University of Arizona
Arizona Public Media
The Paul and Alice Baker Center for Public Media
Construction Project Update – February 2024

PROJECT AND SITE OVERVIEW
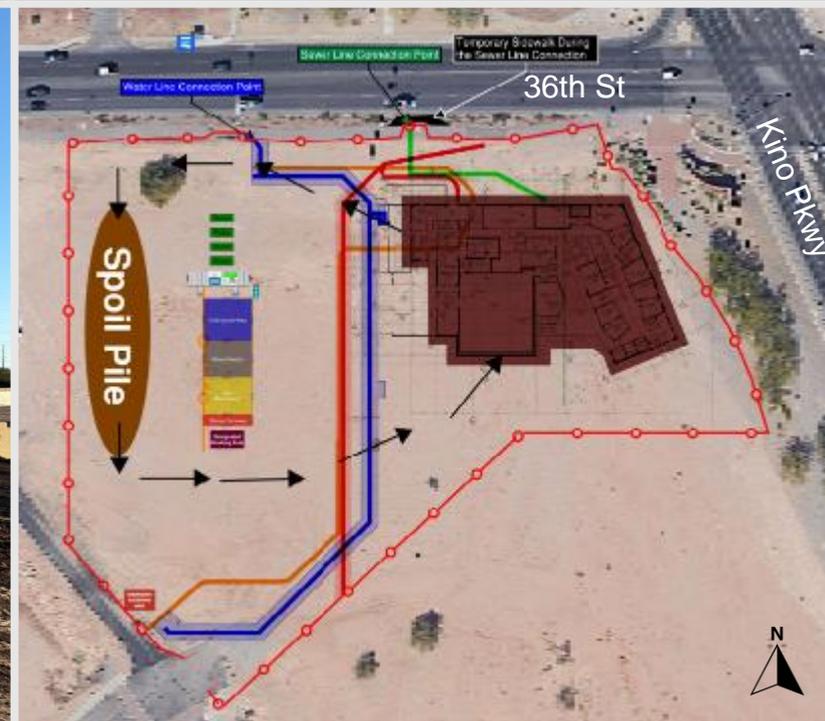
The Paul and Alice Baker Center for Public Media is a new 59,000 square foot broadcasting facility for Arizona Public Media that is designed specifically to meet current and future technical and broadcast requirements, including the replacement of much of AZPM's aging broadcast production infrastructure as we transition to 4K production in preparation for the conversion to a new television broadcast standard (NextGen TV).

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA · azpm · DPR CONSTRUCTION · SMITHGROUP · swaim

PROGRESS UPDATE

The Paul and Alice Baker Center for Public Media groundbreaking ceremony was held on January 23, 2024. Construction officially began on January 29, 2024.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA · azpm · DPR CONSTRUCTION · SMITHGROUP · swaim

PROGRESS UPDATE
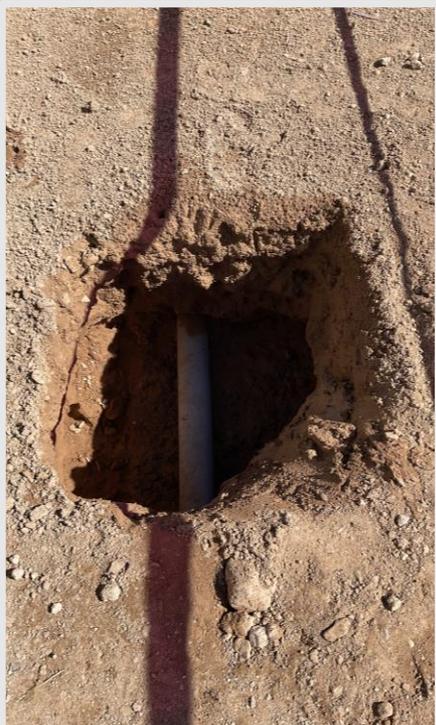
Utility pothole

Beginning of the "bathtub"

Creating a ramp to enter the "bathtub"

The first step of construction was potholing for existing underground utilities to identify their exact locations to avoid accidental utility strikes. Equipment then began breaking up the ground and removed dirt from the building footprint to create a "bathtub." The building footprint is being excavated to 3'6" below the finish building floor to aid in the construction of the structure of the building.

PROGRESS UPDATE

Shoring for sewer tie-in

New manhole for telecommunications

Telecommunications lines

Crews are currently installing underground utilities. The tie-in to the existing sewer systems required excavating 17 feet, shoring the trench for workers' safety, installing the pipe, and backfilling the trench. Telecommunication lines are being installed.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA   azpm   DPR CONSTRUCTION   SMITHGROUP   swaim

LOOKING AHEAD

Steel Fabrication Yard

The underground utility work will continue, the concrete footings will be prepped and placed, and the steel is being fabricated offsite.

You can always keep up with what is happening on site by checking out the live construction feed on the UA PDC website. Project Camera