

ALL BUSINESS

February 13, 2008

Whitman tapped by NJSDA to assess schoolsites

The Whitman Companies has been awarded a \$5 million contract from the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) to provide environmental consulting services and engineering analysis for school site assessments throughout the state.

Whitman has successfully worked for SDA and its predecessor, the New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation, for the last five years.

The new three-year contract covers environmental consulting services associated with land acquisition, predevelopment and design phase, construction and site closure. Whitman will be responsible for completing environmental due diligence, assessing remediation liability and limited site remediation and oversight. The contract includes an option for a fourth year.

"We will provide the bulk of the environmental investigation and site closure services that the state needs," said Whitman President Barry Skoultchi. "We have on staff a versatile, multifaceted team with the necessary experience to deliver exactly the kinds of services required by the school development authority along with a wide array of specialty services, back-up capabilities and years of project experience."

Whitman, which is based in East Brunswick, NJ, was awarded the contract through the New Jersey Schools Development Authority along with project partner HACBM Architects Engineers Planners LLC of Lawrenceville. The two firms have worked together for many years on state school construction projects, including the Glenwood Avenue School in East Orange and PS-20 elementary school in the Jersey City School District.

Whitman and HACBM recently completed an evaluation at the Glenwood Avenue School in East Orange, designing an asbestos abatement plan for roof repairs and resolving mold and water issues at the school. At PS-20 in Jersey City, Whitman spearheaded the environmental investigation at the urban site, beginning with a preliminary assessment of environmental hazards and extending to the receipt of a remedial action work-plan approval from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

"We have performed over 2,500 site assessments and positioned ourselves as the experts in brownfield redevelopment and site investigations, especially in urban areas in New Jersey," Skoultchi said. "That expertise will serve us well in this schools project, particularly because the two areas are so similar, requiring public and private cooperation and participation."