



## **Nassau County Police Department (NCPD) Foundation**

### **Nassau plans construction of new police academy training center in Garden City**



**(Garden City, New York) February 11, 2015** – Nassau County plans to begin construction later this year on a new \$40 million police academy training center in Garden City, the department's first county-owned training and intelligence facility in its 90-year history, officials said.

The county and the Nassau County Police Department Foundation, a nonprofit group, issued an RFP, or request for proposals, on Feb. 3 for architectural and engineering services for the facility's design. Bidding closes Wednesday.

The approximately 100,000- square-foot center -- the first and largest phase of the project -- is to be on the grounds of Nassau Community College and will be built with a combination of public and private funding: about \$10 million in county capital funding, \$25 million in asset forfeiture monies and about \$5 million in donations raised by the foundation.

County Executive Edward Mangano hailed the "state-of-the art" project, which will also serve as a regional training hub for the county's 17 village and two city departments, house Nassau's police intelligence unit and eventually include a streetscape village to allow for simulation of drug raids and hostage barricade situations.

"With this step, we move police training from outdated facilities to a modern venue that advances our nationally acclaimed intelligence-led policing models," Mangano said Tuesday in a statement to Newsday.

Officials hope to have the design finalized by August, break ground by November or December and complete construction in 24 months, Acting Police Commissioner Thomas Krumpter said in an interview Tuesday.

about six years ago and began with the formation of the foundation as a fundraising arm for the project. It will be located on about 10 acres and Krumpter said the college's criminal justice program will use the facility.

In a statement, Jorge L. Gardyn, president of the college's board of trustees, said the school is "delighted to see this project proceed. We are certain that this facility will mutually benefit both NCC and Nassau County as a whole."

Krumpter said the facilities will also house the backup for the county's 911 system, serve as shelter for first responders and could be available for movie and television filming. "The idea here is to build a space we're going to maximize the use of," Krumpter said.

The county's current police academy, housed at a 1950s-era school building in Massapequa Park, is leased from the school district at an annual cost of more than \$700,000, Krumpter said. "It's busting at the seams," he said .

The county legislature approved distribution of \$16 million in capital funding over three years for the project. The county funds "will only be spent after asset dollars are utilized," said Manganò's spokesman, Brian Nevin. Asset forfeiture funds are proceeds of criminal activity seized by police agencies.

Krumpter said the department has had "a lot of dialogue and conversation" with federal Department of Justice officials, who oversee the strict guidelines attached to the spending and said he's "very confident" it will be approved.

"There is no reason to believe we won't receive approval," Krumpter said, adding: "The criminals of Nassau County and the region have been kind enough to advance the training of the members of the Nassau County Police Department."