

Monroe County Breaks Ground on \$30 Million Crime Lab



*Maggie Brooks,
County Executive*

Monroe County recently hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new regional Monroe County Public Safety Laboratory, or Crime Lab. The new \$30 million dollar facility will ensure that law enforcement and public safety professionals have the best possible resources available to prevent and solve crimes in our region.

The Crime Lab is a regional resource that provides forensic analysis services to law enforcement and public safety agencies in Monroe, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties. Established in 1961, the Crime Lab moved to its current facility on the fifth floor of the Monroe County Public Safety Building in 1963. The Public Safety Building has not undergone major renovations since then, resulting in a lack of space at the laboratory as well as many building systems needing replacement. This new state-of-the-art crime lab will bring enhanced

technology, capabilities and efficiencies to benefit all the residents of Monroe County and the surrounding counties that contract service with the Monroe County Crime Lab. The new facility will give our forensic scientists and law enforcement professionals the much-needed additional space and state-of-the-art technology needed to process evidence efficiently and effectively.

The new Crime Lab will be four stories tall and 45,000 sq. ft. in size, allowing for future lab expansions. It is located at the Terminal Site on the southeast corner of Plymouth Avenue and Broad Street. The building's architecture and engineering will comply with the County's Green Building Policy by incorporating sustainable design principles. As a result, the County will be pursuing a LEED Platinum Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, potentially making it the first platinum rated building in Monroe County.

Construction of the Crime Lab will provide 391 direct and indirect construction jobs and will employ a significant union labor workforce thanks to a Project Labor Agreement signed by Monroe County and local labor unions. Additionally, the Crime Lab will hire 11 more staffers once the project has been completed.

The Crime Lab is expected to be completed in 2011 and will make our communities an even safer place to live, work and raise a family.

