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GOVERNOR PATRICK BREAKS GROUND ON SPRINGFIELD DATA CENTER**Facility will be national model for green technology; provide secure housing for state's electronic records**View pictures from Tuesday's event [here](#).

SPRINGFIELD - Tuesday, June 22, 2010 - Continuing the Patrick-Murray Administration's commitment to leading the way in information technology, Governor Deval Patrick today joined Congressman Richard Neal, Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno and local officials to break ground on the state-of-the-art Springfield Data Center (SDC). The SDC will serve as a secure housing facility for the state's electronic records and data systems while also providing critical backup for the Commonwealth's existing primary data center. When complete, the \$110 million facility will be a national model for green technology.

The 148,000-square-foot building is designed to drastically minimize energy use through efficiency measures and other design features. It will be constructed with the latest technologies in energy efficient data center infrastructure, sustainable building design and consolidated computer technology.

"The Springfield Data Center is a project with a multitude of benefits," said Governor Patrick. "In addition to securing critical data used by thousands of state workers, this facility will be a national model for environmentally-friendly data storage and an economic boost for the City of Springfield. I thank Congressman Neal, Mayor Sarno, the legislative delegation and the community for their support and dedication to making this project a reality."

The new data center is being designed with a host of state of the art efficient technologies, including fresh air cooling, EnergyStar servers and an advanced energy management system, which will make the new facility among the most energy efficient data centers in the country. The state's Division of Capital Asset Management and Information Technology Division have also been working with Western Mass Electric Co. to maximize potential rebates available through the utility to lower front end costs, while enhancing energy efficiency at the new facility.

"This is a remarkable project that blends many aspects of our Administration's focus for long-term economic growth," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "Thanks to the support of the state and congressional delegation, as well as the City of Springfield, this facility will mix innovative principles to deliver immediate jobs and services for the region and the state."

The facility will use cost-competitive energy sources and a number of sustainability features, including capture and re-use of rainwater, natural sunlight for staff areas and recycling of existing building materials in construction. Facility equipment will also be Energy Star Certified.

The new data center will provide an economic boost to Springfield, building on the Administration's continued long-standing partnership with the City. In addition, the facility is expected to create an estimated 70 full-time jobs, with as many as 200 construction jobs supported by the project over the course of the two-year construction phase. It will also be accessible by public transportation.

The SDC will be built at the site of the former Technical High School, which closed in 1986 after more than 80 years. A substantial portion of the Elliot Street entry façade and three bays of the East and West facades of the Technical High School will be preserved under the project, including "The Technical High School" inscription above the front doors.

"Today's groundbreaking represents a new beginning for Technical High School. The iconic brick building built in 1905 will now be transformed into a 21st Century home for information technology. Millions of dollars will be invested on this redevelopment project creating hundreds of jobs. It is the latest example of how we are rebuilding the historic State Street corridor block-by-block," said Congressman Neal.

The SDC is a key part of the Administration's strategy to manage the Commonwealth's technology more effectively by consolidating the Executive Department's 183 widely-dispersed data centers into two efficiently managed facilities.

The data systems and electronic records stored in the Commonwealth's data facilities are used by thousands of state workers - including police officers, social workers and health professionals - needing immediate access to sensitive information. This highly-secure facility will also provide backup for the Commonwealth's primary data center, the Massachusetts Information Technology Center.

"This new facility will be state of the art for energy efficiency in data centers," Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Ian Bowles said. "Not only will the facility save about \$3 million per year in energy costs once fully operational, but it will also stand as a significant symbol of the Commonwealth's commitment to leading by example for all other such facilities around the region, nation and world."

Funding for the data center was included in the General Government Bond Bill, approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2008.

"The data center groundbreaking marks another step forward in Springfield's recovery. This project will provide jobs essential to the economic recovery of Western Massachusetts," said Senator Gale D. Candaras.

"This is a great project that really puts the final stamp on the neighborhood's revitalization plan. I'm pleased to have worked alongside Governor Patrick and Congressman Neal to make this particular site the chosen location," said Representative Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.

"I want to thank the Patrick Administration for its continued commitment to the creation of jobs for the people of Springfield. The siting of the state's data center represents a significant investment; and we are looking forward to the short and long-term benefits that this project will provide our City and our Commonwealth," said Representative Cheryl Coakley-Rivera.

"I'm very pleased to see that this project is moving forward. It will compliment the new Federal Building and State Street corridor project and coincides with our ongoing economic development initiatives in the City of Springfield," said Mayor Domenic J. Sarno.

Construction on the data center will begin immediately and is expected to be complete by May 2012.

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