

In NJ, who will follow Chris Christie?

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TRENTON – Gov. Chris Christie's designs on the White House has triggered jockeying for position among potential successors three years before Christie's term ends.

The prospect that the Republican governor will leave office early to pursue a presidential campaign has changed the traditional timeline for New Jersey gubernatorial candidates. There's early groundwork activity already taking place from both entrenched politicians as well as outsiders such as Middletown resident Phillip Murphy, who was the U.S. ambassador to Germany for four years.

Murphy hasn't committed to a campaign but he has hired consultants on New Jersey politics.

[Take our poll: Who do you think succeeds Gov. Christie in NJ? \(/story/news/local/2014/05/13/asbury-park-press-daily-poll/9050613/\)](#)

