



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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As sunlight pours in through the skylight above, masons continue setting floor stone in the Great Hall. More than 80 percent of the floor is now complete.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 8/07/06 through 8/11/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Mason teams have now set approximately 80 percent of the floor stone in the Great Hall.
- Masons continue installing sandstone to the barrel vaulted ceiling that rises up through the East Front transition zone. Stone is now complete on three of four arches that span the monumental stair and escalators.
- Masons have nearly completed setting stone in the Crypt level within the East Front transition zone and stone installation is complete on the basement level. Abatement of lead paint on the original sandstone façade is nearly complete on all levels of the East Front clearing the way for installation of the metal framework that will support the stone on the Rotunda and Gallery levels.
- In the Exhibition Hall, masons are nearly complete setting stone on the steps of the virtual House and Senate Theaters, the only remaining stonework in the Exhibition Hall. Crews have completed installing the ceiling insulation and plaster (see photo next page). Temporary dehumidification efforts continue in the Exhibit Hall so that crews can begin installing acoustic fabric ceiling panels.
- A millwork contractor continues installing wood ceiling trim in the Orientation Theaters. Larger wood ceiling panels for both theaters are expected to arrive this week and installation should begin early next week.
- Crews have completed setting curb stones along the trees-lined pedestrian walkways leading to the CVC entrances and are nearly complete setting the stone to the exterior walls of the Congressional Auditorium.
- Stone installation is complete in both the House and Senate stairwell atria on all three levels. Installation of open circular staircases will begin once the scaffolding within the atria is removed. This will occur upon completion of the ceiling plaster and paint work around the skylights above both atria.



Masons set the stepping stones for the Virtual Senate Theater in the CVC's Exhibition Hall.

- Ceiling drywall installation is complete in the Food Service area to the extent that crews can begin installation of acoustic fabric ceiling panels to the ceiling soffits above the seating area and servery areas as soon as temporary dehumidification of this area is established. Crews have completed the necessary construction of temporary partitions to contain the air within the Food Service area.
- Masons continue setting pavers in a decorative pattern around the north historic fountain and final blockwork is ongoing inside the bronze basins. The basins will be fully functional misting fountains when the work is completed. Masons continue rebuilding the historic seatwalls around the House and Senate "eggs." A mockup of a decorative paving pattern around the south seatwall has been completed and will be reviewed later this week.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Late this week, demolition crews in the LOC tunnel are expected to break through into the cellar of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress at the northwest corner. This area will serve as the transition zone between the Jefferson Building and the LOC tunnel coming from the Visitor Center.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- CVC crews have completed installing the necessary insulation to the new utility lines where they connect to the old lines in the Second Street tunnel. Chilled water and steam are now available to the air handling units in the CVC. Over the weeks ahead, units will come on line and will start to provide conditioned air to various zones within the CVC.

Next Week – 8/14/06 – 8/18/06

CVC, East Front Plaza Work, East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Installation of millwork will continue in the North and South Orientation Theaters.
- Floor stone installation will continue in the Great Hall.
- Masons should complete stone installation to the steps that lead to the House and Senate Theaters in the Exhibit Hall.
- Installation of base, wall and ceiling stone will continue inside the East Front transition zone.
- Ceiling work will continue in upper and lower level corridors throughout the CVC, and in the main lobby just east of the Orientation Theaters.
- The first of 21 air handling units for the CVC is expected to come on line.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall and ductwork, and continue paint priming in various zones throughout the House and Senate Expansion Space. In the House space, crews have begun installation of metal framework to support interior stone in several areas.

For additional information about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aoc.gov. Other project information is available on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.