

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREENSBURG (December 19) – The first step toward a major revitalization effort in Latrobe is underway as the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Westmoreland (RACW) today announced a \$93,850 contract award to A.W. McNabb for asbestos removal, demolition and site clearance of nine structures on 1.6 acres located at Depot and Jefferson Streets, part of the future Westmoreland County Community College Laurel Education Center site.

According to Authority executive director April Kopas, “This is exactly the type of impact project the Authority’s Board of Directors is seeking, especially with such enthusiastic partners in the City of Latrobe and Westmoreland County Community College. This is a significant revitalization project that has positive economic benefits for the entire county”.

The project is being funded by the Westmoreland County Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and is anticipated to be pad-ready for new construction in spring 2013.

“We are extremely grateful for the county’s support and excited to bring to the community a new state-of-the-art learning facility for students and residents”, said Daniel Obara, President of the Westmoreland County Community College. The community college plans to complete the construction of a 30,000 square-foot facility for the 2014-2015 academic year.

City officials agree that the presence of students near the core of downtown Latrobe will enhance retail development. “Students in the center of our community will be wonderful to see” said Mayor Barbara Griffin. “We more than welcome their activity and invite them to consider living in town”.

“It is important that the people of the Greater Latrobe Community have access to quality education close to home, and with the recent agreement with St. Vincent College to transfer credits, education in our community will be affordable” added Deputy Mayor Ken Baldonieri.

The Latrobe project is part of a renewed focus by the county’s Redevelopment Authority to rehabilitate and reinvigorate downtown areas. The RACW is also working on community impact projects in downtown Derry Borough and Vandergrift Borough. For more information about the Redevelopment Authority, visit www.co.westmoreland.pa.us (keyword: redevelopment).

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