

GARAGE IS NEARER FOR NEWARK PARK

**Low Bids of \$4,519,889 for
Underground Parking Are
Viewed as Satisfactory**

By MILTON HONIG
Special to The New York Times.

NEWARK, April 7—Newark officials had high hopes today that low bids totaling \$4,519,889 would mean the construction of an underground parking garage at Military Park in the city's downtown section.

Pasqual Guerrieri, chairman of the Newark Parking Authority, said the bids for the three-level, 1,000-car facility would be promptly analyzed by Frank Grad & Sons of Newark, architects and consulting engineers.

Friday morning a special City Council committee will meet for further discussions of the project. The group, headed by Councilman Philip E. Gordon, is considering a request by the Parking Authority that the city pledge its "A" credit rating behind the agency's bond to finance the garage.

Mr. Gordon said he was very pleased that the bids were in line with the engineering estimates. He added that he hoped the special committee could come up with an early recommendation for consideration by the entire City Council.

The bids, which were opened late yesterday, were somewhat lower than the last official cost estimates by the Grad concern. The major low bid of \$3,748,000 for general construction was made by the Terminal Construction Corporation of Wood-Ridge, N. J.

The remaining \$771,889 in low bids covered heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, plumbing, electric work and elevators.

The underground garage has been a much-discussed topic by city officials and business leaders for nearly thirty years. Present studies and plans were financed under an interest-free Federal loan of \$180,000. The money must be repaid if the garage is constructed.

Military Park, bounded by Broad Street, Park Place and Rector Street, is a triangular plot of 5.9 acres, but only 3.3 acres would be used for the garage. The basic construction costs include restoration of the park surface.

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