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Indiana Governor attends Indiana Archives and Administration Building Groundbreaking ceremony

Construction on the \$102 million dollar landmark begins next summer

INDIANAPOLIS - Governor Eric Holcomb joined state officials and Pepper Construction today to break ground on the new Indiana Archives and Administration building located on a narrow strip of land along the Central Canal in downtown Indianapolis. The \$102 million, 133,000 square foot facility will provide climate-controlled storage and preservation services for the state's vast collection of historical records dating back to the 1790s.

“Visitors are going to come to this place, and they’re going to learn so many things — maybe some surprising things ... fascinating things ... how we got to where we are ... it all illustrates that path forward, and where we’re going as a state.” said Gov. Holcomb to The Capital Chronicle after the ceremony.

The archives project has been a priority for Gov. Holcomb since the start of his first term in office. As he enters his final year as Governor in 2023, the groundbreaking represents a crowning achievement for Holcomb before he leaves office.

The 5-story building will feature archive storage space, staff offices, records processing areas, meeting rooms, and more. It is being constructed on a narrow strip of land next to the Senate Avenue Parking Garage and west of the canal. Complexities of the project include building on a zero-lot site defined by the Canal, an existing parking garage and two high-traffic streets. Interior features include intricate building and MEP systems that balance the stringent UV light, humidity, and temperature thresholds of the archive space, with the desire for an open concept and an abundance of natural light in the office and collaboration areas.

Pepper Construction Project Executive Jacob Ellis led an innovative experiment to allow curious visitors to learn about the future archives facility during the construction process. Coming in September, signage will be placed along the busy canal area, where pedestrians and cyclists can scan QR codes to see a virtual 3D model of the building on their phones. Archivists also recorded short videos accessible through the codes explaining highlights of the project.

“Think of it as a high-tech version of the old ‘Coming Soon’ sign, with virtual models and audio clips from the archivists and architects,” said Ellis.

Construction on the building is expected to begin in summer of 2024, with completion slated for late 2025.

"We are honored to partner with the state of Indiana to construct this landmark facility that will preserve the state's invaluable history," said Chris Rayner, Vice President of Operations at Pepper Construction. "Our team looks forward to delivering a state-of-the-art archives building to safely house these important records."

About Pepper

Now in their fourth generation of family leadership, Pepper Construction serves clients across the country with comprehensive teams in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin. Ranked by ENR (Engineering News Report) magazine as one of the top builders of sustainable projects in the nation, Pepper serves clients in a variety of markets such as healthcare, education, manufacturing and light industrial, data centers, entertainment, hospitality and interiors, among others. Pepper's High Performance and Sustainable Construction group is part of their Integrated Construction Services (ICS) team, which represents some of the most advanced thought leadership in our industry—investigating new technologies, evaluating new methodologies and integrating innovative solutions in the field. Some of the firm's current work includes the new production plant of Stevanato Group in Fishers, Ascension St. Vincent's new Women's Hospital and Brain and Spine Hospital, Purdue University's new Veterinary Hospital, Allison Transmission Innovation Center and the Mohr Logistics Park. For more information, please visit www.pepperconstruction.com.

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