



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

October 12, 2004



A CVC crew places concrete on the roof deck of the Congressional Auditorium. The steel framework for two elevator towers can be seen in the center (left and right) of the photo. The elevators will provide accessibility from the plaza level to the CVC entrances one level down.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 10/11/04 through 10/15/04

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork, pour concrete, and install utilities throughout the site.
- Stone masons have now placed more than 75,000 8-inch square granite pavers on the CVC roof deck. The pavers will cover the western half of the CVC roof deck in time for the inauguration in January 2005.
- Crews continue to place steel beams and roof decking sheets in the northeast quadrant of the site above the visitor screening zone. Only one half of the northeast quadrant remains exposed before the entire CVC is under cover.
- More than 90 percent of the interior concrete structural walls for the visitor screening zone have been completed.
- Close to 65 percent of the Congressional Auditorium's mezzanine level concrete floor slab has been placed.

East Front Extension (EFE) (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the EFE and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevator shafts, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.
- **Milestone:** New structural steel now supports much of the EFE in the location of the CVC/Capitol transition zone and all of the original concrete columns in this zone (built during the 1958-62 extension of the East Front) have been removed clearing the way for visitors to flow easily from the CVC into the Capitol at the Crypt level.
- Concrete placements will occur this week on both the north and south sides of the EFE for new air shaft walls.
- Crews will begin to demolish the Gallery-level floor slab where the ramp existed between the House and Senate sides.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- All concrete placements have been completed for the truck tunnel.
- Crews continue to backfill the area above the tunnel and have begun restoring areas along Northwest Drive.
- Crews will begin to restore the sidewalks along Northwest Drive pending the approval of mockups just completed.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Crews will continue to place concrete (more than 55 percent complete), install waterproofing and assemble formwork for the tunnel walls along the western half of the LOC tunnel within the CVC site.

Next Week – 10/18/04 – 10/22/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck.
- Trucks may begin delivering soil to begin restoration of the rectangular grassy areas along the western half of the East Front Plaza.
- Equipment will begin to arrive for the dismantling of the tower crane on the north side of the site, expected to occur 10/23-10/24/04.
- Workers will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete for the upper level floor slabs in the northeast quadrant.
- Steel crews will continue to install the columns, beams and roof decking sheets for the northeast quadrant of the CVC roof deck.



A worker (top right) secures steel for the roof deck in the northeast quadrant of the site. The openings at left are part of the CVC entrance area. Eventually, 12,000 visitors a day, nearly 3.5 million a year, will pass through this zone before entering the CVC's Great Hall.

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.

Truck Tunnel Construction

- Workers will continue to backfill above the tunnel roof along Northwest Drive and where the tunnel passes below the Senate Plaza and at its connection point with the CVC near the Senate Steps. Restoration of portions of Northwest Drive and sidewalks will continue.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Formwork assembly, concrete placements and waterproofing will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route. Pedestrian access will continue along the east side of the work zone on First St. SE. Existing traffic patterns will continue.



A worker guides roof steel in place above the CVC entrance structure.



A crew places concrete for the mezzanine level of the Congressional Auditorium.