



CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

## Capital Development Board

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***JANET S. GRIMES – ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ALL ABOARD FOR UNION STATION**

### ***Capital Development Board Awards Contracts***

**SPRINGFIELD** – Now that both the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) are open, the Capital Development Board is moving on to the next project in the ALPLM Complex; Union Station. Everyone is on-board to begin renovating the historic landmark – from the state’s project managers to the architectural team to the newly named contractors who will return the station, at 6<sup>th</sup> and Madison Streets, to its 1898 appearance.

Two highly visible changes to Union Station will be the return of the 110-foot clock tower, with working clocks on all four sides; and an open-air platform that is currently enclosed in glass. Inside, the first floor will consist of offices, restrooms and space for activities coordinated by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. The second floor will continue to house offices while the mezzanine will have a conference room and an office.

“Renovations typically give buildings a modern look. But, in the case of Union Station, the renovations will give the facility Twenty-first Century convenience with a Nineteenth Century look,” said Acting Executive Director Jan Grimes. “CDB is looking forward to working on this historical project.”

Union Station was designed by Illinois Central Railroad architect, Francis T. Bacon. Built in 1898, the station originally had a clock tower, but it was removed in 1946. Constructed of brown, red and buff pressed brick, the train station is on the National Register of Historic Places. President William McKinley and Queen Marie of Romania were two of Union Station’s more famous visitors. When the Illinois State Fairgrounds was built in Springfield, Union Station saw as many as 50 trains each day filled with fair-goers.

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## UNION STATION/2222

In 1985-86, more than a decade after the station stopped operating as a train depot, Union Station was renovated and used for specialty retail shopping. Then in 1990, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency leased, and nine years later bought, Union Station for office and storage space.

“Once renovated, the Union Station clock tower will act as a beacon and lead people to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum,” said Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Director Robert Coomer. “It’s a magnificent historical landmark that will whet the appetite of people wanting to learn more about Illinois history, which they can do right across the street at the library and museum.”

Working on the renovation with White & Borgognoni Architects, a Carbondale firm, will be six contractors:

Halverson Construction Co. Inc.	Springfield	\$7,781,600	General
Henson Robinson Company	Springfield	\$ 253,020	Plumbing
Henson Robinson Company	Springfield	\$ 647,600	Heating
E L Pruitt Co.	Springfield	\$ 272,400	Ventilation
Egizii Electric Inc.	Springfield	\$1,001,993	Electrical
Champion Environmental Services	Crown Point, IN	\$ 90,000	Abate lead
Automatic Fire Sprinkler LLC	Bloomington	\$ 219,300	Sprinkler

The total cost for renovations to Union Station, including already completed asbestos abatement, totals \$10.3 million. Work is scheduled to be complete by winter 2007.

Union Station is one of five elements of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Complex. Other elements include the recently completed parking garage and the final touch – Union Square Park

The park is located on the south side of Union Station, and will also be designed by White & Borgognoni Architects. Bids for contractors will be opened June 9<sup>th</sup> and the park is scheduled to be complete the first week in May 2006. Major design features include an open-air theatre area and Victorian garden honoring Mary Todd Lincoln. Union Square Park will serve as a gateway to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

The Capital Development Board is the construction management agency for the state of Illinois. CDB manages the construction of all new buildings as well as all major repairs and renovations. CDB projects include the new State Emergency Operations Center and the World Shooting Complex in Sparta.