

Groundbreaking Ceremony Marks the Renovation of MCC's East Parking Lot

A groundbreaking ceremony marking the renovation of the East Parking Lot at Manchester Community College will held on Monday, August 5, 2013.

The project includes a complete renovation and restoration of the East Parking Lot, including the creation of over 260 new parking spaces, traffic circulation improvements, new high efficiency LED lighting, rain gardens, safety and security improvements including lighting and emergency phones, and an enhanced school bus drop-off area for the students of the Great Path Academy middle college high school. The project also includes the infrastructure for charging stations for electric vehicles.

Noted speakers included: Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Dr. Gena Glickman, President of Manchester Community College, DAS/DCS Deputy Commissioner Bud Salemi, Dr. Gregory Gray, President of Board of Regents for Higher Education, and Brian Nwafor, President of MCC Student Government Association.



Governor Dannel P. Malloy (center) and Deputy Commissioner Bud Salemi (second from the right), along with other dignitaries, break ground at Manchester Community College.

Malloy said investments in Connecticut's infrastructure and education system, such as the MCC project brings, were important to help restart the state's struggling economy and create jobs. The project is expected to be completed by early November.

The original Lowe Student Services Center parking lot was completed in 1984. After thirty years of service the parking lot was in need of repair. Winter storm Alfred caused a lot of damage in Manchester and the mature trees that were in the parking lot suffered greatly.

Deputy Commissioner Salemi acknowledged all the important construction and engineering companies involved in the project including Alfred Benesch & Company from Glastonbury and B&W Paving & Landscaping from Waterford.

Salemi said, “Governor, I’m happy to report to you that this project also added an additional 50 construction jobs which I know is important to your plans in getting people back to work here in Connecticut.”

The project was bonded for construction on March 13, 2013 and since then the push has been on to complete the renovation, restoration and completion of additional parking before classes resume in fall 2013.

Along with the additional 260 parking spaces that this project adds to the campus, a perimeter road has been added to improve traffic flow and separate pedestrians from vehicles further protecting the people who come to campus.

As part of this project, parking lot lights are being replaced with high efficiency LED lights that will significantly cut the cost to illuminate the east end of the campus. Many of the light poles will be fitted with the capability to add security cameras to improve the security on campus. A new safer school bus drop off area is being built to allow all the buses carrying students to and from Great Path Academy, the middle college here on campus, to queue up.

Other special features of this project are ‘green’ initiatives including connection to the East Coast Greenway which winds through campus so that people can bike to and from the college easily, rain gardens which provide an eco-friendly system for managing storm water runoff and the infrastructure to support eight electric vehicle charging stations.

