

Bloedel Conservatory

Spectrum Skyworks is replacing the domes at the Bloedel Conservatory in Vancouver, British Columbia

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The Bloedel Floral Conservatory has been approved for a \$1.3-million roof replacement.

The first phase of the project, which included the replacement of the centre dome panels and the section of roof over the entrance to the building, began in January.

Today, the council approved the plan for the entire roof to be replaced.

The park board says the triodetic domed roof was constructed in 1969 and is past its expected lifespan.

The roof is expected to be completed this fall. The Conservatory will remain open during construction.

Five years ago, the Conservatory was threatened with closure. But in September of 2010, the park board has approved a plan to partner the conservatory with the VanDusen Botanical Garden to avoid shutting it down due to budget concerns.

This is a large and unique project as the dome structure has more than 1,400 individual “bubble” panels of 32 different sizes. While the conservatory roof is strong, it is more than 40 years old. Some individual roof panels need replacing because they have cracked and now leak.



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The replacement of the roof is a multi-phase process.

Phase one of this project will replace:

The centre dome panels

The roof section over the building entrance

The fan and ventilation system

Bloedel Conservatory scaffolding drawing

Scaffolding will cover the entire dome, as shown in the cross-section diagram. Due to the unique structure, special scaffolding will be used to cover – but not touch – the dome. A protective cover will wrap around the scaffolding.



Phase one will be completed by spring 2014. The timing of phase two of the project is yet to be



determined.

Keeping birds, plants, and visitors safe. Special care and attention will be paid to protecting the conservatory's beautiful birds, exotic plants, and visitors during construction. Protective netting will be used inside the dome to ensure no birds escape and no outside birds can enter, and to catch any falling debris.



Some other details:

- Westcan has used clear scaffolding as opposed to solid scaffolding in this unique project due to the nature of the building
- Includes 2 X 180 FT Spine Beams.

