



United States Capitol Visitor Center

Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol, April 7, 2003

This Week - East Front (Inside the Capitol)

- **The basement corridor within the East Front Extension IS NOW CLOSED.** However, the stairwells adjacent to the barrier walls on both sides of the construction zone **will remain open** throughout the construction period. Both stairwells provide access to the First Floor only and the Senate side stairwell will continue to be used for staff-led tours.
- The elevators at each end of the construction zone, H-10 on the House side, S-7 on the Senate side, **ARE OUT OF SERVICE**. All East Front corridors affected by construction will be re-opened near the final completion stage of the CVC in 2005.
- New staff-led tour wayfinding signs have already been posted in the basement for tours coming from both the Cannon and Russell Tunnels. Additional signs have been posted to identify accessible routes around the construction zone on the basement level.
- **The 2nd and 3rd Floor corridors within the East Front are also closed.** Barrier walls have been erected to seal the construction zone and to clear the way for CVC construction activity, including improvements to vertical circulation (new elevators and stairwells) within the Capitol.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 4/07/03 through 4/11/03

- Utility work has been completed along Second Street NE between D Street NE and Massachusetts Avenue NE and normal traffic flow has resumed. Repaving activities are expected to occur during the upcoming recess, but traffic flow will be maintained in both directions while this work is accomplished.
- Test pits will continue to be excavated along portions of East Capitol Street to accommodate CVC utility work. Work began near First Street and is continuing eastward toward Second Street. Traffic will be constricted at times around the construction zone but traffic flow in both directions will be maintained at all times.
- Significant tunnel construction activity continues in New Jersey Avenue NW, along Constitution Ave. NW, along upper Northwest Drive and on the East Front Plaza.

East Front Plaza Work

- Site excavation continues on the Senate side within the northeast corner of the site.
- Construction of the CVC foundation walls is complete on the Senate side of the site and is nearing completion on the House side.
- Foundation wall construction will continue adjacent to the House side façade for two more weeks.

House Side

- Crews continue construction of a CVC tunnel connector to the existing Cannon Tunnel near the House Steps and Carriageway. **The Carriageway Door, the House Door and the House Steps will remain accessible at all times.** At the completion of the tunnel work, which is expected in two to three months, the drive loop will revert to its previous alignment adjacent to the House Carriageway.

Senate Side (Outside the Main Construction Fence)

Tunnel Construction:

- CVC tunnel construction work continues on the East Front Plaza adjacent to and within the Senate triangular parking area.
- Excavation work related to the CVC service tunnel continues in Constitution Avenue NW just east of the intersection of New Jersey Avenue NW. The tunnel work in this zone will continue for several months.
- CVC tunnel construction work continues along the east side of New Jersey Avenue NW between Constitution Avenue and C Street. The east sidewalk in this location will continue to be closed, but the west sidewalk is accessible. The street will continue to be restricted to one lane and one way traffic traveling southbound.
- The North Door, the Senate Steps and the Senate Carriageway Door remain accessible to pedestrians throughout construction.

Senate-Side Utility Work:

- Utility work along Second Street NE between Massachusetts Avenue NE and D Street NE is complete and repaving activities are expected to occur during the upcoming recess. Normal traffic flow has resumed.

Next Week – Anticipated Work – 4/14/03 through 4/18/03

East Front Plaza Work

- Excavation and foundation wall construction will continue on both the Senate and House sides of the CVC construction site. Some large equipment will continue to be situated close to the east face of the Capitol building on the House side. The East Front facade is being protected by a protective tarp that is being suspended from the Capitol roof along the portion of the building where excavation work is occurring.
- Major excavation of the site continues on the Senate side within the northeast corner of the site and approximately 250-300 truckloads of soil are removed each day.

House Side (Outside the Construction Fence)

- Crews will continue construction of a CVC connector tunnel to the existing Cannon Tunnel near the House Steps. The Carriageway Door, the House Door and the House Steps will remain accessible at all times.

Senate Side (Outside the Construction Fence)

- CVC tunnel work will continue in a portion of the East Front Plaza on the Senate side, Northwest Drive, along New Jersey Avenue NW, and in Constitution Avenue NW, just east of New Jersey Avenue NW.
- Utility work is expected to be completed on Second Street NE between Massachusetts Avenue NE and D Street NE and paving activities may begin.

*- If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact **Tom Fontana**, CVC Project Communications Officer for the Architect of the Capitol, at **(202) 228-1310**, or by e-mail at: tfontana@aoc.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on our web site at www.aoc.gov.*

- If you experience any problems to building services inside the Capitol, please contact the Capitol Building Service Center at (202) 228-8800.