



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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With wall stone essentially complete in the East Front Extension of the Capitol, crews are now completing the installation of the ceiling grid at both the Gallery level (pictured above) and the Rotunda level one floor below. The access between the House and Senate Galleries through this central zone will be re-established when the CVC opens next year. While a great deal of CVC-related demolition occurred in the East Front Extension, this part of the Capitol was constructed between 1958 and 1962 and, therefore, no significant historic areas were impacted.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 10/22/07 through 10/26/07**

- Clean-up crews continue to prepare interior spaces for the follow-on inspection process. Masons are now completing final grout work in the Great Hall and in the CVC transition zone below the Center Steps Carriageway.
- In the East Front, ceiling framing is nearly complete at the Gallery level (*see photo above*) and more than 50 percent complete at the Rotunda level. Ceiling framework is also nearly complete at the East Front elevator lobby in the upper level of the CVC directly below the Carriageway transition zone.
- In the Great Hall, electricians continue to install electrical wire alongside some of the structural support cables below the skylights. The wire will provide power to small spotlights that will illuminate the floor space directly below the skylights during evening hours.
- At the CVC entrance zones, masons have completed setting pavers for the CVC's north entrance plaza and continue working on the south plaza. The paving work immediately in front of the south entrance doors has been completed.
- In the main lower level corridors north and south of the CVC Restaurant, a crew has completed the installation of eight bronze doors that separate public space from Congressional space.
- In the CVC Restaurant, workers continue to install fixtures and stainless steel servery bins while professional cleaning crews continue to scrub and polish equipment in preparation for the follow-on inspections.



**New custom light fixtures have been installed in the Carriageway below the Center Steps. Concrete slabs and columns that had occupied this zone were removed clearing the way for a new central stair and two escalators that connect the CVC to the Capitol.**

- Masons have completed setting the stone slabs for the marble feature walls in both the House and Senate stairwell atria. Metal workers continue to install the bronze hand rails for each staircase. Crews may begin this week installing the terrazzo stairs treads in the Senate-side atrium.
- An excavation crews continues grading the east end of the north entrance zone near First Street NE to prepare the zone for the remaining work on a low retaining wall, soil placements and the final plantings.
- Bronze workers continue to install bronze cladding around custom doors and window openings.
- All of the major plaster and stone work is complete in the tunnel to the Library of Congress and in the portion of the transition zone that lies within the Jefferson Building. Masons continue working on the remaining stone work in the transition/screening zone just west of the Jefferson Building.
- Electricians have begun inspections of all of the CVC light fixtures.

## **Next Week – 10/29/07 – 11/2/07**

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

- Masons will continue installing granite pavers at the south end of the CVC entrance plaza.
- Workers will near completion of the ceiling framework at the Gallery Level in the East Front Extension of the Capitol.
- Mechanical crews will continue testing and balancing the CVC's mechanical systems. Technicians will continue to test the CVC's complex fire and life-safety systems.
- Installation of bronze cladding will continue around door thresholds and window frames near the CVC entrance zone and the Congressional Auditorium. The majority of custom door installation work is now complete throughout the site.
- Workers are expected to complete the installation of the bronze hand rails in the House Stairwell Atrium while a flooring crew installs the pre-cast terrazzo stair treads in the Senate Stairwell Atrium.
- Preparations may begin in the LOC Tunnel for the installation of the terrazzo floor.



**Many corridors throughout the CVC have been cleaned in preparation of the inspection process.**

*For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at [tfontana@oc.gov](mailto:tfontana@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.*