

SCCC trustee calls for dropping engineering firm based on probe

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By: JESSICA MASULLI REYES

NEWTON - A Sussex County Community College trustee is calling for the relationship with CP Engineers, the college's Sparta-based engineering firm, to be severed after reading in a report about the off-the-mark estimate CP Engineers gave the college for the Building D project.

"We now know the relationships between trustees and the principles of CP, and I submit, that it casts CP in a very different light than when we voted on the contract back in April 2013 and when we awarded the contract to Echelon In May 2014," trustee Dan Perez said. "Is CP the right firm to lead us through this project on our most important building?"

Perez's comments came during a special meeting Monday of the Board of Trustees where William Maderer and Robert Nussbaum, of the Florham Park-based law firm Saiber, recapped and answered questions about its 25-page report, released to the public Monday morning.

The college administration hired Saiber in late June to address questions that arose starting in late May when the board voted on a \$2.88 million contract to hire lone bidder Echelon Services to do renovations on Building D. The contract for the main academic building on campus was \$850,000 over the estimate given by CP Engineers.