

## Freeholders to pay for renovations to OCC planetarium building

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TOMS RIVER BUREAU

TOMS RIVER — The Ocean County Board of Freeholders will pay for renovations to the Robert J. Novins Planetarium building at Ocean County College, leaving the way open for a new fund-raising effort by the college foundation and board of trustees to focus on finding up to \$1.5 million for a new star projector and equipment.

"These buildings out here were all constructed with state and county money. They're all county buildings," Freeholder Director John P. Kelly said, a few minutes after he assured college officials and planetarium supporters of construction funding.

"That was part of our concern," said trustee Stephan R. Leone, who's heading the board's "Reach for the Stars" fund-raising campaign. With a commitment for help on construction costs, fund-raisers will concentrate on finding \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million for other aspects of the project, he said.

College officials said construction estimates are still in the works.

"A fresh coat of paint would make me happy. But I'd like a new addition, too. I'm sure it will be something in between," planetarium director Gloria Villalobos said.

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