

Animal Facility Renovation and RBL
Construction Update
04-04-08

The majority of the interior demolition work in the biocontainment area of the Nash Annex animal facility basement is complete. The demolition items remaining are extraction of the old bulk autoclave, removal of one small wall, and eventual breakthrough of the exterior wall between the RBL new construction and the existing Nash Annex animal facility. The disruption from removal of the autoclave and last wall should be minimal. The contractor has determined the breakthrough of the exterior wall will be delayed until the later phase of the construction project to ensure the new building is completely secure, dry, and vermin proof before opening a connection between the two buildings. It's estimated this last bit of demo work will occur in the summer (as late as July) and take one to two days to complete. An alert will be issued when that work is scheduled. Given that the major demolition work is complete, we feel it is safe to return animals to the open barrier.

With completion of the RBL roof, another phase of the project that will begin in the next week or so, depending on weather, involves removal of small sections of brick on the exterior of the Nash Annex to build supports for RBL ventilation shafts. The brick removal will involve the exterior of the Nash Annex in specific sections from approximately the 4th floor to the roof. The animal facility is located in the basement and 1st floors of the building.

Concurrent with the RBL project is a state funded Capital Improvements project for the animal facilities. This project involves replacing large equipment (autoclaves and cage washers), certain room renovations in Coleman and Nash, and new ventilated caging. Part of this work will involve leveling of the floors in two animals in the very south west corner of the basement (rooms B003C and B003D). It is anticipated there will be some degree of noise from this work as part of the floor is removed, but the exact extent and nature of that is not yet known. There are no animal rooms immediately adjacent to or above this area. However, once more details are available and a schedule is set, notice will be forthcoming.

As progress is made and major construction events are scheduled, I will make every effort to keep animal facilities users informed. Please be aware, however, that the construction schedule is not exact and could involve delays or changes that are not anticipated. If you have special requests or need additional information, please contact the LACU supervisory or veterinary staff.

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