



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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Before leaving the Capitol following his inauguration, President George W. Bush stood on the East Front center steps to review the procession of troops as they marched across new granite paving stones that now cover the western half of the East Front Plaza. CVC contractors worked aggressively during the last several months to prepare the plaza for inaugural activities. The plaza has been closed again to accommodate CVC construction.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 1/24/05 through 1/28/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Highlights:

- The East Front Plaza has been secured again (following temporary access for the inauguration) to accommodate CVC activities, including skylight installation, material deliveries, and continuing work to install granite pavers.
- East Capitol Street, between First and Second Streets, was closed Saturday, Jan. 22, for utility work (see category below).
- Sequence 2 (build-out and finishes) workers continue to fireproof steel structural elements throughout the site.
- Crews continue assembling the formwork for the pedestrian paths that lead to the CVC entrance from First Street.
- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and erect interior masonry block work.

East Front Extension

- All major steel erection and demolition activities are complete inside the East Front. However, some minor pockets of demolition activity will still occur and may cause temporary noise disturbances to adjacent offices. Sequence 2 contractors will continue installing mechanical systems and utilities in this zone.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Materials and equipment continue to be mobilized to East Capitol Street in preparation for the construction of the primary CVC utility tunnel. In order for this work to occur as expeditiously as possible and to minimize safety hazards, East Capitol Street, between First and Second Streets, has been closed to vehicular traffic and will remain closed through October 15, 2005.
- Pedestrian and wheelchair access will be maintained at all times along the south side of East Capitol Street. Access to the Metro bus stops on the north and south sides of East Capitol Street will be maintained until further notice.



A view of the East Front Plaza as it appeared Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2005, the afternoon before the Presidential Inauguration. Crews worked diligently to remove tons of snow from both the East and West Fronts of the Capitol to clear the way for inaugural activities.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- All concrete for the tunnel has been placed.
- Pending dry weather, final waterproofing and backfilling work will be completed at the easternmost end of the tunnel. Final grading and landscaping work to restore the zone will be completed over the next few weeks.

Next Week – 1/31/04 – 2/04/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof in the eastern half of the site.
- Sequence 2 crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, and backfill and grade the zones near the CVC entrances. Skylight installation may resume.
- Sequence 1 crews will continue demobilizing equipment and trailers from the House and Senate eggs.

East Front Extension

- Some minor demolition activities may occur related to “punchlist” items.
- Crews will continue to install mechanical systems and utilities.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Crews will continue to stage materials and equipment along the street. Pedestrian and wheelchair access will be maintained along the south side of the street.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Landscape restoration work is expected to begin above the easternmost end of the tunnel within the LOC grounds.

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@ao.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.