



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 7e2
September 8, 2014

September 8, 2014

TO: Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

SUBJECT: Approval of Necessity of School Construction Projects: East Providence

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has as one of its responsibilities reviewing and certifying the need for school construction projects to be reimbursed through the school housing aid program. Most large projects are supported by bonds and are comprehensive projects with major renovation and/or new construction components. The school construction regulations instituted a rolling application process that allows districts to submit their applications when they are complete. Because of this, the Council will be asked to review and approve projects on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The FY 2015 State budget extended the moratorium on Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approvals until May 1, 2015, except for projects necessitated by immediate health and safety reasons.

At the September 8th meeting, the Council is being asked to approve several health and safety projects. A chart summarizing East Providence School District's projects is provided in Attachment 1 and a more detailed description of the projects is found in Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the necessity of school construction projects totaling \$10,000,000 pursuant to 16-7-41.1 as follows (please note that when the applicable reimbursement share ratios are applied to the estimated total project costs noted below, the state share is expected to be \$4,830,000):

East Providence:

- a. Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs
 - i. Career Technical Center \$ 150,000
 - ii. East Providence High School \$ 3,098,342
 - iii. Hennessey Elementary School \$ 693,806
 - iv. Kent Heights Elementary School \$ 387,010
 - v. Martin Middle School \$ 1,296,323
 - vi. Myron Francis Elementary School \$ 903,600
 - vii. Oldham Elementary School \$ 449,779
 - viii. Orlo Avenue Elementary School \$ 608,867
 - ix. Riverside Middle School \$ 1,008,215
 - x. Silver Spring Elementary School \$ 643,870
 - xi. Whiteknact Elementary School \$ 760,188

SUMMARY: FY 2015 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION	FY 2015 AID SHARE RATIO*	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	STATE SHARE	STATE SHARE W/ INTEREST**
Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs <i>(see attachment 2)</i>	This project will address immediate health and safety repairs at all eleven East Providence School District facilities, including: Whiteknact Elementary, Silver Spring Elementary, Riverside Middle, Orlo Avenue Elementary, Oldham Elementary, Myron Francis Elementary, Martin Middle, Kent Heights Elementary, Hennessey Elementary, East Providence High School, and the East Providence Career Technical Center. The proposed work includes emergency renovations to address life safety issues, including fire code issues, ADA improvements, and other critical building systems repairs.	The repairs will address emergency fire code upgrades, ADA improvements, building envelope repair and replacement, hazardous materials abatement, and other building system improvements that affect student and staff health and safety.	48.3%	\$10,000,000	\$4,830,000	\$4,830,000

* State share ratio is based on FY2015 calculation. District may be eligible for additional reimbursement through bonuses awarded for energy and water efficiency, ADA improvements, and asbestos abatement.

** Only bonds financed through RIHEBC are eligible for reimbursement on interest. East Providence intends to pay for project out of capital reserve funds.

**East Providence School District
Districtwide Health and Safety Improvements**

Project Cost: \$10,000,000

Project Description: This project will address immediate health and safety repairs at all eleven East Providence School District facilities, including: Whiteknact Elementary, Silver Spring Elementary, Riverside Middle, Orlo Avenue Elementary, Oldham Elementary, Myron Francis Elementary, Martin Middle, Kent Heights Elementary, Hennessey Elementary, East Providence High School, and the East Providence Career Technical Center. The proposed projects will address immediate health and safety repairs. The proposed work includes emergency renovations to address life safety issues, including fire code issues, ADA improvements, and other critical building systems repairs.

Project Justification:

- Districtwide code required heating and ventilation improvements to maintain indoor air quality
- Hazardous materials abatement
- Site repairs to address safety issues and ensure accessible routes to the building
- Building repairs, including bathroom and door replacement, to provide code required accessibility

* * *

This project is approved by the School Committee and Town officials.

Special Contingency: All other things being equal, the services of qualified and capable vendors with offices in Rhode Island, or those who propose a joint venture with a Rhode Island firm, should be utilized.