



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

August 11, 2004



A view from the tower crane on the south side of the CVC site shows the progress of the granite paving stone installation (center). By the time Members of Congress return in early September, close to 65,000 8-inch-square stones will be on the plaza. Meanwhile, concrete columns and interior concrete walls for the CVC screening zone are visible at right. The curved wall marks the balcony that lines the eastern end of the Great Hall.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 8/09/04 through 8/13/04**

### **East Front Plaza Highlights:**

- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork, pour concrete, and install utilities throughout the site.
- Nearly all the steel has been installed for the roof and mezzanine of the Congressional Auditorium.
- Stone masons continue laying granite pavers near the center and north side of the CVC roof deck. Approximately 65,000 paving stones will be in place by the time Congress returns in early September.
- Placement of the upper level floor slab in the eastern half of the site has been completed.

### **East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)**

- Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the East Front Extension and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevator shafts, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.
- Workers have completed the installation of a 26,000-pound steel beam below the East Front portico.
- A second shift, for the placement of steel within the East Front, will work each weekday through the end of August.

### **Truck Tunnel Construction/Constitution Avenue**

- Crews will continue backfilling and placing concrete near the south end of the tunnel near the CVC.
- Full restoration of Constitution Ave. at New Jersey Ave. NW, including sidewalks, curbs and parking lanes, is expected to be completed by late August.

- As concrete for the tunnel roof cures and is waterproofed, crews will continue backfilling along the southern portion of the tunnel alignment where it extends into the Senate parking lot on the East Front Plaza. Within the CVC perimeter at the lowest level of the Senate Expansion Space, concrete has been placed for the truck tunnel loading dock area.
- During the next three weeks, some utility work will occur in the parking lot on the Senate Plaza near the Capitol.

### **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel**

- Crews will continue assembling formwork for the tunnel walls at the western end of the tunnel within the CVC site.



A CVC crew assembles rebar for the interior wall of the pedestrian tunnel to the Library of Congress in the southern half of the site.

## **Next Two Weeks – 8/16/04 - 8/27/04**

### **East Front Plaza Work**

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck.
- Workers will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete floor slabs for all three levels of the CVC.
- Concrete placements will occur for the roof of the Congressional Auditorium and backfilling along the north and south walls of the auditorium will be completed.

### **East Front Extension**

- Steel crews will continue to erect steel within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension and in the Carriageway below the East Front portico.
- Two shifts will continue to work through the end of the recess.

### **Truck Tunnel Construction**

- Workers will continue to backfill above the tunnel roof as concrete cures and is waterproofed. The bulk of work will occur where the tunnel passes below the Senate Plaza and at its connection point with the CVC near the Senate Steps.

### **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel**

Formwork assembly, concrete placements, waterproofing and excavation will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route.

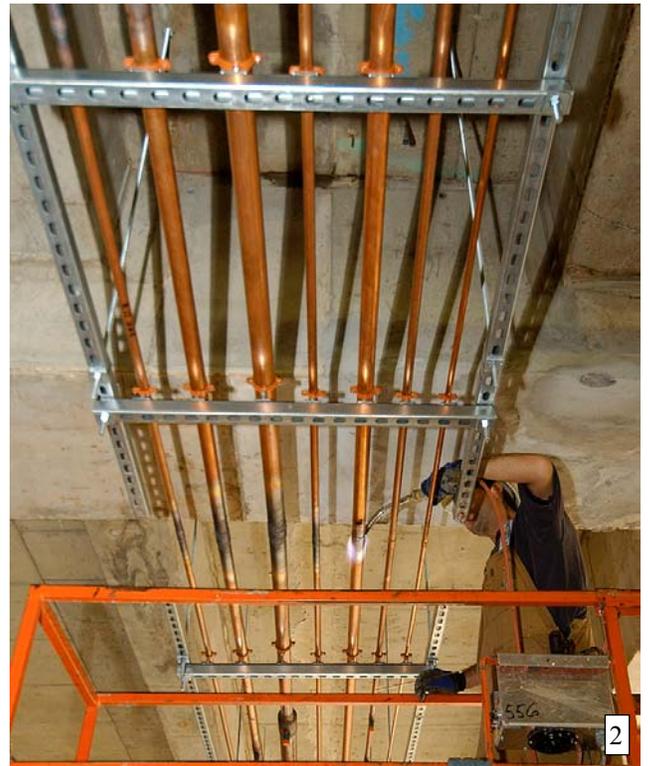
***Please see the additional CVC construction photos on the next two pages.***

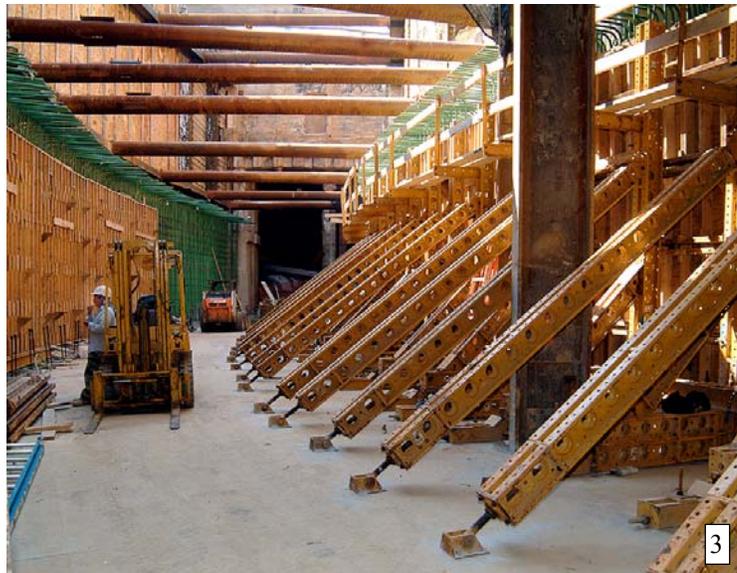
If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at [tfontana@aoc.gov](mailto:tfontana@aoc.gov). You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at [www.aoc.gov](http://www.aoc.gov).

## Current CVC Construction Activities – Aug. 9-13, 2004

### *Clockwise from right:*

- (1) Workers assemble steel rebar for the lower level floor slab in the northwest quadrant of the CVC site.
- (2) A worker connects copper water lines in the service level.
- (3) A crew brushes black sand between granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck. Granite stones will cover the western half of the East Front Plaza in time for the inaugural in January 2005.
- (4) In the center of the project site, workers assemble reinforcing steel for one of the walls inside the screening area just beyond the CVC entrances.





***Clockwise from top:***

(1) CVC crews work on erecting the concrete columns and walls for the visitor screening zone in the eastern half of the site.

(2) A view through the skylight opening on the north side of the Great Hall shows a CVC crew placing concrete for the floor slab of the Hall. The majority of concrete required for the CVC is being mixed directly on site thereby helping to keep between 15 and 30 cement trucks off the road each day.

(3) Steel braces stabilize the formwork for a concrete wall along the western half of the CVC truck tunnel. Crews have now completed placing 70 percent of the concrete for the tunnel.