



Office of Capital Planning

Delavern Stanislaus, Chief of Capital Planning

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TO: Boston School Committee
FROM: Delavern Stanislaus, Chief of Capital Planning
CC: Mary Skipper, Superintendent
Rochelle Nwosu, Chief of Staff
Sam DePina, Deputy Superintendent of Operations
DATE: February 28, 2024
RE: Statement of Interest for the 2024 Mass. School Building Authority Core Program

In collaboration with the City of Boston Public Facilities Department, I am pleased to share with the Boston School Committee a proposal to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for the 2024 Core Program for the BCLA-McCormack 7-12 School. The MSBA is a state agency that offers competitive grants to municipalities to support school construction and renovation projects. The MSBA's Core Program addresses extensive repairs, renovations, addition/renovations, and new school construction.

Proposal for BCLA-McCormack

BPS has committed to building out a high-quality space on the Columbia Point campus that meets the programming needs of the full Boston Community Leadership Academy-McCormack community.

Upon review of BCLA-McCormack's student population by zip code, we find that the biggest proportion (16%) comes from North Dorchester (02125), and 8% comes from South Boston (02127). But of the 1,848 BPS high school students who live in these two neighborhoods, only 21% attend a nearby high school. A large number of students travel well outside their neighborhoods to attend high schools. With a major investment to create a comprehensive 7-12 high school that is deeply connected to UMass Boston and embedded in the Columbia Point community, we believe there will be higher demand for high school seats closer to home from North Dorchester and South Boston students – and others across the City. With the planned population growth at nearby Dorchester Bay City, this demand will only grow.

We plan to submit a Statement of Interest for the BCLA-McCormack 7-12 high school.

Authorizations and Approvals

All MSBA Statements of Interest must be presented to and voted on by the City Council and the Boston School Committee. We will ask the City Council to hold a hearing in March or early April



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before voting on the proposal. All votes and documentation from these activities will be provided as part of the submission to the MSBA.

The Statement of Interest for the facility above describes deficiencies submitted under Priority #4: Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollments; Priority #5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility; and Priority #7: Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.

By submitting the Statement of Interest Forms, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Boston to file an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Next Steps

This SOI is an important step toward fulfilling a commitment through the Green New Deal for BPS to renovate BCLA-McCormack. I respectfully request a vote on this exciting project at the March 20 School Committee meeting to facilitate prompt submission of the SOI to the MSBA by April 12, 2024 (deadline). I look forward to returning to this body later this spring to provide an update on the long-term facilities plan.