

Agency 072 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Project ID/Name: SD3 School for the Deaf - Renovation/New Construction

Project Description:

The RI School for the Deaf (RISD) is a Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 educational facility serving the deaf population of Rhode Island. The majority of students additionally have other disabilities that require extensive individualized programs and attention. As a result, class size is limited to 8 students and depends on visual technology to enhance the learning process. The previous RISD vocational school building was never suitable for use as a facility for the deaf. Continual delays in asset protection made the existing structure a liability.

A feasibility study completed during 2007 verified a total project cost of \$32.5 Million, including construction, fees, furniture/fixtures/equipment/, and technology. The State Legislature approved COPS funding for a new building.

It should be further noted that the RISD has long been a center for the deaf community including housing a myriad of testing, referral, cultural and support services for Rhode Islands' deaf community.

Project Justification:

The previous Rhode Island School for the Deaf was plagued by leaks, poor energy performance, inadequate ventilation, poorly heated, limited AC, spatially did not conform to the standards and, did not have a internal environment suitable for a special needs facility. Budget reductions in capital asset protection served to accelerate the facility's deterioration.

Specific building design and programming for deaf students, using nationally recognized experts in deaf education, will enable improved outcomes in many areas of their lives, the lives of their families, their teachers, and the larger communities which support them.

The new School has been designed to specifically address the needs of deaf education as well as deaf students with multiple disabilities.

Project Status:

The remaining \$680,555 will be spent in FY 2013 to construct an outbuilding/garage and to pay the contractor and architect their final payments plus outstanding retainage. The building was occupied on September 1, 2010. It is a state of the art facility with new facility and will be LEED certified (an energy efficiency and green building standard) at the Silver or possibly Gold level. The building also contains several features specific to deaf education and serving children with multiple handicapping disabilities.

Strategic Criteria

Safety Concerns

Major

Safety Narrative

The former facility, lacking an adequate security system was a target for vandals. To safeguard students, teachers and property we have developed a comprehensive security plan including new policies and procedures, outreach to local law enforcement agencies, and purchased surveillance equipment that will be re-located to the new School upon completion.

Agency **072 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

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Code Violations Minor

Code Narrative

While code issues were not a major issue, scarce funds were regularly spent on keeping the building up to code. The new facility will meet all regulatory, code and fire safety standards and will incorporate technologies to better improve acoustics and accessibility throughout.

Energy Impact Major Positive

Energy Narrative

The new building will be designed to achieve LEED Silver standards and our engineers project annual operating savings of \$120,000 over conventional systems. By re-modeling the existing gymnasium and renovating the existing site we minimize environmental impacts. The project is on schedule to achieve at least LEED Silver and may, in fact, come close to LEED Gold.

Customer Service Major

Customer Narrative

The former building was dimly lit, shabby, and difficult to navigate. Because deaf education relies primarily on visual learning, the new School has been designed to provide high levels of glare-free natural lighting, Smartboard technology, and clear paths for circulation and communication. School leadership, staff and the board of trustees have spent countless hours to develop this project and had a considerable impact on the new School's design.

Geographic Significance Statewide

Geographic Narrative

Rhode Island School for the Deaf serves students statewide and also on occasion serves students from neighboring states.

Agency Mission High

Agency Narrative

A new building, designed with deaf culture in mind, is a perfect mission fit.

User Financing 0

User Narrative

Asset Management New Construction

Asset Narrative

New Construction. The Contractor (Bacon Construction) is responsible to perform all building predictive and preventative scheduled maintenance, as part of their base bid, for two years from when the building is delivered to the State.

Operating Minor

Operating Narrative

Historic Preservation No

Historic Narrative

Budgeted Yes

Budget Narrative

Critical Criteria

Agency **072 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

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Critical Life Safety No

Critical Life Safety Narrative

Critical Legal Liability Yes

Critical Legal Liability Narrative

Since this is a state-owned school, the state would be liable for any injuries resulting from an out-of-code building.

Prior Binding Commitment Yes

Prior Binding Commitment Narrative

The new RI School for the Deaf opened in fall 2010 and final construction activities are wrapping up.

FY 2014 - FY 2018

Capital Improvement Plan Request System Agency Request vs. Plan

Funding Source	Pre FY 2013	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	Post FY 2018	Total
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Status: Plan									
Certificates of Participation	\$30,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000,000
RI Capital Plan Fund	\$1,248,698	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,248,698
Subtotal Plan	\$31,248,698	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$31,248,698
Status: Request									
Certificates of Participation	\$29,319,445	\$680,555	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000,000
RI Capital Plan Fund	\$1,248,698	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,248,698
Subtotal Request	\$30,568,143	\$680,555	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$31,248,698