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Officials hope to complete Town Hall stair project before more winter hits

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Recent construction on the stairs of Memorial Building's main entrance. (Courtesy: Town of Framingham)

By Matt Rocheleau, Globe Correspondent

After snow flakes made an early appearance across portions of Massachusetts over the weekend, Framingham officials will increase their push to have contractors finish the revival of the Town Hall's front steps before more winter weather hits.

Though slightly behind schedule, the project is going well, said Capital Building Projects Manager, Doug Goddard. However, when he awoke Friday morning and saw it was snowing outside, his concern grew about the construction's progress.

"We're hoping to increase the number of workers out there ... to at least get the steps done before winter really hits," he said.

The ongoing facelift at the Memorial Building's main entrance makes up around \$485,000 of a \$585,000 project, which began in June and includes fixing up two additional sets of stairs on either side of the building along Union and Concord streets, said Goddard.

No work has been done to improve the steps in 83 years, and "they have really been deteriorating," over the years, he said.

Over the past four months that construction has blocked off access to the stairs, Goddard said, "people in Town Hall have not at all mentioned it's an inconvenience. Their excited that something is finally being done."

The plan is to have the finished steps resemble their existing design as closely as possible, while also complying with ADA guidelines.

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Goddard said he expects work on the Union Street staircase to begin in Spring 2010, and once those steps are done, work will begin on the stairs along Concord Street.

To see more photos of the project's progress, [click here](#).

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