

**Local Union 3657
Health, Safety and Environment
Committee
April 2016 Report**



Garage and Side Plaza Updates

On Thursday, April 14, 2016, Mike Wight and Diane Heminway conducted an inspection of the ground floor of the garage and the side plaza where work is being conducted. Also present were Bob Rootes, as well as Project Manager John Baker and another employee, Rick, of Newmark Grubb Knight Frank (the firm contracted to work on the renovation project).

Construction crews work two 10-hour shifts, stopping at 4:00 a.m. (not at 9:00 p.m. as the Joint HSE Committee was told. They do not work on weekends and expect to work until October 1, 2016. Engineers were still in the process of identifying and addressing the dust and fumes problem.

During the April 14 inspection, they were told that over the next two weeks, cement will be removed adjacent to the bank, right up to the wall of windows. There was some concern about the possibility of dust entering through the various vents on the outside of the building, as well as other openings. The contractors seemed to be on the ball and were making every effort to deal with the multiple problems of dust and fumes.

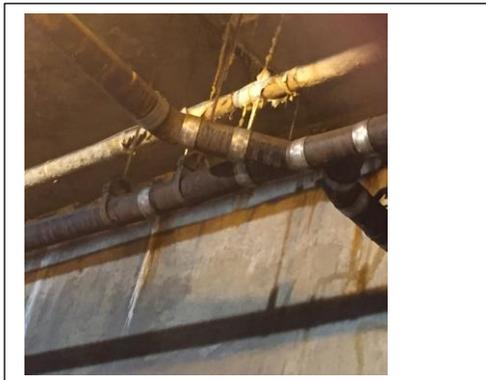
Vents on Side of Building



Vents on Overhang above windows by bank



The asbestos removal in the garage was completed on Tuesday, April 5, by a professional contractor with expertise in asbestos abatement. However, we noted a couple of pipes that looked suspicious and brought them to Bob Rootes' attention.



On Friday, April 15, there were dust complaints in the lobby area. Diane Heminway went to the print shop and witnessed lots of dust on equipment. There were definitely health and safety concerns by coworkers that needed to be addressed. Diane spoke with John Lepley and Mike Wright. Each of them, in turn, spoke with employees. Dust masks had been requested and that they were ordered on Amazon.

Changes were made in ventilation and as of Tuesday, April 19. Employees said that the dust situation seems much better. However, the construction crew is not using jack hammers at the time of this writing, so we will have to see if the problems have been adequately resolved once the work resumes.

On Wednesday morning, April 20, there was an issue with the print shop and dust was all over the place again and they were wearing dust masks. Mike Wright was aware of it and gave us the info on air flow and dust issue. If the air (fans) is/are shut off, there is negative pressure in the print shop as evidenced by the plastic covering the hole to the garage in the print shop bows inward and dust comes in. If the air is kept on, the print shop has positive pressure and the plastic stays even. The fans keeping the air flowing are on an automatic system that shuts off at night. They had overridden the automatic system to keep the air from being shut off earlier in the week. They apparently did not override the whole week so the air was not on last night and it created the issue with the dust. They are now going to run the air continuously.

Outside Ramp Under Construction

We also learned that the outside ramp in the front of the building, which was partially built, was going to be rebuilt as it did not meet ADA requirements.

Hot Water Update

Last week, we learned that another round of testing was done on the water a few days earlier. We are still awaiting those test results but we were assured that there is a reduction in Legionella colonies.

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USW Local 3657 Health, Safety and Environment Committee members,

April 2016:

Angela Colaizzi (New Media)

Steffi Domike, convener (Education)

Deb Edwards (Collective Bargaining)

Lawrence Goun (Collective Bargaining)

Diane Heminway (Strategic Campaigns)

Janet Hill (Collective Bargaining)

John Lepley, ex-officio (Education)

Julie Lidstone (Collective Bargaining)

Lynda Nathenson (Political)

Sharon Thompson (Health & Safety)