

From the Director's Desk

As you drive by 35 West Main Street you can see that the steel erectors are finishing up their work. The decking has been installed on the floors and the roof. The building has really taken shape since the steel has been installed.

What's hard to see as you drive by is the work on waterproofing the foundation. This is important to prevent groundwater from infiltrating the building. The material is carefully applied and then inspected before the next steps are taken.

Other activities on site relate to all the soil that has been displaced during the work so far. Backfilling is the process of replacing or reusing the soil that's been removed or loosened during construction. During this process the soil is compacted to strengthen and support the new structure. The backfill is also inspected to make sure the soil is sufficiently compacted.

In upcoming weeks you'll see the mockup wall taking shape. That's the small wall close to West Main Street that serves as a reference point for the construction crew and includes the step-by-step procedures for constructing the outside of the building. The crew will also be working on foundation drains to direct water away from the building and installing temporary lighting under the steel decking.



Margaret Cardella