

Real Estate Development

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To local residents living at and around the Binnengasthuis site

Date

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Contact person

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Our reference

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Dear residents, business owners and other interested parties,

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the latest developments at the City Centre Campus. Currently efforts are underway to develop plans for the new University Library (City Centre University Library) and former CREA building on the Grimburgwal.

The University Library

As mentioned, MVSA Architects & J. Van Stigt architect's office have been jointly commissioned to design the new City Centre University Library. The University Library is set to become the heart of the City Centre Campus, and will require renovation of the Second Surgery Clinic and Convent, roofing over of the courtyard and new construction in the parking space on the Nieuwe Doelenstraat.

The architects presented their vision on the design challenge to interested parties in October 2013.

Plans for the new library are currently under development. We will keep you informed of the latest developments and would like to hear your views. You can expect to receive an invitation to attend a new edition of Coffee With the Neighbours in mid-February. This event will be organised in follow-up to the meeting in October. We will be outlining current developments at the City Centre Campus and presenting the elaborated design for the City Centre University Library. There will also be plenty of opportunities to ask questions.

We would like to point out that the City Centre urban district's Construction and Residential Sector committee will be evaluating the coordination scheme established as part of the Spatial Planning Act on 21 January. This means all decisions on partial revision of the zoning plan and the physical environment permit application will be coordinated as part of a single process. This exclusively concerns procedural aspects, and does not relate to the plan's actual content. For more details, see the municipality of Amsterdam website: www.centrum.amsterdam.nl. The section on the Construction and Residential Sector committee (go to 'Bestuur en informatie', and select 'Stadsdeelraad') features a meeting timetable and specific details on the subject.

Former CREA building on Grimburgwal/Turfdraagsterspad

We will also be continuing preparations for construction work on the building on the Grimburgwal – soon to accommodate the Art, Religion and Cultural Science programmes – in the near future.

An asbestos inventory was conducted in the summer of 2013, during which asbestos was found in a total of five locations. Three of these five locations were subsequently decontaminated. The remaining two spots are located beneath the floor and will be inspected in further detail in the week of 27 January.

Depending on the resulting findings, the crawlspace will be decontaminated and the interior floor on the ground floor will be removed in February and March.

We expect to start actual renovation work in the spring of 2014. Although this phase was originally scheduled for the start of the year, the renovation action plan required more time in order to ensure the level of quality expected by the UvA. The renovation work is expected to last for a period of one year.

Measures to ensure safety and reduce inconvenience

The other two asbestos locations will have to be cleaned up in containment. This will require a series of safety measures. Although all clean-up work will be carried out indoors, during the work a truck with equipment and a compressor will be parked in front of the building. The asbestos locations do not pose any risk to the surrounding environment. All asbestos will be carefully removed in accordance with legally required procedures.

Although the aforementioned preparation work at the building on the Grimburgwal will be largely conducted indoors, the surrounding environment may experience a certain level of inconvenience as a result. However, the UvA is working hard to keep any disruptions to a minimum. Amongst other measures, we have reached clear agreements with the contractor on accessibility, liveability, safety and communication. For an overview of these agreements, see the ‘Publications’ section of our website www.uva.nl/binnenstad.

More information or any questions?

For the latest information on developments at the City Centre Campus, see www.uva.nl/binnenstad. If you have any questions, comments or complaints, please contact City Centre Campus area manager Chérie van der Meer by calling 020-525 2443 or sending an email to omgevingsmanager-binnenstadcampus-bb@uva.nl. You can also visit www.uva.nl/binnenstad.

We hope that this provides all the information you need.

Yours sincerely,

University of Amsterdam

Mr Kees Lammers, MCM
Director of Real Estate Development