



January 11, 2019

Museum and Heritage Fund Advisory Board
Routt County, CO

RE: Tread of Pioneers Museum
2019 Budget and 2018 Financial Statements

Attached you will find the following documents:

- MAHFAB Financial Summary Form
- 2018 Year-End Income and Expense Statement
- 2018 Year-End Balance Sheet
- 2017 Annual Report
- 2019 Approved Budget

The Museum and Heritage mill levy funds disbursed to the Tread of Pioneers Museum have been used to continue an ever-expanding array of preservation and educational activities, and to reach increased audiences. 2018 YTD Entrance attendance increased 11% over 2017 and 24% over 2016. YTD Tours/Group attendance decreased 13% over 2017 and increased 66% over 2016. YTD Programs/Events attendance stayed the same as 2017 and increased 9% over 2016. YTD Overall/Total Museum attendance increased 3% over 2017 and 18% over 2016. A highlight of our **programs, events, and tours** includes:

- Weekly summer walking tours including the Downtown Historical Walking Tours and Olympic Heritage Walking Tours
- Open Houses at the Historic Mesa School
- Summer Brown Bag Lecture Series
- Guided tours of historical landmarks and byways
- Author talks and book signings
- Winter Historical Film Series at the historic Chief Theater
- A Taste of History Food and Recipe Series
- History Happy Hours at a local brewery
- Ute Indian Heritage programs and events
- School tours and other children's programs
- Hosted events and exhibits that celebrate our Olympic heritage in light of the 2018 Olympic season

We often partner with local organizations to present our programs, tours and events for maximum community benefit. **Local partners** include Community Agriculture Alliance, Historic Routt County, Bud Werner Library, Yampatika, Chief Theater, Steamboat Springs School District, Steamboat Springs Arts Council, Steamboat Art Museum, Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club and more. **Annual events** continue like the Pioneer Day 4th of July Block Party, Leckenby and Larson Pioneer Awards, Festival of Trees and the Yule Log Hunt.

The mill levy funds have also supported our many **exhibits** including the Foundations of Steamboat exhibit, honoring significant local families and now the American Legion and World War I servicemen; Staking Their Claim: Pioneer Settlement in the Yampa Valley; Once Upon a Town: The Building of Routt County's

Communities; Olympian Tribute display at the top of the Steamboat Ski Area; seasonal and continual exhibit updates throughout the museum; and more.

We continue to conduct **oral histories** and with MAHFAB grant support and worked with the Bud Werner Library to transcribe and make available online all materials, including oral histories, from the *Three Wire Winter* magazine project. We continue to transcribe the remainder of our massive oral history collection with the support of MAHFAB. Collection management and artifact **preservation** continues to be a key focus through the efforts of our full-time, professionally trained Curator. Each year, we continue to receive hundreds of significant local artifacts, photos, films, documents and other materials that capture the unique history of our area. Much of our collection, including our films and photos, have been digitized and are available online.

New this year: We are thrilled to announce that we received the entire 130-year photo archive from the *Steamboat Pilot* newspaper, Steamboat Springs' oldest business. We hired a consultant to help us plan for the project, and have begun to sort, preserve, and scan the massive collection. To help with this and other projects, we hired two Colorado Episcopal Service Corps members. This is the third year the museum has participated in the program, and we are lucky to have these two museum trained professionals on our temporary staff.

We have many exciting projects and plans for **2019** including:

- Assess, organize, preserve and digitize the *Steamboat Pilot* newspaper photo archive
- Continue to transcribe, digitize and create online access to *Three Wire Winter* magazine materials and other oral histories
- Continue to transcribe our oral history collection; conduct new oral histories
- 2019 feature exhibit on early tourism and postcards in Steamboat Springs
- Create an audio tour post for Howelsen Hill and associated history
- Continue popular programming offerings including "A Taste of History" series (local historic cooking methods, recipes and food tastings); History Happy Hours; and more
- Increase outreach and programming in local schools
- Expand partnership programs and events with other local nonprofits
- Continue all of our annual programs, tours, and events and increase attendance

Please take a look at the attached 2017 annual report, which was created for our June 2018 annual meeting that includes a summary of our 2017-18 highlights. Please let me know if you have any questions about our programs and activities, and thank you for your continued support of the Tread of Pioneers Museum.



Candice Bannister, Executive Director
Tread of Pioneers Museum