

Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Phase 2 Improvements Project Update December 2023



Work Completed

Site

- Investigation for underground utility installations began and will continue for a few months.
- Four trees in the Zocalo are being prepared or earth-balling, protecting the roots, prior to their move.
- Biofiltration ponds on the south side of the property are being constructed to slowly filter storm water.
- Site grading at each end of the building was prepared for the foundation of the building expansion.
- Austin Energy (AE) Chilled Water District Cooling Network Connection project completed soil testing. Excavating and tunneling in the parking lot began.

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Building

- The central utility plant building in the parking lot was partially demolished so a new enclosed structure can be built to house mechanical equipment.

Work Proposed or Ongoing

Site

- Underground utility installations will continue for a few months.
- ~~The four Zocalo trees are being relocated during the dormant period.~~
- Biofiltration ponds and the site are being de-watered, a process of removing water from the site, and will continue during this wet Fall season.
- Austin Energy (AE) District Cooling Network Connection project will tunnel from the parking lot to the Red River alley to lay new chilled water lines.
- Short term trail re-route for a portion of the south segment of the Ann and Roy Butler hike-and-bike trail running parallel to existing trail is being planned for middle December. This is due to the installation of the piping from the biofiltration ponds to the shoreline to control storm water. The pipe runs below the Hike & Bike Trail. A [map](#) is provided on the [project website](#). [Austin Parks & Rec](#) will post this to their social media to help spread the word.

Building

- Construction of a new fully enclosed building at the central utility plant will continue into next year.
- Delivery and erection of structural steel for the central utility plant roof.
- Concrete masonry wall/Brick installation ~~ef-at~~ the central utility plant

Announcements:

- CALLING ALL TEXAS-BASED ARTISTS: The Art in Public Places Call for Artist(s) is now open to artists statewide and has been extended to December 19th. [Open calls link](#)
- [Rainey Street Trailhead](#) – managed by The Trail Conservancy has construction underway as of October 23, 2023.
- [The Confluence at Waterloo Greenway](#) – construction is underway. Regular access of the Confluence construction site via parking lot at the MACC is anticipated starting January 2024.
- Short term trail re-route for a portion of the south segment of the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail is scheduled for early December lasting approximately 12-weeks. [Map link](#)
- Austin Energy District Cooling Network Connection – tunneling in the Red River Alley began October 23, 2023, resulted in partial closure to thru-traffic of the alley.

Scheduled Milestones:

- Construction began – **August 28, 2023**
- Anticipated completion of all major construction activity – **Spring 2025**
- Anticipated grand opening – **Summer 2025**

Please note that as in any construction project, schedules are projected as accurately as possible, but all dates are subject to change due to the nature of construction and weather.

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Safety:

Please note this is an active construction site. Unauthorized entry is not permitted.

[the MACC webpage](#)

For more information about the project or to see FAQ's, visit [The MACC Phase 2 Project webpage](#)

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We strive to keep you informed as the project progresses.

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Zocalo: Rough grading in progress



Zocalo: View of drainage installation

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South Wing: Grading of building pad.



North Wing: Grading of building pad.



Zocalo: Preparation for tree relocation in progress.



Zocalo: Preparation of trees relocation in progress



Utility Yard: View of Demolition progress



Fire Lane: Grading in progress