



Public Comment Analysis

Date: February 29, 2012

Topic: Proposed Amendment to 2010-14 Five Year Capital Plan

Date of Panel Vote: March 1, 2011

Summary of Proposal

The Department of Education’s Five Year Capital Plan (the “Plan”) sets forth the funds allocated for the creation of new school buildings, and for major renovations to existing school buildings. The FY2010 – 2014 Plan was approved by the City Council in June 2009, with a total budget of \$11.3 billion. The Department of Education (“DOE”) committed to amending the Plan annually. In June 2011, the City Council approved the second amendment to the FY2010 – 2014 Plan, with a total budget of \$11.1 billion. The DOE has now issued a proposed 2012 annual amendment (the “Proposed Amendment”) to the Plan. The following chart summarizes the highlights of the current Plan and the Proposed Amendment:

	Current	Adopted	Proposed Amended
Total Budget	\$11.1 billion		\$11.2 billion
Capacity	\$4.6 billion		\$4.5 billion
Capital Investment	\$6.5 billion		\$6.7 billion
Number of seats	28,866*		33,888*

* Includes 2,314 seats funded for design only in this Plan. Funding for construction phase for the projects associated with these seats will be required in the next five-year Plan.

Summary of all public comments received to date

Written comments were received from one Community Education Council and one parent. The following is a summary of the issues raised in these comments:

1. Capacity:

- a. Exercising option at Riverside Center development – CEC 3 wants the community and CB7 involved. Seats will only serve need of development and not existing community.
 - b. Is it possible to use the 15,000 square feet for a charter school?
2. Capital Investment Issues:
- a. What does the “Classroom Connectivity Initiative” include? Does it include electrical upgrades?
 - b. PS 76 has been asking for handicap accessibility and a new science lab.
 - c. West Prep Academy should have bathrooms suitable for middle school students as part of its move to PS 145.
 - d. Remediate PCBs in two years.
 - e. Dirty Heating Oil Remediation time should be shortened.
 - f. PS 87M needs an auditorium seating upgrade.
 - g. PS 166M has a violation in its school yard.
 - h. Requesting funds for the renovation of Midwood field.
 - i. What District 21 projects were added as a result of the public review process?

Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed

1. Capacity Issues:
- The DOE notified the developer of Riverside Center of its intent to exercise the option for the additional 15,000 square feet of space in late January. This space will be incorporated into the existing design process. It is not possible for this space to be used for a charter school. This additional space is insufficient for the footprint of an additional school organization in the Riverside Center space; it only can be used to expand the size of the district school DOE plans to locate there.
2. Capital Investment Issues:
- a. The definition of a “connectivity” scope of work comprises many types of improvements, including, an infrastructure upgrade to a building’s data/voice cabling and electronics in the MDF/IDF, the upgrade/installation of wireless access points in classrooms, as well as the installation of new circuits in the building, among others. Each of the buildings may get a component of scope of work depending upon the cycle that the building is in. Connectivity projects can provide a service access point to the building/classrooms/user, connecting with specific connection specifications and bandwidth profile parameters.
 - b. Currently, there is no funding available to make PS 76 more accessible than it currently is; however, a science demo lab is included in the capital plan for PS 76.

- c. A new science lab is currently included in the capital plan at PS 145M to address the West Prep Academy move; the size of the privacy partitions within the bathrooms have been increased to accommodate middle school grade students.
- d. The DOE is in the process of remediating any existing PCBs. Currently, it has a ten-year plan to address replacement of lighting fixtures assumed to contain PCBs. The DOE has committed to re-evaluate this program after three (3) years.
- e. The DOE is working with the Department of Environmental Protection to comply with regulations regarding conversion of #6 and #4 fuel oil to cleaner burning fuels. The conversions are being undertaken at this time, but progress is contingent on funding availability.
- f. We are reviewing the request for an auditorium upgrade at PS 87M, but currently there is no capital funding available for this work.
- g. The work required to address the issues existing in the school yard at M166 is currently underway.
- h. Currently, there is no capital funding available for the additional work requested at Midwood Athletic Field.
- i. Each fall the DOE issues an Amendment to the Capital Plan. Community Education Councils are encouraged to hold public meetings on the Amendment and to submit their priority requests to the DOE for consideration. Since the Plan was adopted, six (6) projects have been added from District 21 as a result of the public review process:

Type	Number of Projects
1. Interior:	3
2. Exterior:	2
3. Site:	1

Information regarding where the full text of the revised proposed item may be obtained

The proposed amendment to the FY2010 – 2014 Capital Plan can be found on the Department of Education’s website:

http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/CapPlan/021012_10-14_CapitalPlan.pdf

Changes Made to the Proposal

No changes have been made to this proposal as a result of the comments received.