



February 11, 2016

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

The University continues to make progress on the [Design Concept for Lancaster Avenue](#) which, when complete, will transform the main parking lots along Lancaster Avenue into a stunning new campus that features residence halls, retail, new parking, a pedestrian bridge and a performing arts center.

Last week saw the completion of the first component of the project with the re-opening of the St. Augustine Center (SAC) Parking Garage. This garage underwent a significant transformation over the past five months highlighted by the addition of two levels of parking and the installation of an elevator. With more than 200 new spaces, it will better serve faculty and staff who work on main campus as well as visitors to campus.

Work continues on the new surface parking lot being created around Moriarty, Griffin and Geraghty Halls along Lancaster Avenue. This new lot will serve staff in this area, day and evening students who drive to campus, visitors and parishioners. This aspect of the project began later than originally anticipated and now is scheduled to be completed in May. Together, the expansion of the SAC garage and the creation of the new surface lot represent Phase I of the Design Concept for Lancaster Avenue.

The focus for the overall project continues to be the completion of the residence halls on West Main Lot in time to house students for the Fall 2019 semester. While that date still seems far away, the schedule to reach that goal is very tight and requires us to move forward with project phases as quickly as possible.

**Accordingly, Phase II of the project is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, February 16.**

- **This phase is focused on constructing an approximately 1,300 car parking garage on East Main (Pike) Lot.**
- **As of Tuesday, February 16, East Main Lot will be closed through 2016 and into early 2017 when the new garage is scheduled to be completed. The sidewalk on Ithan Avenue along East Main Lot also will be closed during this period.**
- **A crosswalk and temporary sidewalk on the west side of Ithan Avenue will be created for use by pedestrians, including residents of South Campus, to safely navigate this area.**

Phase II also will include widening-portions of both Lancaster and Ithan Avenues where these roads intersect, as well as the construction of the pedestrian bridge at Church Walk. The work to widen the roads is anticipated to begin in late May while the bridge construction will begin as early as this summer. Additional information about these components of Phase II will be communicated later in the semester once the timeline is confirmed.

This work and the closure of East Main Lot will affect members of the Villanova community, those who travel through the area, campus visitors and University events large and small. Attached is a map that illustrates the construction activity taking place during Phase II, as well as an updated campus map that will be posted online. Please use these maps to communicate to those traveling to campus.

While it is important for the construction to move forward, it is also important to consider the impact on the University and the broader community. University staff is working closely with our contractors and Radnor Township to minimize the disruptions associated with the construction activity. However, each of us must recognize that it is impossible to take on such large-scale improvements to our campus without there being some inconveniences.

Our goal is to work quickly—but safely—so that this transformation will be completed as soon as possible. I appreciate your ongoing patience and cooperation, and look forward to sharing updates and progress with you as the project continues to take shape.

Sincerely,  
Bob

Robert H Morro PE  
Vice President for Facilities Management