



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

March 8, 2004



Crews assemble steel rebar for the floor slab of the Congressional Auditorium in the easternmost portion of the CVC site.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 3/08/04 through 3/12/04

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- Crews will continue testing waterproofing applications on the southern half of the roof deck. Meanwhile, concrete placement on the northern half of the roof deck will near completion this week.
- Concrete placements will continue on the Upper and Lower levels inside the southwest quadrant.
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork, excavate and install utilities throughout the site.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Crews will continue to erect structural steel inside the East Front. As steel is erected, demolition crews will remove adjacent portions of the floor slabs and interior walls to clear the way for elevator shafts, stairwells and new mechanical systems.
- Crews will continue demolishing some of the large concrete structural columns supporting the East Front Center Steps.



A remote-controlled mini hoe-ram is being used to demolish one of the large concrete columns below the East Front Center Steps. Eventually, this area will be occupied by a grand staircase and escalators that will bring visitors from the CVC into the Capitol.

Senate Side: Truck Tunnel Construction

- Demolition crews are expected to break through the final concrete barrier separating the CVC site and the tunnel.
- Crews continue to assemble rebar and formwork for the tunnel walls and roof deck. Concrete pours and waterproofing applications will occur for the next several weeks. More than 50 percent of the concrete for the tunnel has been placed.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- The traffic lanes may shift slightly this week as crews continue to drill piles across First Street SE. The piles are necessary to support the sides of the LOC tunnel walls before excavation occurs.
- Crews will continue assembling the formwork for the floor slab and walls of the tunnel within the CVC site.

Next Week – 3/15/04 - 3/19/04

East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to waterproof the roof slab, lay rebar, and place concrete on the roof deck in the northern half of the site.
- Crews will continue install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete floor slabs for all three below-ground levels of the CVC.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Steel crews will also 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 Center Steps. Demolition of major structural columns will continue.

Senate Side (Truck Tunnel Zone)

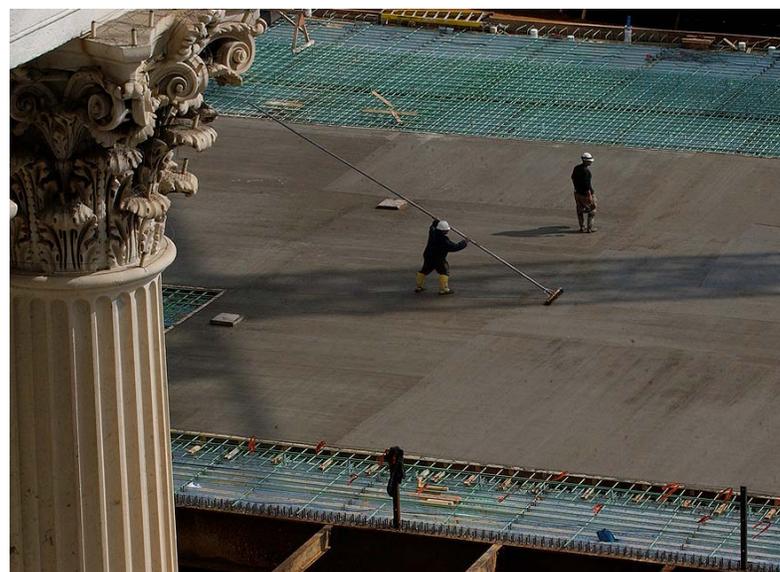
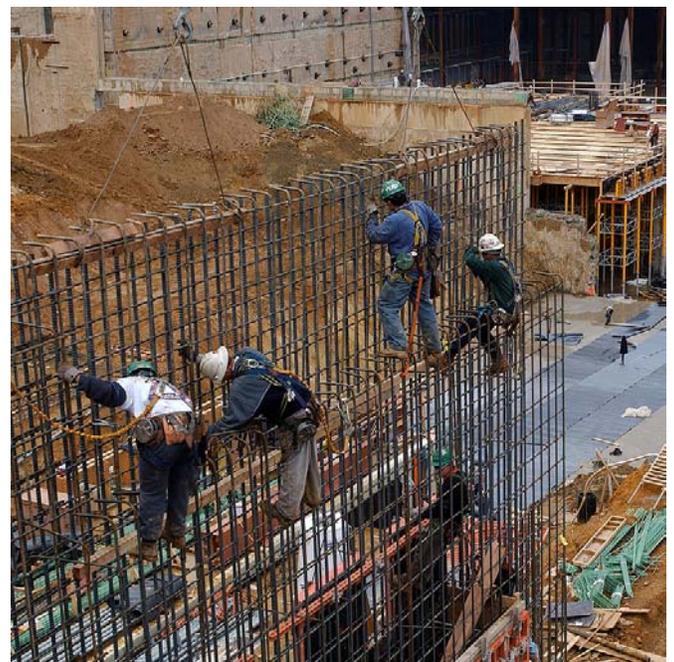
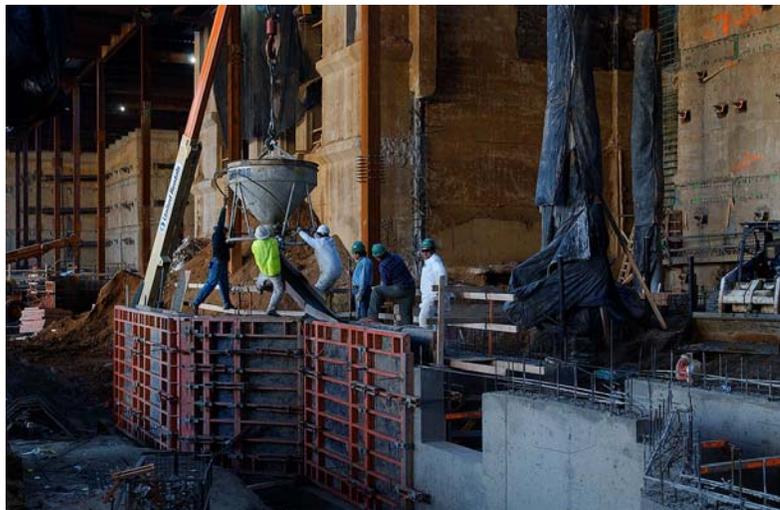
- Crews will continue to erect formwork and place and waterproof concrete in all areas of the truck tunnel construction zone.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Excavation may begin across First Street SE and adjacent to the northwest corner of the LOC building
- Formwork assembly will continue within the CVC site for the tunnel floor slab and walls.



Crews guide the placement of concrete on the northern half of the CVC roof deck. The last major placement of concrete is expected to occur March 9, 2003.



Clockwise from left: A worker uses a broom to smooth out some rough spots in newly-placed concrete in front of the Senate wing; a crew guides into place a large bucket containing concrete for an interior CVC utility trench wall; a view from the Capitol Dome (far bottom right of photo) shows waterproofing material (the dark areas) covering the entire roof deck above the House expansion space. The concrete deck in the center zone is being used to stage materials and equipment to be used to construct the interior spaces. Formwork for the Lower Level in the southeast quadrant (left-center of photo) is nearly complete; a crew assembles a rebar cage for the north wall of the Congressional Auditorium.



Clockwise from top left: A worker grinds the end of a steel beam that will be used to support a portion of the East Front Extension while demolition of structural elements continue; a bulldozer and a back-hoe work in tandem to remove the dirt ramp that, until last week, provided vehicles access to the western half of the CVC site. The removal of the ramp will clear the way for construction of concrete columns in the northeast quadrant of the site; a wide view of the central zone of the CVC site shows formwork being erected for the Lower Level floor slab (top-center) and a concrete placement occurring for the slab on grade (bottom-center). Work on the Congressional Auditorium can be seen in the top left corner of the photo; a crew applies a hot tar on a fiber membrane as part of the waterproofing application process for the CVC roof deck.