

Dear LSC Campus Community:

This is an update on the many projects that have been going on all summer, what the impact will be for fall semester, and what we expect for outcomes and benefits.

Yes, there have been a lot of challenges with tar smells, welding and demolition noises, displaced offices, scrunched library services, and a bit of confusion as to who is where on the main campus. To put it in a positive light, these are the sights, sounds, and smells of progress. The groups from Next Gen, Minnesota State Presidents Leadership Council, and the Luoma Leadership Academy still enjoyed their time on campus this summer in the S Building and Hawks Landing. Every group remarked how beautiful and amazing LSC is, no matter how much construction was in process. And all of these groups took advantage of our new Icehawks Café chefs catering skills. Our construction crews also enjoy the Icehawks Café!

Project Updates

Roofing project:

- Progress so far: nearly complete. Old roof will be completely gone by August 12th, with most of the new roof and rocks installed or shortly after that.
- Expected completion: outside will be done within a couple of weeks. Inside will take a little longer, due to electrical work, HVAC, technology, and ceiling tiles to be reinstalled. Then the deep cleaning can be completed. The temporary walls will remain until the areas are safe for people to use.
- What to expect between now and completion: maybe another week of tar smells, noises from the roof, materials shifting outside from the parking lot to the work areas, classrooms and other spaces getting turned back to LSC for deep cleaning and return to usable condition. Chillers and other HVAC will be balanced as soon as possible.

Library/TRIO/TLC/IT Helpdesk project:

- Progress so far: demolition is nearly complete, most of the carpeting is out, new materials for finishes and other materials have been ordered or are here.
- Expected completion: hoping for the entire project to be completed by the end of October. We might have the library side mostly completed before that.
- What to expect between now and completion: framing of the new study spaces requires ...well... framing, which means noisy sawing of metal studs, materials being brought in, hammering, bumps and screeches coming from the library/TLC areas. Minimal dust. Due to this construction, we will not have tabling in the corridor during Student Success Day. Watch for alternative plans coming soon.

T-Building project:

- Progress so far: most of the demolition is done in the old T Building. Soil samples completed and a plan for readying the ground for footings and piers is in process.
- Expected completion: right now, the expectation is the project will be mostly done by October or November of 2024. Some parts of the building may be completed sooner.

- What to expect between now and completion: The temporary walls will remain until the T Building is safe for people to use. Planning for the move from downtown is underway with faculty and staff engaged in logistics. Plan B is also underway if welding and CNC fall 2024 classes must be moved or delayed. Watch for heavy equipment coming in for digging and for some closed parking areas at the west end.

Auto air handlers project:

- Progress so far: the project is nearly done.
- Expected completion: during the week of August 14th.
- What to expect between now and completion: testing of the air handlers, fine-tuning, and a happy faculty ready for fall.

You can get more updates through the Newsplash (employees) and IcehawkTalk (students) official e-newsletters available in your LSC email. You can view some images of progress and even some renderings of the projects at <https://portal.lsc.edu/construction-updates/>

COMING SOON: We will also have more information on which rooms will be available and when they will be ready for use. Watch for more information later this week.

As I mentioned above, our Icehawks Café is up and running and has been very popular with summer employees, students, and construction workers! Watch for more menu items as school gets underway and we move into cooler weather. We proudly serve Caribou Coffee, LSC Chef-made pastries, sandwiches, salads, and specialty items. Watch for special feature days such as hamburgers, chili, soups, tacos, etc.

I want to close with a HUGE thank you to our day and evening facilities crews. You have had a very challenging and exhausting summer, and your work and dedication to keeping things moving is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Mark and Craig, for your leadership through this very quickly disappearing summer. I know you are gearing up for the students' return and we are all very grateful for your efforts. Thank you!

Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.
President
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