



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 October 29 to November 4

Executive Summary

The project continues to track slightly ahead of 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 activities of work at the site.

The Support of Excavation (SOE) system advances with the depth of excavation to provide stability to all surrounding areas. Currently, the depth of the excavation has exceeded 30 feet in places - advancing towards 55 feet which is the bottom of the hole (see photos).

Vibrations Possible

Vibrations at one building along Triangle Lane were reported in our last weekly update. Since then, no additional vibrations have been noted or reported. Montgomery County's DOT 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 required re-inspection of the affected building's interior and exterior in comparison to preconstruction surveys. No distresses were noted.

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 Reedy Drive. Building demolition is scheduled for mid-December 2017. The

building has been decommissioned including disconnection and removal of public utilities (water, gas, electric, CATV). A temporary fence has been installed to safeguard the site.

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 continues to advance with the depth of excavation. Installation of tie-back anchors (see photo) continue as the excavation deepens. Likewise, hydraulic “pull-out” testing of tie back anchors is in progress (see photo). A hydraulic jack is calibrated to exert a specified “pull-force” on the grouted tie back anchor. Elongation of the anchor is measured and recorded and compared to “allowable and expected elongation”. The extent of elongation under the specific imposed hydraulic load determines whether the anchor is fully engaged (set) or must be replaced. 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 has commenced. 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 along with excavation to allow for construction of the building’s foundation.

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 inserted 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. Currently, the contractor has excavated upwards of 30 feet deep (see photo), and continues excavating 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 to 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. The project team will continue daily with ambitious and unrelenting efforts 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 stop and groundwater will restore to its normal levels.

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:

- Excavation and disposal of excess soils.
- Support of Excavation including placement of lagging boards and tie-back anchors.
- Testing of all soils before hauling offsite.
- Testing and monitoring of groundwater discharge.



Hydraulic Jack-out Testing of Embedded Tie Back Anchor



Tie Back Drill Rig (background)

Grout Operation (foreground)

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