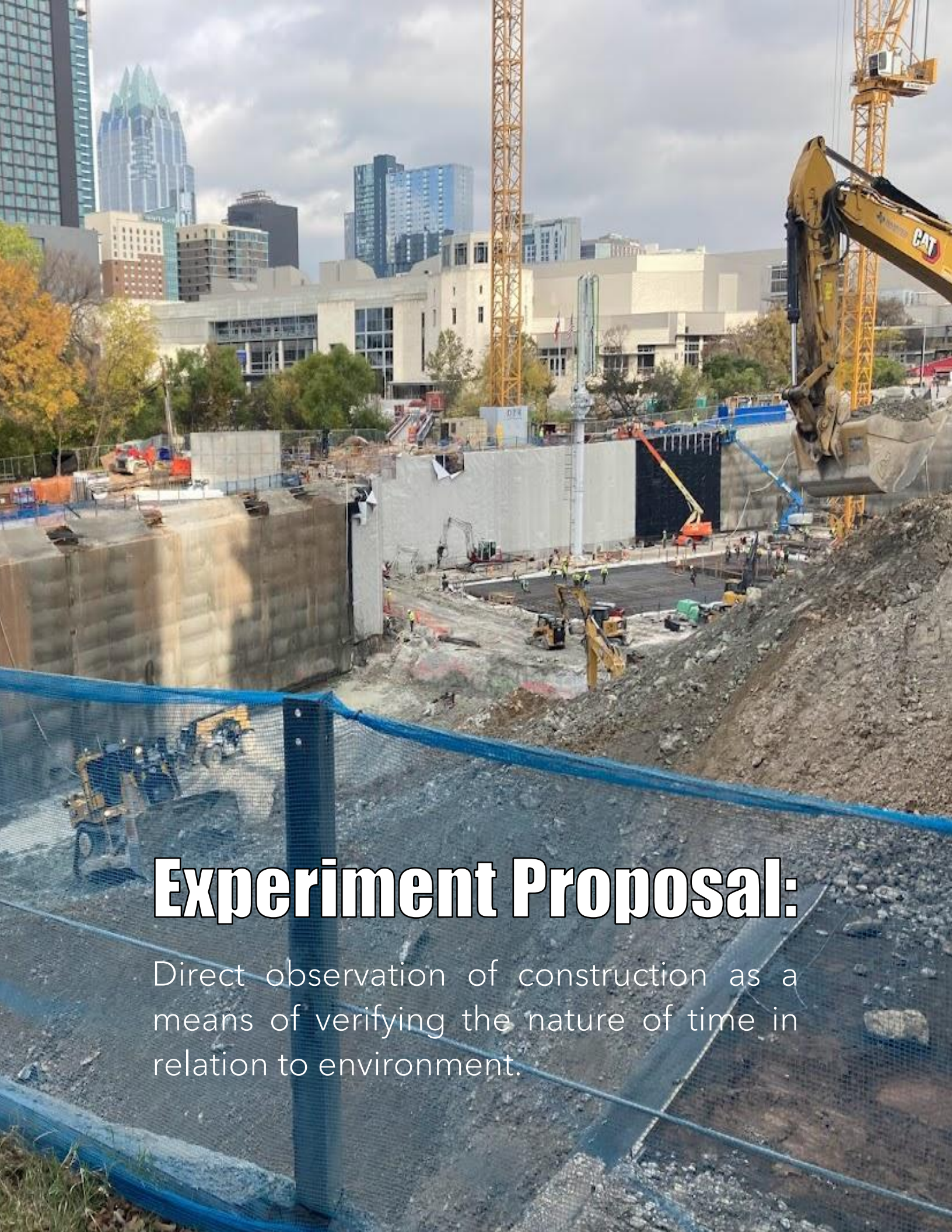

Experiment Proposal:

Direct observation of construction as a means of verifying the nature of time in relation to environment.

Disclaimer

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Introduction

Discrepancies between observed visible activity/labor, crane use, and conventionally stated timeframes for construction work completion suggest that commonly assumed intuitions about time, labor visibility, and construction sequencing may be incomplete or misleading.

This is a lofty claim to make, even with the arguments and evidence provided. A rational person would be considered wise to quickly disregard them if they hadn't carefully reviewed the evidence. Most intelligent people are, however, inquisitive and love probing for deeper understanding and meaning.

Fortunately, there is a clear path to testing this claim with replicable methodology.

What this work is fundamentally concerned with is not the impossibility of construction, but the apparent mismatch between what is directly observable and what is reported as having been accomplished within given timeframes. In highly complex, parallelized systems, human intuition about time, labor, and sequencing may be unreliable. When monitoring systems, schedules, or assumptions fail to capture activity occurring outside visible or commonly assumed pathways, absence of record may be mistaken for absence of occurrence.

This experiment is therefore not designed to prove that conventionally held and stated construction timeframes are impossible, but to examine whether commonly held assumptions about time, labor visibility, and process sequencing accurately reflect what is occurring in the physical environment.

Experiment Objective

An experiment rooted in 24/7 real-time direct observation by people with sightlines of all areas of work being performed would accomplish the primary objective, but is not limited to:

1. Show how construction tasks thought to be capable of being performed in weeks may require more time than thought.

A properly measured and documented experiment would be able to be replicated on any development site, providing reliable data supported by concurrent experiment(s).

This experiment focuses primarily on early-stage construction processes—specifically shoring and ground-anchor installation—where work is exposed, sequential, and directly observable from grade without intrusion.

Continuous direct observation at grade during shoring and ground-anchor installation would allow precise documentation of drilling cycles, anchor placement, tensioning, testing, and associated downtime.

These processes occur prior to enclosure and are not subject to the visibility constraints present in later construction phases.

While later-stage interior observation could be incorporated, the experiment is intentionally designed to derive meaningful results from early-stage shoring and excavation activity alone.

Direct Observation

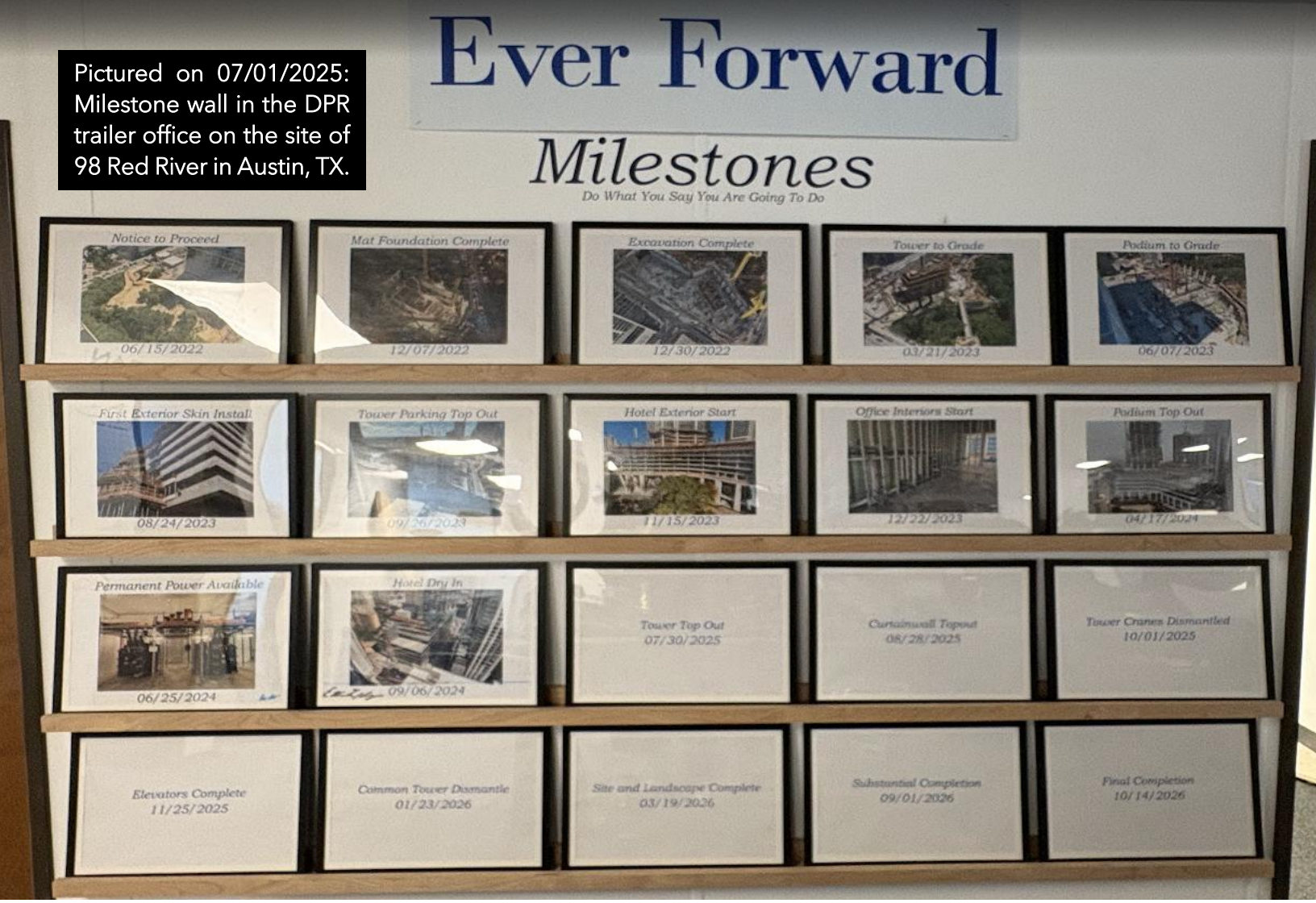
Recording an office tower or condominium development from the commencement point of ground shoring 24 hours a day with a rotation of observers on the ground recording using both digital and analogue film, could provide sufficient observational data to evaluate whether conventionally given and stated construction timelines are consistent with observed on-site activity. *Time-lapse film and photography of construction lack the detail needed for scrutiny and is prone to manipulation*.

Limitations & Methods of Proposal

I lack the formal training in STEM to devise the framework for a technically proficient experiment, let alone do I possess the knowledge only acquirable through training, required to devise a functional hypothesis.

That stated, a small number of construction sites each being observed by four (4) people at every corner of the site from the time a shoring rig is delivered to the site, all equipped with, i) digital camera recorders, ii) digital film cameras with timestamping and, iii) analogue film cameras with timestamping – film recording all work on the site from four (4) angles/corners and photographing the site every fifteen (15) minutes, would provide solid evidence of processes, speed and progress. These four (4) person crews (or more if needed) could work on rotations of six (6) hour shifts to prevent fatigue. The cost of labor, supplies and cataloguing all documented evidence for this endeavor is relatively low, making the feasibility of the experiment realistic.

Sites chosen to be observed should include projects being built directly beside existing buildings, beside/over existing underground infrastructure and foundational obstacles, i.e., in urban environments where most condominium and office tower construction takes place.

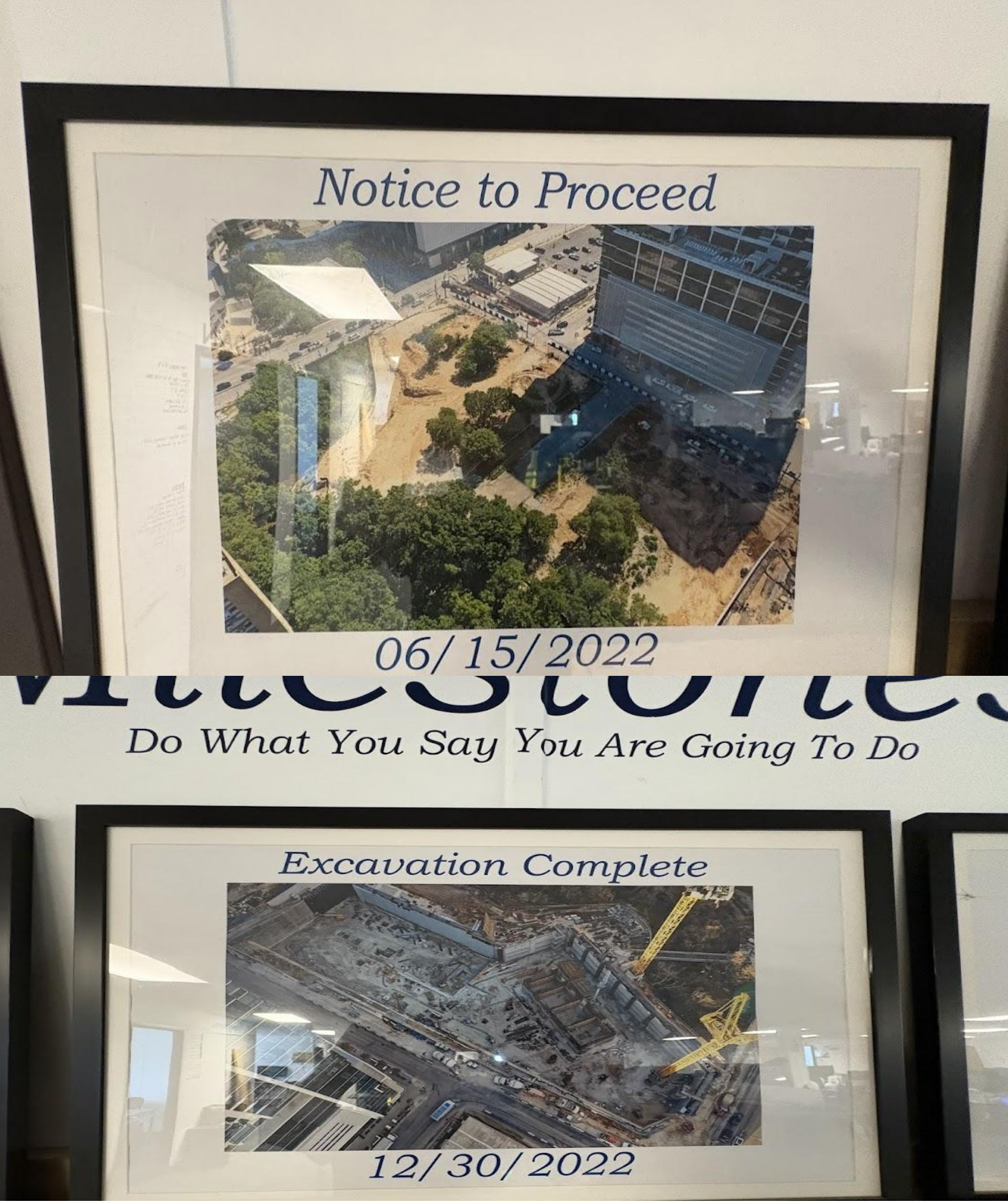


Pictured on 07/01/2025: Milestone wall in the DPR trailer office on the site of 98 Red River in Austin, TX.

Reliable Guide

98 Red River St. in Austin, Texas provides a reliable guide for baseline expected construction timeframes. The parcel of land acquired to build on was given a notice to proceed on June 15, 2022. The mat foundation was complete on December 7, 2022 and the excavation was complete on December 30, 2022. The building topped out on July 31, 2025.

As such, 74 floors were constructed in thirty-six 36 months for an average rate of 2.05 floors per month *(74 floor ÷ 36 months = 2.05555)*. Factoring in excavation time and that the podium only made grade by June 7, 2023, the rate of floor construction had to be well in excess of 2.05 floors per month. *74 ÷ 26 months = 2.84615 ^ = 2.8*.


Notice to Proceed
06/15/2022
Do What You Say You Are Going To Do
Excavation Complete
12/30/2022

Contradiction(s) Justifying Experiment

Construction, when observed and photographed by myself round-the clock over several days and weeks, appears very inconsistent with the given and stated timeframe to construct at 2-2.8 floors per month; see document Real-Time Extrapolation as a Function of Assessing Coherence.pdf.

Additionally, crane operation on construction sites when observed and timed by myself consistently shows there is not enough time in a month to perform the many various tasks needed to construct 2-2.8 floors per month.

Suitable Supervisors

Engineering and Physics students are well suited to help conduct the observations required for this experiment, while under the direct supervision of Professors. They would probably be relied upon to devise the experiment.

If students could perform the labor for each site observed, in exchange for academic credit, the cost of conducting this endeavor would be reduced to the hard costs for digital cameras and analogue film, i.e., not much relative to what most rigorous scientific experimentation costs to conduct.

Suitable Construction Company

There are many world-class construction firms that operate in Austin, Texas.

Turner Construction is nothing less than a world-class builder and operates with offices in Austin, Texas.