



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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Aerial photo of the CVC project site as it appeared Wednesday, March 14, 2007. Overall, the CVC project is approximately 92 percent complete with most of the interior work now encompassing the installation of finishes such as stone, carpeting, millwork, fabric panels, bronze elements and light fixtures. Most of the landscaping will occur later this spring and summer while interior building systems are tested and commissioned.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 3/19/07 through 3/23/07

- In the Exhibition Hall, workers have installed all of the document cases within both sides of the Wall of Aspirations, including many of the protective glass case doors. Later this week plaster workers will begin creating the faux marble columns in the virtual House and Senate Theaters.
- Work is progressing in the transition zone between the Library of Congress tunnel and the Jefferson Building. Installation of fascia and wall marble is occurring at the main stairs and plaster work is occurring at the cellar level. Waterproofing is occurring at the tunnel “lid” near the Jefferson Building.
- In the Food Service Area workers have installed the main cabinet components in the servery area and are now awaiting the delivery of the stone countertops. All of the flooring is complete and the air handling system for this area is now being balanced and tested.
- Masons are setting an average of 80 sandstone blocks per day in the East Front of the Capitol and continue setting stone in the south stair, around the historic bronze Columbus Doors at the exterior wall of the East Front, and around the elevator openings at the Rotunda level. Two decorative archways have been completed.
- In the East Front transition zone the escalator contractor continues installing the secondary mechanical elements to bring the escalators to an operational status. Bronze façade cladding components for the escalators have been delivered.

- Masons are nearly complete setting floor stone in the upper level west lobby in the area previously occupied by the escalators and are moving north to an upper level corridor adjacent to the Great Hall. This is the last major block of floors space to be set with stone.
- Ceiling drywall installation and plaster work continue at the Crypt level within the East Front.
- Millwork is ongoing in the Congressional Auditorium. Workers continue to install millwork to the walls in corridors adjacent to the Auditorium.
- Masons have completed most of the stone work on the walls flanking the north and south monumental stairs and along the north and south entrance approaches. Masons have completed setting granite pavers (for areas that are available) along the north and south stepped walkways between the two rows of trees on both sides. Workers have begun placing the gravel bed for the north entrance ramp. Concrete placements for the ramp may begin later this week. An aggregate sidewalk, similar to other sidewalks around the Capitol campus, will mark the finished surface.
- Steel and concrete placements are complete for the structure and slabs of a spiral staircase in the Senate Expansion Space. Three of four staircase “runs” are in place for the spiral stair in the House Expansion Space.



Masons are nearly complete with stonework at the face of the CVC entrance zone.

Next Week – 3/26/07 – 3/30/07

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Floor stone installation will be completed in the upper level west lobby at the base of the CVC transition zone and will move into the elevator lobby at that level. Masons will also set floor stones in a corridor near the north orientation theater. Floor stone covers 126,000 square feet in the CVC, equivalent to three football fields.
- Escalator assembly will continue in the transition zone between the CVC and the East Front of the Capitol. Ceiling work will continue at the Crypt level and stone installation will continue at the Rotunda level.
- In the Great Hall, workers may begin dismantling the scaffolding that was necessary to balance and test the air handling system in the ceiling. Masons will then resume setting stones in the water fountains at the base of the Great Hall east staircases.
- Workers will continue installing the glass floor panels in the Exhibition Hall. Ceiling panel installation will continue on the north side of the Hall.
- Plaster work will continue in the Virtual House Theater.
- Crews will complete installation of sealing the concrete floor panels in the Congressional Auditorium. Also in the Auditorium, workers will continue installing ceiling millwork over speaker components.
- Installation of kitchen equipment and cabinetry components will continue in the Food Service Area. All flooring and wall finishes are completed. Mechanical crews are expected to complete balancing and testing the Food Service air handling system.
- Masons will continue setting exterior stone along the south side CVC entrance zone, particularly for the piers between the bronze railings that line the curving path at the Plaza level.
- Installation of wood and bronze door frames will continue in many areas throughout the CVC.
- Masons have completed close to 80 percent of floor stone work in both CVC gift shops.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at fontana@aoc.gov or visit the project web site at www.aoc.gov. Be sure to click on the “Capitol Visitor Center” link on the homepage.