



4th & William Stair/Elevator Improvement Project Begins April 6th

CONTACT: SUSAN POLLAY | (734) 994-6697 | SPOLLAY@A2DDA.ORG

MARCH 30, 2015

In support of its mission the Ann Arbor DDA has managed the public parking structures and lots since 1992. In this role, the DDA has taken on a number of important repair and improvement projects. The latest project will be a stair and elevator replacement at the 4th & William parking structure. The project will commence the first week in April and will be completed in fall 2016.

The 4th & William parking structure is the largest in the public system and one of the oldest. It was constructed in 1966 with an elevator and stair in the S.W. corner and a stair in the N.E. corner. It was then expanded in 1981 and a second elevator added at the N.W. corner at the alley. The structure was expanded again in 2006 and now has approximately 1,000 spaces on eight floors.

The majority of patrons utilize the S.W. stair and elevator. This stair is significantly narrower and steeper than required by current code. The existing elevator is very slow, and the cab doesn't meet current code. The DDA's project will result in two new elevators operating side-by-side beside a new glass stairway, and an expanded first floor lobby area. The project construction will be phased so that a stair and an elevator are always available to patrons in this corner of the structure, with only occasional and brief service interruptions.

The project contractor is Spence Brothers. The project engineers are Carl Walker Inc. The project architect is Carl Luckenbach. The project budget is \$5,000,000, and will be paid for by the DDA utilizing revenues generated from the public parking system.

The project will begin on April 6th, as Spence Brothers mobilizes on site including placing barricades and other equipment. The project will begin by shifting the vehicle entrance/exit on William Street several feet to the east, to accommodate the wider elevator lobby. The canopy over the pedestrian entrance will be demolished, and a new glass and steel stairway constructed. After this, the existing stairway will be demolished to make way for a new elevator. The final phase will be the replacement of the existing elevator with another new elevator.

A tower crane will be utilized during portions of the project, and to accommodate it, the entrance to the alley running beside the structure will be shifted so that it temporarily runs diagonally across some of the parking spaces in the Main/William parking lot (sometimes referred to as the "Palio" parking lot). With this temporary entrance, the alley is anticipated to remain open for deliveries and trash handling except for only occasional and brief interruptions. About half of the spaces in the Main/William parking lot will be utilized by the contractor.

Project information including regular project updates is available on the Ann Arbor DDA's website <http://www.a2dda.org/current-projects/4th-william-stair-tower-elevator/>

The mission of the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is to undertake public improvements that have the greatest impact in strengthening the downtown area and attracting new private investments. For more information on DDA programs and projects visit www.a2dda.org

####



Fourth & William parking structure seen from Main Street, existing stair/elevator tower



S.W. stair/elevator tower, before



S.W. stair/elevator tower, after



1st floor stair/elevator lobby, before



1st floor stair/elevator lobby, after