



NEWS

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Montco Opens Newly-Renovated Parking Garage in Norristown

Norristown, PA (April 30, 2015) – It was drab, dreary, decrepit, and falling apart. It had not had any significant maintenance done to it since it was built in 1984, but 30 years of neglect were wiped away Thursday as the Montgomery County Commissioners cut a ribbon re-opening the county’s Main Street parking garage after a 13-month, \$5.9 million makeover.

When the new administration took office in January 2012 the commissioners took stock of the county’s deteriorating infrastructure, and the five-story, 456-space garage, located directly across from the courthouse on Main Street, was one of the structures most in need of repairs. A thorough assessment determined that comprehensive concrete repairs, complete replacement of electrical and plumbing systems, new elevators, and other measures - including a waterproof membrane - were required to make the garage safe and usable.

“This project is another result of our commitment to spend county capital dollars on county buildings and infrastructure,” said Josh Shapiro, chair of the commissioners. “When we took office only 53 cents of every capital dollar was being spent on county assets. That figure is now 96 cents.”

Originally, the project was expected to cost \$8 million, but by using the Keystone Purchasing Network, a cooperative procurement vehicle, county officials were able to cut costs and quickly mobilize contractors to save time.

A new LED lighting system has been installed, which not only provides more light, but also is much more energy efficient.

The facility also has a new parking access revenue control system, which allows parking patrons to pay on foot, or use a credit card when entering and exiting. The system also provides more comprehensive analytics of parking usage.

The initial assessment of the garage and the work necessary was done by Klein & Hoffman, McCormick Taylor, Inc., The Burns Group, Inc., GAI Consultants, Inc., and Gillan & Hartmann, Inc.

O&S Associates did the engineering and design for the garage and S.J. Thomas and Quinn Construction were the contractors.