



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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A 10-foot-tall touchable model of the Capitol Dome (inset) will greet visitors as they enter the CVC Exhibition Hall. All of the architectural and artistic details of both the exterior and interior of the Dome, including the Rotunda paintings as seen above, have been faithfully replicated in a 1:20 scale.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 11/5/07 through 11/9/07

- Clean-up crews continue to prepare interior spaces for the follow-on inspection process. Carpet repair work was completed in the North and South Orientation Theaters and the theater seats have been reinstalled.
- In the Great Hall, small spotlights have been installed below the skylights to illuminate the floor space below during evening hours. All major finishing work is complete in the Great Hall.
- At the CVC entrance zones, masons are essentially complete with the installation of granite pavers at the south entrance plaza area and are now working on detail edge work.
- All of the bench components for the Exhibition Hall have been delivered to that location and the benches for the Virtual House and Senate Theaters have been installed. Light boxes have been installed on the west wall.
- In the CVC Restaurant, workers continue to install fixtures and stainless steel servery bins while professional cleaning crews continue to wash wall stone, dust millwork (see lower photo next page), polish bronze elements, and buff floors in preparation for the follow-on inspections.
- In the Senate stairwell atrium, masons have completed the major stonework at lowest level of the atrium and are continuing to install the pre-cast terrazzo stair treads to the concrete base stair treads. In the House atrium, metal workers continue to install the bronze hand and cap rails along the spiral staircase in preparation for the follow-on terrazzo work.



As seen in this photo taken in late October from a camera on top of the Jefferson Building dome, the Capitol Visitor Center has revived, to a great extent, the pedestrian-friendly, park-like setting designed by renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted in 1874.

- In the East Front, ceiling framework continues at the Rotunda and Gallery levels.
- 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 and ceiling framework activities have begun in that zone.
- Technicians continue inspections of audio-visual systems and fire and life-safety components throughout the CVC.

Next Week – 11/12/07 – 11/16/07

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Punch-list work will continue throughout interior spaces as millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, carpeting, doors, and other finish materials are inspected.
- The AOC Fire Marshal is expected to begin the final testing process for the fire and life-safety systems.
- Workers will continue installing 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.
- Masons will continue work on paver edge details at the south entrance plaza.
- Installation of bronze cladding will continue around door thresholds and window frames near the CVC entrance zone.
- Workers are expected to complete the installation of the bronze hand rails in the House Stairwell Atrium while masons continue to install the pre-cast terrazzo stair treads in the Senate Stairwell Atrium.
- Ceiling work will continue in the LOC Tunnel to clear the way for installation of the terrazzo floor later this month.



A worker polishes a millwork wall panel in the CVC Restaurant seating area. Clean-up activities dominate the work in the CVC public spaces.

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