listserv seeking additional guidance from Board members on how to proceed.

4. FACT Assessments (Modernizations). At the January meeting with Joe Lavorgna and his staff, we also discussed the process for assessing additional schools for modernization. MCPS stated that they did not anticipate the need to include additional schools on the modernization list until the FY 2013-18 CIP, which will be three budget cycles from now. We discussed ways to evaluate the criteria used to assess schools before any further schools are evaluated. MCPS expressed its desire to assemble a group of stakeholders, which will include MCCPTA, to consider the FACT criteria.

5. Looking Ahead. The dates for Cluster testimony before the County Council have not been determined at this time. It appears more likely that the Council will receive testimony in April this year.