



COURTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Court Capital Projects Electronic Newsletter
Summer 2011



Massachusetts Trial Court - Chief Justice for Administration and Management Robert A. Mulligan

"Courthouse Construction" has been developed by the Capital Projects team of the Trial Court to provide regular updates on new construction, renovations, planning and development. Court Capital Projects partners with Commissioner Carole Cornelison and the Commonwealth's Division of Capital Asset Management to upgrade court infrastructure statewide.

New Trial Court Opens in Taunton

A new, state-of-the-art Taunton Trial Court opened in late June with the move of the Bristol County Registry of Probate into the building. The 146,000-square foot courthouse has eight courtrooms and includes the Taunton District Court, Taunton Sessions of the Bristol County Juvenile Court, Bristol County Probate and Family Court, and the Southeast Housing Court, and offices for the District Attorney and the Department of Revenue.

Phased-in moves continued throughout July and were completed by August 1st. The Taunton Trial Court will be a LEED-certified building. An official opening will be scheduled for the fall.



Taunton Trial Court on Broadway



Taunton Trial Court—Public Hallway



Taunton Trial Court—District Court Courtroom

Construction Continues on Salem's Ruane Judicial Center

Major progress is being made in all areas of the Ruane Judicial Center in Salem since final site work began in April. The Juvenile Court space is the furthest along with carpeting installed and painting completed. In the main building, courtroom millwork is being placed on the upper floors along with finishes such as ceilings, carpet, wall tile and doors. Exterior stone has been reinstalled and repointed on the law library. Testing of building systems is scheduled to begin in September and continue for at least two months.



J. Michael Ruane Judicial Center—Exterior



Ongoing Construction in the old Church



J. Michael Ruane Judicial Center—Front Lobby

Separate and Secure Waiting Areas Being Assessed

The Separate and Secure Waiting Area Task Force, established by the Legislature in 2010, has begun to assess existing conditions and compliance with the statutory requirement to provide separate and secure waiting areas in courthouses in which criminal business is conducted.

Court Capital Projects staff have provided technical assistance to the Task Force in developing the survey and site visit tools used in the court-by-court assessment of space in the Superior, District, Boston Municipal and Juvenile Courts.

Site visits of these courthouses will be

conducted and guided by self-assessment surveys, which the courts have already completed. The on-site review is intended to be a collaborative process between the Task Force and the local court-specific assessment teams, which will include Task Force members, court personnel, and other stakeholders. The site visits will take place over several months, due to the number of courthouses to be visited, and will help to identify the scope of the problem that some courts may face in trying to achieve compliance.

A pilot site visit to the Norfolk Superior Court evaluated and documented their

existing waiting area. The Task Force also visited the Dedham District Court to determine possible options for developing similar space there. More recently, they have visited the Brooke Courthouse and the Malden District Court.

By statute the Task Force is co-chaired by the Chief Justice for Administration & Management and the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) and is comprised of representatives from designated entities, including courts, District Attorneys and advocates.

Design Presented for Greenfield Trial Court

In June, Leer Weinzapful Architects presented a preferred conceptual design for the Greenfield courthouse to the CJAM, the departmental Chief Justices, Court Administrators, and representatives from DCAM.

The concept retains the Main Street section of the existing building and demolishes the rear section to replace it with a large modern addition. This design was discussed and approved at the meeting.

DCAM will pursue an accelerated certification process for approval by the CJAM and the Commissioner of DCAM. The schematic design phase will develop the concept into a more detailed set of plans and will focus on resolving some remaining issues.

Existing Court Layout



Proposed Court Layout



Energy Performance Contracting Program Underway

Project #1 & Project #2

Project #1

Constellation New Energy has worked with DCAM and the Trial Court to install energy conservation measures at 17 courthouses included in the first of this three-phase effort. Energy and water efficiency improvements are being made to these buildings of varied size and age.

The performance contract program provides the following benefits:

- upgrades energy and water-related equipment with no upfront investment
- assures a net positive cash flow through vendor guarantees that facilities will achieve energy and water savings compared to existing usage
- trains court staff to operate and maintain new equipment with reduced energy requirements

First group of courthouses:

17 Courthouses in Suffolk, Middlesex, Plymouth & Bristol Counties

- BMC - Brighton Division
- BMC - Charlestown Division
- BMC - East Boston Division
- BMC - Roxbury Division
- BMC - South Boston Division
- BMC - West Roxbury Division
- Bristol Probate and Family Court / New Bedford
- Chelsea District Court
- Covett Courthouse / Brockton
- Edward W. Brooke Courthouse
- Fall River Trial Court
- John Adams Courthouse
- Middlesex Juvenile Court / Cambridge
- Middlesex Probate and Family Court / Cambridge
- Plymouth Trial Court
- Sullivan Courthouse / Cambridge (limited scope)

Project #2

The design building RFP was issued for the second group of 11 courthouses and a pre-bid meeting was held in Springfield in April. Bidders are now being evaluated.

Second group of courthouses:

11 Courthouses in Berkshire, Hampden & Hampshire Counties

- Chicopee District Court
- Hampshire County Court
- Holyoke District Court
- Northampton Probate & Family Court
- Northampton Superior / District Court
- Palmer District Court
- Pittsfield District Court
- Pittsfield Probate & Family Court
- Pittsfield Superior Court
- Springfield Hall of Justice
- Springfield Housing / Juvenile Court

Court Projects

Repair Projects

Projects in Study Phase

Cambridge Probate & Family Court (Boiler)
 Juvenile Court, Cambridge (Boiler Installation)
 Clinton District Court (Roof Replacement)
 Gardner District Court (Roof Replacement)
 Palmer District Court (Roof & Exterior Repairs)
 Woburn District Court (Roof Replacement)
 Pittsfield Probate & Family Court (Security)

Projects in Design Phase

Somerville District Court (Roof Replacement)
 Hampshire Hall of Records
 (HVAC, Electrical and Roof Upgrades)

Projects in Construction Phase

Pittsfield Superior Court
 (Various Improvements)

Major Projects

Projects in Study Phase

New Greenfield Trial Court
 New Lowell Trial Court

Projects in Design Phase

Projects in Construction Phase

Ruane Justice Center / Salem

Project Photos



Site of the New Lowell Trial Court



Lowell Superior Court
 Elevator installation

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