



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

July 30, 2007

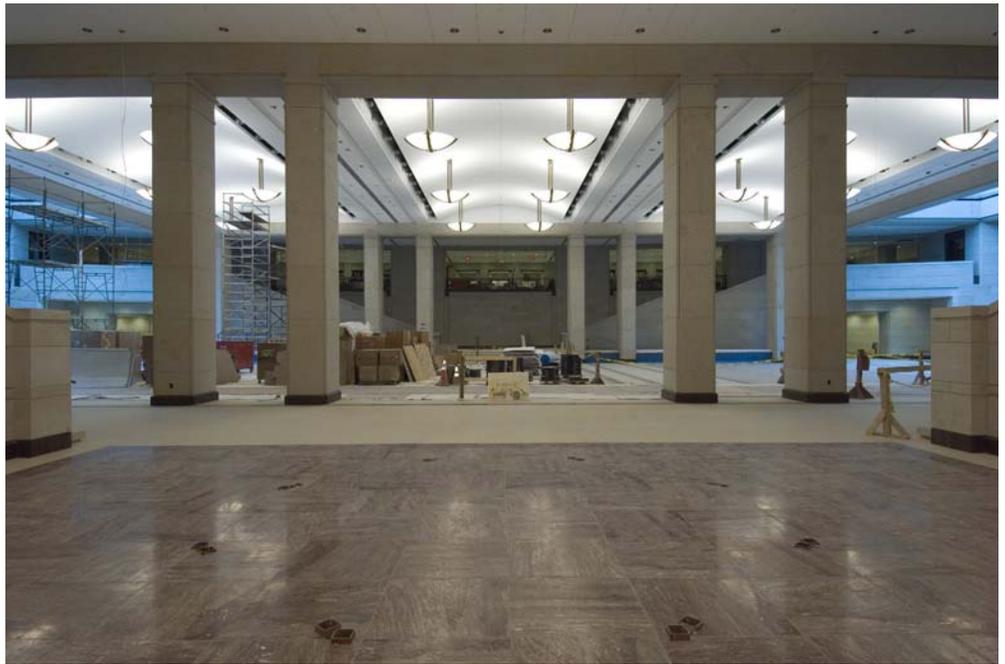


From the Capitol Dome, this view of the CVC roof deck (more commonly known as the East Front Plaza) shows the progress of restoration activities. Most of the construction trailers have been removed from the Senate “Egg” (upper left quadrant of photo) and more than an acre of sod has been planted. Historical bronze lamp-posts are being re-installed in their original locations and will be accented by a historical decorative paving pattern (center left). All of the centrally-located curving pathways that characterize the original Olmsted landscape have been restored as pedestrian-only zones. The CVC’s six skylights allow natural light to bathe interior spaces while providing visitors dramatic views of the Capitol Dome. Most of the stone material remaining on the deck will be installed in the East Front of the Capitol.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 7/30/07 through 8/03/07**

- Wall stone installation is nearly complete in the East Front of the Capitol. Floor stone installation continues at the Crypt level and is 90 percent complete. Electricians have begun installing light fixture components in that area.
- Installation of stone countertops in the Food Service Area is expected to begin this week.
- Floor protection covering continues to be removed in corridors and other areas adjacent to the Great Hall to allow the floor stone to be cleaned in preparation of the follow-on inspection process.
- Installation of custom bronze doors is complete in the CVC entrance zones and adjacent vestibule areas.
- In the Exhibition Hall, a contractor has nearly completed installation of a raised glass floor and will continue sealing the joints between all the glass panels. Installation of display case components continues.
- Millwork installation is nearing completion in the Congressional Auditorium. All of the seats have been installed at the lower level. The balcony level seating in the Auditorium will be installed in August. Millwork is now complete on the eight 28-foot-high panels in front of the projection screen.
- Air handling systems testing and balancing is continuing in the House and Senate Expansion Spaces.
- A ceiling contractor has completed the replacement of millwork ceiling panels in the North Orientation Theater and scaffolding is now being erected in the South Orientation Theater.
- Light fixture installation is complete in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Millwork is nearly 90 percent complete in meeting rooms within the Senate Expansion Space and cabinetry components within the meeting rooms are now being turned over to electricians who will begin installing audio/visual components.

- A crew has completed the framework to the underside of the three-level spiral staircase in the Senate Stairwell Atria (see photo below). Installation of drywall on the framework will begin this week.
- Carpet installation is complete in the House Radio and TV Gallery. Carpet installation is nearing completion in the meeting rooms adjacent to the House Hearing Room. Painting is nearly complete in corridors throughout the Expansion Spaces.kkd
- Sod placements have been completed in the Senate Egg to restore much of that landscape to its pre-construction state.
- A crew continues to install bronze railing elements along the stepped walkways leading down to the CVC entrances.
- Masons continue laying pavers in a decorative pattern adjacent to seatwalls around the House and Senate eggs. The original historical bronze lanterns are being installed in the Senate seatwall.



**All of the floor and wall stone work is complete inside the Great Hall. All 22 decorative light fixtures have been installed and most of the flooring protection has been removed from the Hall's 20,000 square feet of floor stone. The area in the foreground will be occupied by the original plaster model of the Statue of Freedom, which is currently located in the cellar rotunda of the Russell Senate Office Building where it remains relatively hidden to the general public.**

## **Next Week – 8/6/07 – 8/10/07**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Floor stone installation will near completion at the Crypt level within the East Front. Ceiling work and light fixture installation will also near completion in this area.
- Workers will continue sealing the glass floor panels in the Exhibition Hall while an exhibit contractor continues installing interior display case components.
- Millwork installation will continue in the Congressional Auditorium. Seat installation may begin at the balcony level.
- Mechanical crews will continue testing and balancing the CVC's air handling system.
- Installation of wood and bronze doors will continue in several areas throughout the CVC.
- Ceiling framework will continue in the House Hearing Room. Carpet installation will near completion in the adjacent meeting rooms.
- The contractor continues millwork installation in the Senate meeting rooms located within the Senate Expansion Space. Workers will continue installing the drywall to the framework on the spiral staircase in the Senate Expansion Space.
- Grading activities and installation of irrigation systems will continue on the sloping terrain near the CVC entrances to prepare the ground for sod placement and other landscaping activities. Crews will continue to install pavers in decorative patterns around the House and Senate Eggs. Installation of historic bronze lanterns will continue on the Senate seatwall.



**Workers complete the metal framework below a spiral staircase in the Senate Expansion Space. The staircase is illuminated by a skylight that will also provide a view of the Capitol Dome.**

*For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at [fontana@oc.gov](mailto:fontana@oc.gov) or visit the project web site at [www.oc.gov](http://www.oc.gov). Be sure to click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link on the homepage.*