

New police headquarters gets timetable

By Ray Quintanilla

TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Construction of a new \$60 million Chicago police headquarters, on the West Side, is expected to be completed in the fall of 1996, Mayor Richard Daley said Tuesday.

The new facility, which will house administration offices, will reduce the department's presence at its current location at 11th and State Streets, officials said.

The new structure will be built at Monroe and Laflin Streets and become an anchor for a police department's plaza on the block, which already is the site of the new 911 emergency communica-

tions center, police academy, the new state forensics lab and a possible location for the new state police training center.

Daley said one of the reasons he decided to go ahead with new construction is that it's cheaper than sinking \$2.3 million into the old building every year for repairs and maintenance. The old facility was built in 1928.

"The best weapons we have in the fight against crime are information and technology," Daley said.

The city will either issue general obligation bonds or arrange a plan where they can lease the space, indefinitely, from private

developers, to get the facility constructed.

The new facility will contain offices for the police superintendent, detectives and other staff as well as modern telecommunications and computer equipment.

City officials will be reviewing construction bids for the project over the next few months and expect to break ground for the new facility in the spring.

The District 1 police station and a few courtrooms in the Cook County criminal court system won't be moving to the new building, at least in the near future, officials said. Those rooms are now housed at 11th and State Streets.