



## Fleet Elementary School

### Community Newsletter (October 2017)

This is the second of what will be monthly updates on the status and progress of construction for the project. The monthly updates will also be posted to the project website and can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.apsva.us/design-and-construction/new-elementary-school-jefferson-site/>

Weather has been favorable this summer and early fall and construction is progressing well on the project. Since the last update the contractor has completed all safety fencing and gates on the perimeter of the work site, installed the erosion & sediment controls, completed set up of their field offices and on-site parking areas, and cleared the site.

In early August we received our Excavation, Sheet piling, & Shoring (ESS) permit, allowing excavation of the 2 story underground garage to commence. The Support of Excavation (SOE) subcontractor mobilized shortly after the ESS permit was issued. Between the end of summer school in early August and the start of the regular school year in early September, the SOE

subcontractor was able to set all of the approximately 100 shoring piles. The pile driving was a fairly loud process, and was scheduled during the break between the end of summer school and the start of the regular school year in September to be least disruptive to school activities as possible.

In late August, once pile driving was nearing completion, the Excavation subcontractor mobilized to start excavating the garage and trucking the excess soil off site.

Currently, the SOE subcontractor is working in concert with the Excavation subcontractor to install lagging boards between the shoring piles as the excavation progress downward to the bottom level of the garage. The SOE subcontractor is also installing tie-backs at the shoring piles. Tie-backs are the primary means of bracing the shoring piles, allowing them to support the earth outside the excavation. Once the tie-backs are installed, they are load tested to ensure they can support the load that is introduced to the piles once the soil on the garage side of the piles is excavated. The full excavation of the garage is about a 2-1/2 month process and is scheduled to fully complete in mid to late November.



**FIELD OFFICES AND CONTRACTOR ON-SITE PARKING/STORAGE AREA**



**SITE CLEARING**



**SHORING PILES STACKED AND READY TO BE SET**



**PILE DRIVING**



**TOP OF A DRIVEN PILE PRIOR TO EXCAVATION**



**GARAGE EXCAVATION**



**GARAGE EXCAVATION**

The geothermal well field subcontractor is scheduled to start drilling of the well field within the next week or so. The well field consists of 72 wells, in 6 circuits of 12 wells each. Each well will be drilled to a depth of approximately 560 feet. The geothermal wells are part of the geothermal heating and cooling system for the school, and will contribute greatly to the project's net-zero energy goals by reducing energy use for heating and cooling.

In order to start building the garage structure, a Footing to Grade (FTG) permit is required. We are targeting securing this permit in mid-November. Once we have our FTG permit and the excavation is sufficiently progressed, the Structural Concrete subcontractor will mobilize to the site to commence with garage footings and foundations.

On Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Arlington Public Schools is holding a "Building Up" Celebration to mark the approximate start of the actual construction of the facility. The Celebration is scheduled to start at 10am and end at 11am, and will take place at the main entry on the west side of Thomas Jefferson Middle School (TJMS). Access to the building for this event will be from the TJMS temporary main entry on the east side of the building.

Please contact me with any questions you may have in regard to this update

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