

Information evening on 9 September 2019: questions and answers about the renovation of the UvA building at Plantage Muidergracht 24 (REC P)

1. Q: Won't the roof garden and the ecosystem attract too many bees, bats and/or other animals?
A: Experience elsewhere in the city shows that this is not the case.
2. Q: The water on the roof will be buffered. Won't mosquito numbers increase as a result?
A: The water will be protected from the outdoor air from above, via a substrate layer consisting of plants and a membrane. The water should be out of reach for mosquitoes.
3. Q: What will the UvA do if there is a very dry summer?
A: Experiences with water buffering elsewhere show that plants only need to be watered in very long periods of dry weather. The UvA will ensure that the plants are watered in such situations.
4. Q: Is there any asbestos in the building and, if so, how will it be removed during the building work?
A: A limited amount of asbestos has been encountered in the building; it will be removed in line with legal guidelines.
5. Q: Will most of the materials to be re-used be stored in the building?
A: Transport movements will be kept to a minimum. Some existing materials will be stored on the building site and/or in the building until it is re-used.
6. Q: What arrangements have been made for material delivery and removal in the street?
A: The Plantage Muidergracht will be used as the main street for the delivery and removal of materials. Transport will be combined as much as possible, to avoid any unnecessary traffic movements, The possibility of transport by water is being looked into. The layout of the section of road at Plantage Muidergracht 24 will be changed temporarily. Residents and emergency services will be able to access the street at all times.
7. Q: Is it possible to organise delivery and removal by water?
A: The UvA is exploring the possibility of transporting building materials by water. However, this will only be possible with the cooperation of a number of parties, such as Waternet.
8. Q: Where will the building site and site hut be located?
A: The site hut will be located in the car park, bearing in mind the privacy of residents as much as possible. For example, the site hut will not have any windows or tinted windows on the side that overlooks residents' properties.
9. Q: What will happen to the car park and trees?
A: In the current plans for the building site, the car park will be taken out of use during the construction period and will become part of the contractor's building site throughout this time.
10. Q: Would it be possible to locate the site hut on the UvA site, on the other side of the bridge, or on the water?
A: The UvA is willing to explore whether it would be possible to locate the site hut on its own site. Contractors usually prefer to locate site huts close to construction projects, making it possible to supervise construction work efficiently and respond immediately if any emergencies arise.

11. Q: I have already noticed some damage to my house (including cracks in the ceiling) since the demolition of the Sint Jacob nursing home on the Plantage Muidergracht and the arrival and departure of big trucks. Will there be an inspection before the renovation of REC P starts? If so, who will carry it out?

A: The UvA is exploring the possibility of carrying out an inspection before the construction project starts. If an inspection is to be carried out, the UvA will outsource it to an expert external party. In any event, agreements will be made with the contractor about the maximum size of trucks and the restriction of truck speeds to a walking pace; the possibility of transport by water is being explored too.

One of the residents asks the representative of the municipality (area coordinator, Gerben Kossen) a question about consultations and liaison with residents if there are a number of construction projects in the same area:

12. Q: Will a joint consultation be organised with residents if there are a number of construction projects in the same area?

A: The area coordinator states that consultations and liaison activities in relation to the various construction projects will be organised on the basis of a BLVC plan (a plan covering accessibility, quality of life, safety and communication). The municipality is to be provided with a BLVC plan for each construction project, which it will then approve or reject. The area coordinator says that a joint construction project/residents' consultation is an option. Although the initiative for the above lies with the builders, the municipality could press for the initiation of a consultation session.

13. Q: Will there be an alternative place to park bicycles and cars while this is not possible on the building site?

A: The parking pressure in the street is lower than it is elsewhere in the city. A number of parking spaces are usually available elsewhere in the street, although residents will have to walk more.

14. Q: What alternative will there be for the 20 parking spaces that will be lost?

A: See the answer to Question 13.

15. Q: Couldn't the parking lot and parking spaces be left off the site?

A: The UvA is willing to explore alternatives, particularly the possibility of locating the site huts or a part of the site huts on a UvA site.

16. Q: Could a parking space be arranged in front of the property of an older resident who has difficulty walking?

A: The area coordinator for the municipality promises to explore the possibility of allocating a personal parking space to the resident when the parking spaces near the side wall of the building temporarily become part of the building site. The parking space will be linked to the registration number of the vehicle belonging to the resident in question. This parking space is certainly possible and is being considered in connection with a potential disabled parking space.

17. Q: Will there be a hub where the contractor's employees will be able to park their cars?

A: The invitation to tender stipulated that traffic movement is to be limited, including the traffic movement of employees working on the building site.

18. Q: Where will building materials be kept?

A: Building materials, equipment and plant - including a building crane - will be kept on the building site.

19. Q: What should residents with moorings do?

A: Before building work starts, the UvA and the municipality will ask boat owners to moor their boats elsewhere while the renovation work is being carried out.

20. Q: Where can we get more information in the months ahead?

A: As soon as planning permission has been requested, residents will be notified of this via a UvA neighbourhood news message to be distributed door-to-door. The same will happen when building work starts. The UvA will also inform residents of a web page on the UvA website via which they can read regular reports published on the progress being made with building work.

21. Q: Residents of the Sarphatistraat would also like to be informed in advance of any noise nuisance expected. Is this possible?

A: The UvA promises that it will notify residents of the Sarphatistraat in advance of any noise nuisance expected.

22. Q: Could the building be called the Euclides building again?

A: The UvA is willing to look into this.

23. Q: What else is the UvA planning to build on the Roeterseiland campus between 2021 and 2027?

A: Apart from the proposed construction of a lecture hall next to the CREA student cultural centre, there are no other concrete plans for the Roeterseiland campus at this time.

24. A. Will any trees be cut down?

B. In principle, no.