I can’t believe another week has gone by already. And some of the work I wrote about last week did not take part as planned. I was told we would be pushing dirt around by now, but our clever contractor figured they should wait until we have a supplier on board for the concrete placement before excavating for the Lecture Hall addition. We are still on schedule, just the approach has changed slightly.

This past week we removed existing, yet fairly new, fixed seating from the Lecture Hall and put them in storage for future re-installation. Wood slats from the walls in the Lecture Hall have been removed for repurposing. The abatement subcontractor has begun setting up containment barriers (lots of heavy clear plastic sheathing and special blue duct tape) in preparation for asbestos removal. You may have noticed they also created a big hole in one of the exterior walls to Lecture Hall 2. The ceiling in Lecture Hall 2 has asbestos material in it and needs to be abated. The attached photo will help you understand how they plan to more easily reach a ceiling in a space with a stepped floor. Pretty smart being that Lecture Hall 2 is the one piece of the Lecture Hall pie that is getting demolished anyway. They were just doing a dry run with the telescoping boom lift to verify their plans will work. A containment barrier will be erected around the lift, and doorways, before any abatement begins.

We finally acquired a quote to get a temporary accessible ramp installed alongside the steps outside Lab II. We also figured out that we could buy the ramp for a little more than it costs to lease it for a year. In doing so TESC will then have an accessible ramp system that can be easily installed in the future at very special events that take place in June in Red Square. Anyway, that ramp is scheduled to be installed on September 2nd.

I had a near collision this week in front of the Library where the construction fence takes a 90-degree turn. I was almost run over by a young adult who was walking and staring at a somewhat small rectangular object they were holding in their hand. It looked very similar to one my teenage daughter always seems to have in her hands. Anyway, this event made me realize the sight lines should be improved at this location. I had the contractor pull some of the green fence fabric screen back a bit to allow you to see people before you would otherwise meet them by accident at this corner. I hope this does not make me appear to be anti-social.

I’m told the dirt pushing and further demolition work will take place next week.

Have a great weekend!

Tim