



Welcome to Wheaton Revitalization News!

Wheaton Revitalization News is an email distribution list that will provide frequent updates to the surrounding community on the Wheaton Revitalization project. The purpose of this distribution list is to provide you with project updates and construction activities. For additional information on the Wheaton Revitalization Project please visit <http://www.wheatonproject.com>

Look Ahead - Week of November 5 to November 11

Executive Summary

The project continues to track on schedule and on budget. Mass excavation for the building and garage foundations continues and is scheduled to finish in early-January 2018. Excavation and installation of the Support of Excavation system are the two major work activities at the site.

The Support of Excavation (SOE) system continues to advance as the ongoing excavation deepens the hole. At present, the depth of the excavation has exceeded 35-feet in places - advancing towards 55-feet which is the bottom of the hole. (See photos)

Vibrations at Tie Back Locations

Vibrations noted at one building along Triangle Lane were reported in our last weekly update. Since then, no additional vibrations have been noted, reported, or measured. Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) conducted a thorough "after action debriefing" with all professional disciplines including geotechnical engineer, foundations engineer, and drilling team and reached a hypothesis that the drill encountered a bolder causing an unusual and unexpected vibration.

An after-action plan included placement of a seismic recording device (in the building noting vibrations) complete with an alert system to notify the engineers in the event of additional unusual vibrations. The after-action plan also included re-inspection of the affected building interior and exterior in comparison to preconstruction surveys. No unusual distresses were noted.

Post Script: No additional vibrations have been noted, reported, or recorded on the seismic meter.

Follow the Excavation via the Project Camera

A camera has been installed to view construction on the site. **Click here** to access the camera.

Demolition of the Mid-County Regional Services Center Building

The Mid-County Regional Services Center Building vacated on August 31 and will be demolished as part of the planned Plaza development south of Reddie Drive. Building demolition is scheduled in mid-December 2017. The building has been decommissioned including disconnection and removal of public utilities (water, gas, electric, CATV). To safeguard the site, a temporary fence has been installed.

Service providers formerly located in the Mid-County Regional Services Building have relocated as noted in the *Special Bulletin*.

Installation of Tie-Back Anchors & Support of Excavation System (SOE)

The Support of Excavation (SOE) continues to advance with the depth of excavation. Installation of tie-back anchors (see photo) continue as the excavation deepens. To further ensure safety, hydraulic “pull-out” testing of tie back anchors continues (see photo). The tie back anchors are tested with the use of a hydraulic jack that is calibrated to exert a specified “pull-force” on the grouted tie-back anchor. Elongation of the anchor cables is measured and recorded - and compared to “allowable and expected elongation” to determine whether the anchor has properly and sufficiently engaged (set). This test ensures embeddedness and the subsequent integrity of the anchor.

In all, three (3) tiers of tie-back anchors will be installed as excavation advances to the bottom of the hole. Installation of the second tier of tie back anchors started last week and continues. As noted in previous reports, tie-back anchors are an integral part of the Support of Excavation system. The Support of Excavation system will advance to the bottom of the hole as it follows the excavation. This will allow for construction of the building’s foundation in a safe stable environment for both the workforce and public.

Monitoring Support of Excavation

To ensure the utmost level of safety related to the excavation activity, numerous monitoring (survey) points have been installed around the perimeter of the site and are checked daily. Additionally, seven (7) Inclinometers Stations have been installed to independently monitor for slope stability. Inclinometers are electronic devices lowered 60-feet deep (10-feet below the bottom of the hole) that measure movement. Inclinometer readings are taken twice weekly, at minimum, and compared to survey monitoring. No unusual movement has been detected.

Mass Excavation

Mass excavation for the building foundation continues. At present, the contractor has excavated upwards of 35-feet deep (see photo), and continues to excavate daily. The bottom of the hole is expected to be reached in early-January 2018, weather permitting.

Approximately forty (40) dump trucks daily are assigned the task of hauling away excavated soils, making several trips daily. All trucks are entering and exiting the site using the construction entrance along Grandview Avenue. Thus far, excavation is advancing faster than scheduled due to the recent stretch of unseasonably favorable weather.

Dust Control

Dust has been less of an issue as the hole deepens. Nevertheless, the contractor sweeps daily using a power broom and continually sweeps Grandview Avenue and the surrounding area. A vacuum street sweeper will be brought on-

site to assist with dust and dirt controls. Further, a periodic wash down of Grandview Avenue will occur as well. The project team will continue daily housekeeping to control dust and dirt.

All soils hauled offsite are tested in compliance with MDE requirements to ensure “clean soils” with no contamination leave the site.

Site Dewatering

Mass excavation and construction of the building foundation requires the lowering of the groundwater table, which is generally 35 feet below the existing ground surface. The dewatering process will temporarily lower the groundwater roughly 25 feet to allow for construction. Dewatering is currently underway 24/7 and will continue over the next 22-months at which time pumping will discontinue and groundwater will restore to its normal levels.

Meeting with Local Businesses

A meeting with the local business community was held on Wednesday, Nov.1 at the fire station located at Georgia Avenue and Arcola Ave. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the status of construction, the Department of Finance reported on the status of the Local Small Business Assistance Program, and the County’s Public Information Office (PIO) presented on current initiatives to promote the Wheaton area through a robust outreach plan.

Community issues noted at the meeting were parking, traffic, and lighting. MCDOT will work closely with the project team to address construction impacts and improve local lighting. Additional lighting is planned along Triangle Lane and adjacent to the former Regional Services Building.

Administrative Preparations

The Contractor, Architect, Developer, and Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) are busy exchanging and reviewing detailed submittals to ensure strict compliance with project specifications and all applicable building codes. In all, over 2,000 separate submittals will be developed, exchanged, and reviewed by the project team. No construction is permitted to proceed until all related material submittals, craftsman qualifications, testing, and Quality Assurance/Quality Control has been approved.

Upcoming and Ongoing Activities

- Mass excavation and disposal of excess soils.
- Support of Excavation including placement of lagging boards and tie-back anchors.
- Hydraulic testing of tie-back anchors.
- Monitoring Inclinometer stations for movement.
- Testing of all soils before hauling offsite.
- Testing and monitoring of groundwater discharge.



Excavation Advances along Triangle Lane



Hydraulic Testing of Embedded Tie Back Anchor

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