



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. *When will the name officially change from Boulder History Museum to Museum of Boulder?***
A: In October 2016.
- 2. *Which locations did the Museum consider?***
A: More than 20 sites in Boulder were evaluated before the museum settled on the Masonic Lodge. We had a strong preference for returning the museum to downtown Boulder, where the museum operated from the mid 1940s through the early 1980s.
- 3. *Will there be parking at the new museum?***
A: Yes, the Masonic Lodge building currently has 26 car parking spaces, although that number may be reduced somewhat to accommodate building renovations and provide parking for bicycles and for people with disabilities. Naturally, the museum will encourage its visitors to walk, bike, or take public transportation whenever possible.
- 4. *Will the Museum of Boulder need to hire additional staff for the new facility?***
A: Yes, we anticipate that the new museum will have significantly greater attendance and have more extensive programs. We will modestly increase our staff so that our visitors enjoy the same quality experience that they have come to expect at our existing, smaller-scale museum.
- 5. *What are the professional credentials of the staff that assures me this will be state-of-the-art?***
A: The Museum of Boulder is dedicated to maintaining a highly trained, professional staff. The museum's CEO, Nancy Geyer, has been working as a museum professional for 30 years and has experience in science museums, children's museums and history museums. She has a graduate degree in Museum Studies, has taught in the U of Colorado graduate program in Museum Studies and is active in national, professional museum associations. The current staff are all experienced museum professionals. The business plan for the Museum of Boulder includes an expanded staff to ensure we have the appropriate expertise to operate a state-of-the-art museum.
- 6. *What professionals will you use?***
A: We have hired OZ Architecture to be our principal architects. Quatrefoil Associates, Inc. is serving as exhibitor design consultants. Roecker Consulting Group, LLC served as capital campaign counsel.
- 7. *Will there be green elements in the new museum? What are they?***
A: We will renovate the Masonic Lodge in such a way that the new museum will meet the high standards required to rent exhibitions from the Smithsonian Institution and other prestigious museums around the country. This means that we will maintain temperatures and humidity within certain narrow ranges, using special wall, door, and window

insulation. This will have the added benefit of reducing energy consumption to heat and cool the building. We are exploring installing solar panels on the building to generate some of our own power. And we will encourage our visitors to use non-auto transportation to arrive at the museum, by walking, riding the bus, using B-Cycle, and riding their own bikes.

8. *What will happen to the current site – the Harbeck Bergheim House?*

A: The house is owned by the City of Boulder and the museum will relinquish its lease when it moves out. The city is considering what to do with the house.

9. *When do you have to move out of the Harbeck Bergheim House?*

A: Shortly before we open the new museum.

10. *What happens if you can't raise all the dollars needed to complete the capital campaign? What will happen to my pledge payments to date?*

A: While we would prefer to raise all of the money in advance and execute our building renovation and exhibit fabrication in a unified fashion, several elements of the project can be phased over time in the event that the capital campaign takes longer than anticipated. All funds raised in the early stages of the campaign will be put to good use in renovating the building and developing the exhibits.

11. *I think human services are the most important things to support in Boulder. Why should this be a priority in my giving?*

A: The museum supports human services by providing a safe and enriching place for children and adults to learn and grow. Beyond the basic needs of housing and food, every person needs interaction with others and a place where they can learn about their environment. The Museum of Boulder will provide a place for children to develop their motor skills and interactive capacities, and for adults to learn about history, science, nature, technology, food, the environment, and politics, sharing what they learn with others and engaging in constructive discussion about a shared future.

12. *How do I know that you will use my gift for the new facility and not something else?*

A: The \$11 million raised in the capital campaign will be used for four things: (i) purchase of the Masonic Lodge building; (ii) renovation of the Masonic lodge building; (iii) fabrication of exhibits; and (iv) \$500,000 to cover anticipated operating shortfalls during the first three years after the new museum opens (we conservatively anticipate that the museum will be cash-flow positive in the third and subsequent years). During the capital campaign and construction, we will report to donors the contributions we receive and spend. In the event that we raise more than \$11 million in the capital campaign, we will place the excess in the Museum's endowment, allowing even better programs and exhibits and pre-funding potential future expansion of the museum.

13. *Will the number of Board of Trustees expand once it becomes the Museum of Boulder?*

A: The museum's by-laws permit the Board of Trustees to have between 12 and 23 members. At the 2016 annual meeting, the Board was expanded to 21 members so that the increased work of planning the new museum could be more equitably shared among a wide range of people from the community.

14. *When can we expect the first traveling experiences at the Museum of Boulder? Have you already scheduled these experiences?*

A: We anticipate that the first temporary exhibits will be on display when the new museum opens. As with most museums, some of our temporary displays will be borrowed from other museums (“traveling” exhibits) and some will be home grown, using some of the 42,000 Boulder artifacts in our collection. We have not yet decided what our very first temporary exhibit will be.

15. *What percentage of the Museum’s revenue comes from public funding?*

A: Approximately 20 percent of the museum’s current revenues come from direct or indirect government support. We anticipate that this percentage will be about the same with the new museum’s larger budget.

16. *What percentage of the dollars being raised for the capital campaign are going to fundraising costs?*

A: Less than two percent.

17. *Will the Boulder History Museum accept gifts of stock to the capital campaign?*

A: Yes, the museum will accept stock, bonds, mutual funds, and any other items of value than can be readily liquidated. Gifts such as real estate will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

18. *What about planned gifts?*

A: The museum will be grateful for any bequests, whether direct or through trust vehicles. Because of the difficulty in valuing future gifts, only immediate gifts and short-term pledges will be immediately recognized at the new museum. Bequests will be recognized when realized by the museum.