



Museum of Riverside

Five-Year Strategic Plan 2022-2027

Approved for adoption by the Museum of Riverside Board on April 27, 2022. Approved by City Council on July 5, 2022.

Status reports as of 31 March 2026 are in red.

Mission

As a center for learning, the Museum of Riverside interacts with the community to collect, preserve, explore, and interpret the cultural and natural history of Riverside and its region.



Plan Background

Envision Riverside 2025 – the City’s Strategic Plan

The Museum of Riverside (Museum) has been a department of the City of Riverside since its founding in 1924. The City is pivotal to the past and future success of the Museum. It is the largest single funder of the Museum and wholly owns six properties overseen by the Museum. The Museum must remain sensitive to government relationships and mindful of the need for nimble and creative planning to adjust to realities that may affect Museum funding and operations.

In October 2020, Riverside City Council approved a new strategic plan for the City. Its strategic priorities are both idealistic and practical:

- ✓ Arts, Culture, and Recreation
- ✓ Community Well-Being
- ✓ Economic Opportunity
- ✓ Environmental Stewardship
- ✓ High-Performing Government
- ✓ Infrastructure, Mobility, and Connectivity

Each priority is to be informed by the following cross-cutting threads:



- ✓ Community Trust
- ✓ Equity
- ✓ Fiscal Responsibility
- ✓ Innovation
- ✓ Sustainability and Resiliency

The Museum’s activities inherently support the City priority titled Arts, Culture, and Recreation. Further, the Museum can play a large role in enhancing Community Well-Being. While the Museum is not the driver of the City’s other priorities, it can contribute to all. Further, insofar as the Museum’s activities contribute to more general goals supporting education, tourism, and creative placemaking, the Museum can be a key player.

Museum-Specific Assessments

The Museum Department continues a multi-year process of addressing concerns raised by professional assessments and reviews conducted in 2016 and 2017 by the American Alliance of Museums’ Re-Accreditation Visiting Committee and by Museum Management Consultants, Inc., San Francisco. These reports contain valid recommendations that remain to be implemented. This symbol— ◊ —indicates actions that address those recommendations.

The museum field as a whole is also guided by the American Alliance of Museums’ (AAM) own [strategic plan](#). The principles and goals it foregrounds will continue to inform the Museum’s goals. The AAM’s priorities include Social & Community Impact, DEAI & Anti-racism, the Museum Community, and the Way We Work.





Introduction

Renewal of Museum's Five-Year Plan

The Museum of Riverside approaches the renewal and extension of its five-year Strategic Plan (Plan) with the goal of adjusting it to the delays to some of the Museum's most important goals caused by the pandemic that began in March 2020. Some of the actions in the 2019-2024 plan have been completed, and the Museum remains broadly committed to the ideals and longer-term goals stated in that version of the Plan.

Institutional evolution and change in the coming five-year period pivot on four key functions:

- ✓ **Renovation, Expansion, and Access**
 - Main Museum
 - Harada House and Interpretive Center
 - Heritage House
- ✓ **Inspiring and Connecting**
 - Celebrating a Century
 - Outreach, Identity, and Engagement
 - Education and Digital Resources
- ✓ **Stewardship**
 - Collections Management
 - Supporting Community
 - Supporting Scholarship
- ✓ **Maximizing Resources**
 - Growing the Museum Team
 - Diversifying Revenue



New Plan for 2022 through 2027

The Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2022-2023 through 2026-2027 emphasizes goals that advance the Museum beyond its baseline activities and responsibilities.¹ The Plan is the result of multiple discussions between August 2021 and March 2022 among staff, the Museum of Riverside Board, the Riverside Museum Associates, the Harada House Foundation, other City staff, and stakeholders who are eager for the return of a fully operational and accessible Museum of Riverside. The Museum recommits to its mission and its many communities. Many of the goals and initiatives in this Plan are unique to the unusual circumstances prevailing when it was written and are aimed to continue the multi-year process of institutional overhaul and reinvention that began in 2017. This process aims to equip the Museum to serve 21st-century audiences and enter its second century of operation. The actions are 1) integral to larger goals and professional ideals, 2) central to effective Museum operations, 3) future-focused, and 4) aspirational. The Plan reaffirms the Museum’s goal to serve as a center for learning and as an indispensable community cultural resource.

Some assumptions underlie this Plan. First, genuine program growth and achieving best practices in all areas where they were previously lacking will require additional resources, staff in particular. Second, actions in this Plan that entail exploratory research may not necessarily result in the decision to implement a new exhibition, program, or project. Third, programs and activities that are not supported by existing resources—including human resources—may not be pursued even if they align closely with the Museum’s mission.

Staff are indicated by name for positions that are filled at this time this Plan is approved. Positions not filled are indicated by title. Responsibility for actions tied to vacant positions filter up to the filled position above. When new staff are recruited, revisions will be made during quarterly status reports. Advisory bodies indicated are those directly associated with the Museum and established to provide support solely to the Museum. It is understood that other City departments and individuals will play advisory and other roles who may not all be named in this Plan.

- * = Indicates a staff position not created and / or filled at the time of Plan approval. Until the position is filled, responsibility reverts to the individual to whom that absent staffer would have reported. Positions not filled will result in modification of plan goals, timetables, or both.
- ◇ = Supports a recommendation from the 2016-2017 Museum Management Consultants’ assessment and/or the AAM Re-Accreditation Visiting Committee’s report.
- green = Information in green in the Financial Impact column indicates an action for which revenues may exceed or partially offset costs.
- RMA = Riverside Museum Associates
- HHF = Harada House Foundation

¹ The Plan does not describe ongoing activities and community collaborations fundamental in any year, nor does it restate position descriptions or professional standards.



Quick Reference to Strategic Priorities

Renovation, Expansion, Access	Inspiring and Connecting	Stewardship	Maximizing Resources
Main Museum renovation and expansion	Centenary exhibition in 2024	Further implementation of TMS Collections	Inclusively create new vision and core values statements
New Nature Lab	Additional centenary programs and promotion in 2024	Complete collection relocation and plans for rehousing	Align staffing structure with museum-field best practices
Proactive exhibition planning	Complete implementation of new Museum brand	Address environmental conditions in collections storage	Establish training in emergency preparedness, object handling, and customer service
Harada House rehabilitation	Community mini-exhibitions	All-sites security audit	Expand volunteer recruitment
Harada House documentary	Effective program evaluation	Develop long-range conservation plan and do most urgent treatments	Create new staff team dedicated to advancement and fundraising
Harada House Interpretive Center	Maintain community advisory teams	Prioritization of access in collecting and program development	Develop a “donor circle” program
Heritage House site enhancements	Expand botanical partnerships	Develop Indigenous advisory team	Support the Museum’s 501(c)(3) organizations.
Heritage House historic structures report	Community event participation	Participate in collaborative online collection databases.	Implement a comprehensive fee schedule
Heritage House expanded public access	Prepare in 2026 for reaccreditation review		
Heritage House furnishings goals	Expand educational outreach		
	New educational partners		
	Youth programs		
	Revitalized docent program		
	Expand university internships		
	Adult program development		
	Digital program development		



Strategic Goal: RENOVATION, EXPANSION, AND ACCESS

As of the initial date of this plan, only one of the Museum’s four sites intended for public access is accessible—Heritage House. The highest priorities of the Museum include 1) completing the renovation, expansion, and reopening of the main museum, 2) opening for the first time Harada House and its Interpretive Center, 3) expanding and improving access to Heritage House, and 4) expanding program outreach to the community. A re-envisioning of the main museum began in 2019 and has passed through a key approval stage, the Budget Engagement Commission. In July 2021, the fundraising goal for Harada House was achieved, which permits the rehabilitation to proceed, including its Interpretive Center.

Key actions center on:

- ✓ Main Museum
- ✓ Harada House and Interpretive Center
- ✓ Heritage House

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating</i> <i>C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate</i> <i>B=mid-plan</i> <i>C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Main Museum: Implement renovation and expansion of Mission Inn Avenue site, including grounds and all planned and necessary support functions. Includes plan and protocols for operation.	Director, Operations Mgr.	General Services Department, Board, Museum’s advisory design team	C = Construction estimated at \$22 million. Project costs estimated at \$32 million. Current allocation from Measure Z is \$13.7 million; potential one-time revenue through sale of naming rights.	A, B, C	All audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovated and expanded site is opened by 31 December 2026: on time, on budget, and to acclaim. • No more than 10% of staff time is expended resolving unanticipated operational and procedural issues arising in the first year after reopening. 	Workplan action 1.1.3, 4.1.3

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<p><i>Status: ONGOING. BNBuilders began onsite work in July 2025. They have invoiced approximately 23% of the total contract as of 31 March. Underground discoveries have contributed to some delay in projected completion. Staff tasks proceeding on parallel tracks include developing a comprehensive reopening plan; finalizing the furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) needs, some which will require issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for building furnishings and for a Point of Service system; and establishing operating protocols for a facility that will be very different from the one that closed. The two RFPs are anticipated to release in Q4. Additional progress made through 31 March 2026 included completing and submitting the FY2026-2028 biennial budget, which includes the increment of operating budget increase expected after reopening.</i></p>							
<p>Main Museum – Nature Lab: Develop plan for Nature Lab including ongoing programming, plan for drop-in use, and mobile Nature Lab (Nature Lab on the Go).</p>	<p>Curator of Natural History, Museum Educator, Associate Educator, Assoc. Education Curator, Education Curator</p>	<p>Natural history colleagues</p>	<p>O = staff time, \$6,000-\$8,000 annually; sponsorship support is likely</p>	<p>A, B, C</p>	<p>All audiences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature Lab on the Go, to be launched first, works toward a goal of 2,500 contacts annually. Public satisfaction with the new Nature Lab in the renovated main museum exceeds 90%. Attendance in first three years of operation demonstrates steadily increasing use. 	<p>Workplan actions 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.4</p>
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The design of the new Nature Lab is part of the scope of the exhibition designers, Riggs Ward Design, which has been at work on this and the other reopening exhibitions since 2023-2024, Q3. Funding that has accumulated from the Clark Fund botanical endowment over the past few years may be put to use in the Nature Lab. The construction document phase (CD) is 50% completed and the script for the new Nature Lab is finalized.</i></p>							
<p>Main Museum – Exhibitions: Schedule and implement three exhibitions to reopen the Mission Inn Avenue site memorably.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Im/migration Food traditions Riverside vignettes 	<p>Director, *Mgr. of Curatorial Services</p>	<p>Museum’s program advisory team, exhibition design firm, guest curators</p>	<p>O = \$150,000 to \$250,000 C = tentatively set at \$500,000 to \$750,000 for mobile walls and cases within renovation project</p>	<p>B, C</p>	<p>All audiences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three exhibitions reopen the downtown site on time and on budget. A broad cross-section of the community and clear majority of visitors respond positively to reopening exhibitions. 	<p>Workplan actions 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 1.5.4, 3.4.2</p>

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<p><i>Status: ONGOING AND ON SCHEDULE. Exhibition design firm Riggs Ward Design (RWD) continues to work with the program staff on four thematic areas of exhibition development (including Nature Lab). A separate RFP for fabrication and acquisition of casework and equipment will follow, as will a separate agreement with RWD to develop the gallery tech they've designed. Progress on the four exhibition themes is at 50% CDs. NOTE: With extended vacancies among program staff, planning the reopening exhibitions has been more difficult and demanding on existing staff's time than had been anticipated. It is likely that staff will request that RWD pause work until the staff side of the planning (script, object sourcing, and similar) can catch up.</i></p>							
<p>Harada House: ♦ Complete the rehabilitation of Harada House. • Refurnish the house. • Develop operational plan and open the house to the public.</p>	Director, Operations Mgr., Curator of Historic Structures History	General Services Department, Board, Harada House Project Team, Harada House Foundation	O = staff time, C = seven-figure budget TBD, the funding for which has been secured	A, B, C	All audiences, especially Japanese American, civil rights, public historians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harada House rehabilitated to Secretary of the Interior Standards and industry's best practices by 30 June 2026. • Site is opened to the public, and public satisfaction with the site exceeds 90%. 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 1.5.4, 2.4.1, 2.4.6
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The architectural design team, K+R Design, has completed 50% CDs and provided preliminary cost estimates. Additional funding will have to be raised, but not as much as feared. K+R has issued an aggressive schedule that has work on site beginning in 2026, and this is feasible. A pre-qualification process for general contractors is completed with three firms selected. Progress was slowed in Q3 due to the need for additional soils assessment. Staff will take the Harada House project to the Cultural Heritage Board in May 2026 for a renewed Certificate of Appropriateness.</i></p>							
<p>Harada House: Oversee production of documentary of the rehabilitation process and the Harada story.</p>	Director, Curator of Historic Structures History	Harada House Project Team, Harada House Foundation	O = staff time; six-figure budget for documentary TBD; grant and sponsorship potential	A, B, C	All audiences, especially Japanese American, civil rights, public historians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary is completed within six months of public opening of the house. • It is distributed widely and earns critical praise. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 2.4.6
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. Holden Films has begun review of archival material and scheduling of interviews, using a list staff prepared. Pre-interviews have begun. Over 50% of the funding necessary for this project has yet to be raised. A grant application that would support this project was submitted in Q3.</i></p>							
<p>Harada House Interpretive Center:</p>	Director, Operations Mgr., Curator	General Services Department,	O = staff time; C = CDBG ² funding (\$340,028);	A, B	All audiences, especially Japanese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satisfactory completion of project following Secretary 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2,

² CDBG = Community Development Block Grants, a federal grant program

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Reconstruct the site f.k.a. Robinson House. Includes developing initial Harada-related exhibition.	of Historic Structures History	Board, Harada House Project Team, Harada House Foundation	additional costs anticipated to be covered by Harada campaign revenues		American, civil rights, public historians.	of the Interior's standards by 30 June 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public satisfaction is expressed regarding the opportunity to view Harada site under rehabilitation. 	1.2.3, 1.5.2, 1.5.4, 2.4.1, 2.4.6, 4.1.3
<i>Status: ONGOING. K+R Design has completed 50% CDs. They anticipate work on site to begin in 2026. Planning for the initial exhibition in the Interpretive Center remains on pause until a new Curator of History is on board or until the construction schedule requires staff to find an alternative.</i>							
Heritage House: Continue addressing short- and long-term structural and site enhancement needs, as identified on CIP and internal lists. Includes redoing paths, fencing, wayfinding, and security.	Director, Operations Mgr., Curator of Historic Structures History, Facilities	General Services Department	O = staff time C = CDBG funding for paths (\$321,092) O/C = specific project costs TBD C = signage on parallel track with all-site wayfinding	A, B, C	All audiences, site volunteers, partner groups such as Dickens Festival organizers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paths are addressed satisfactorily, including signage, by 30 November 2022. Prioritized plan to address additional projects established by 31 December 2022 for completion by 30 June 2027. 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.4.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.4
<i>Status: ONGOING. No major projects are pending, although small upgrades and ongoing maintenance continue. Completed so far in the past year or so are improved site fencing, repainting the gift shop, window work, carriage house kitchen improvements, carriage house office improvements, and installation of bike racks. Pending are carriage house lighting in downstairs exhibition space, site wayfinding signage, and additional small tasks.</i>							
Heritage House: Obtain historic structures report.	Curator of Historic Structures History	RMA	O = consultant cost estimated at \$25,000	B	Internal	Completed report is in hand by 30 June 2024.	Workplan action 1.2.2
<i>Status: PENDING. Anticipated costs were incorporated into the biennial budgets for FY2025-2026 but have been shifted to the forthcoming biennium due to City spending restrictions. Staff will complete the draft the scope of work for the eventual RFP to identify a consultant when it becomes clear that we can proceed. Recruitment of a new Curator of History will be important to move this project along.</i>							
Heritage House: Secure resources necessary to increase	Director, Curator of Historic	RMA, City volunteer program	O = staff time; may require new part-time or	A, B	Audiences seeking historic	Additional staffing (volunteer or paid) is approved, recruited, trained, and in place to	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2,

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open hours at Heritage House.	Structures History		temporary staff; modest increased admissions / donations revenue		house experiences	increase hours by one day per week by seasonal reopening in September 2024.	1.2.3, 1.4.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.4
<i>Status: NO PROGRESS. Not currently funded.</i>							
Heritage House – Collections: Develop comprehensive plan for interpretation, care, and enhancement of furnishings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furnishings plan • Digital room books • ♦ Inventory • Storage plan 	Curator of Historic Structures History	Collections Committee, RMA	O = staff time, archival storage supplies, and possible software costs for digital room books	A, B, C	Internal; tour audiences for room books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furnishings plan done by 31 December 2023. • Digital room books by 30 June 2024. • Full inventory of props and collections completed by 30 June 2025. • Storage plan implemented by 30 June 2026. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.5.2
<i>Status: NO PROGRESS. Unanticipated turnover in the Curator of History role has delayed progress on this action.</i>							

Strategic Goal: INSPIRING and CONNECTING

The Museum’s 100th anniversary is a one-time opportunity that can no longer be anticipated to be celebrated in a new downtown museum building. A high priority is developing multiple ways to celebrate this milestone throughout the anniversary year 2024. Prolonged closure of the Museum’s main site also demands additional emphasis on reaching our communities beyond our walls, including re-envisioning what an “exhibition” is, reconsidering communications, adapting educational programming for use both on- and off-site, and meaningful evaluation. These may include experiential learning opportunities such as drop-in programs outdoors, curriculum-based school tours, camps conducted at Parks or Library facilities, special events, lectures, performances, and other informal enrichment programs.



Key actions center on:

- ✓ Celebrating a Century
- ✓ Outreach, Identity, and Engagement
- ✓ Education and Digital Resources

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating</i> <i>C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate</i> <i>B=mid-plan</i> <i>C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Celebrating a Century - Exhibitions: Secure a site partner to permit curation of an exhibition highlighting the collections to mark the centenary (2024).	Director, all senior staff/team leaders	Museum's program advisory team, site partner TBD	O = staff time; early estimate \$125,000 for exhibition; sponsorship potential	A, B	All audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition plan finalized, with checklists and scripts, by 30 June 2023. • Fundraising success by 31 December 2023. • All City departments and partners playing a part have integrated the Museum's 100th into their own annual plans for 2024. • An innovative centenary exhibition opens to acclaim in the second half of 2024. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 3.4.2
<i>Status: COMPLETED. MOU between the Museum/City and the Center for Social Justice and Civil Liberties was executed. This exhibition opened on schedule on 25 July 2024 and closed on schedule after 5 January 2025. While visitation was modest at this site, the exhibition was well received and beautifully designed to foreground a very eclectic list of collection materials.</i>							
Celebrating a Century - Programming: Finalize programming and partnerships to mark centenary (2024). To include events, mini-exhibitions, educational programs, and market-	Director, all senior staff/team leaders	Museum's program advisory team, cultural directors' consortium, collaborative partners TBD	O = staff time; \$100,000 for other programming and collateral; sponsorship potential	A, B	All audiences, school districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan is developed by 30 June 2023, including calendaring all 2024 programming. • Fundraising success is achieved by 31 December 2023. 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 3.4.2

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
ing. May include presence in libraries aimed at children.						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff are clear about their roles to execute all programs on schedule during 2024. Each element achieves at least a 90% audience satisfaction rate. 	
<p><i>Status: COMPLETED. 100th anniversary celebration comprised the exhibition Dear Riverside, the schedule of “100 Programs for 100 Years” (an increase of about 50% over our baseline programming level), and a 100th anniversary gala. Staff successfully completed the 100 programs. Many programs exceeded attendance expectations. Programs were completed thanks to collaboration with three dozen area partners and as many individual program presenters. Summary reports have been completed as required, revenue goals were exceeded, partners thanked, and overall attendance goals exceeded. This project is judged to have been completed well.</i></p>							
<p>Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Branding: ◇ Complete implementation of new Museum brand. Includes overhaul of website with a plan for maintaining it.</p>	Director, *Mgr. of Institutional Advancement	City Marketing Department, Museum’s advisory rebranding team, Board	O = Staff time; initial costs estimated at \$50,000 associated with formatting, fabrication, printing; additional TBD for wayfinding signage	A, B	All audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New brand is applied to digital communications, printed materials, internal documents, and signage by or before the main site reopening. ADA-compliant website is completed by 31 December 2022, is easily updatable by staff, and achieves at least a 90% positive response. 	Workplan action 1.2.4
<p><i>Status: COMPLETED. The new website launched at the end of October 2025. The website was the last major action needed to complete implementation of the Museum’s brand, which was adopted in 2021. The website is now live, but much enrichment of it awaits, and this work will be ongoing for some time.</i></p>							
<p>Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Exhibitions: Develop and install mini-exhibitions with</p>	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services	Museum’s program advisory team	O = \$2,000-\$10,000 each, implementing one to two per year; grant potential	A, B, C	Prioritize under-served neighborhood locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one new or renewed mini-exhibition is installed annually up to a maximum of five maintained at any given time. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 3.4.2

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fresh design in key community locations.						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A schedule of additional exhibitions is confirmed at least one year in advance of work commencing. 	
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. Staff have been unable to resolve the video problem with the mini-museum in the Casa Blanca library and installed a QR code as a temporary work-around. Development of a second mini-museum on the topic of grizzlies in southern California will resume planning in 2026. Its location is TBD but it is desired to be on the west side of town. An update of the citrus-themed cases in the Arlington branch of the library was installed in October 2023. A list of potential additional "mini-museums" exists, but execution of additional mini-museums must wait until all program staff vacancies are filled and we are past the labor-intensive phases of the reopening exhibition plans.</i></p>							
<p>Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Evaluation:</p> <p>◇ Improve evaluative tools, including an effective audience survey mechanism and staff-level pre- and post-program assessments.</p>	<p>*Mgr. of Institutional Advancement, *Mgr. of Curatorial Services</p>	Marketing Department	O = staff time	A, B, C	Exhibition visitors, program users, event attendees, internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys provide statistically valid feedback that usefully informs program (re)development. Programs achieve 90% audience satisfaction, and staff experience reduction in last-minute surprises and programs that do not meet goals. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.4.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.4, 2.4.2
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. Curatorial Services Manager Jennifer Dickerson developed exhibition/program development and exhibition/program development and assessment tools. They include improvement of in-house mechanisms to ensure smooth planning and installation of exhibitions (exhibitory and prop inventories, monitoring checklists, exhibition development protocols, new accession processing checklists, and similar). Post-program assessments occur informally in curatorial team meetings.</i></p>							

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Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Community: Maintain advisory teams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • renovation (until reopening) • programs • marketing • cultural consortium • ad hoc, as required 	Director	All team members	O = staff time	A, B, C	Current and eventual post-reopening audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory teams are perceived as representative of the community. • Input from these teams informs program implementation. Teams opt to develop new goals so that they maintain relevance and community service after conclusion of specific exhibitions or programs. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 2.4.2, 2.4.6
<i>Status: ONGOING. In October 2025, Institutional Advancement Coordinator Chantal Downing began work with a grand reopening steering committee. Three meetings have occurred to date. This team will morph after reopening into a standing team for marketing, communications, and branding. The renovation/design team held its last meeting in November 2023 before being dissolved by the Museum Director. Teams that meet regularly or as needed continue to operate well: program team, collections committee, Harada House Project Team, and the informal area directors' consortium.</i>							
Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Community: Expand botanical partnerships in City and County regional parks. Including “bio-days,” naturalist walks, and digital programs.	Curator of Natural History	Parks Department, RivCo Parks, UCR, water district, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD)	O = staff time	C	Audiences enthusiastic about botany and parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual benefit among partners is perceived. • Economies of scale are realized in the execution of programs. • Popularity of Museum-based reference resources on native plants and urban wildlife can be documented. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2
<i>Status: ONGOING. Programming integrated into the 100 programs plan for 2024 moved this objective forward, under the leadership of the Curator of Natural History Ian Wright. Three naturalist walks were part of the 100 programs line-up, and four occurred in 2025. During the summer of 2025, the schedule of 2026 and 2027 programs was drafted, which include more nature walks in collaboration with our sister institutions. Outdoor programming and programs in collaboration with the Riverside Corona Regional Conservation District and others continues.</i>							

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Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – Community: Identify staff liaisons for effective participation in collaborative events such as Insect Fair, Tamale Festival, Día de los Muertos, and similar. Assess capacity for participation in others' events.	Museum Educator, Education Curator, all senior staff	Arts & Cultural Affairs, community advisory teams	O = staff time; direct project costs based on collaborative projects pursued each FY (anticipating a maximum of two per FY); sponsorship potential	A, B, C	Target audience varies according to event theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurably improved project execution with enriched educational content. • Smooth-running logistical support. • Maximum public clarity regarding museum's role (lead or contributing). • Increased attendance and media coverage. 	Workplan actions 1.1.2, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3
<i>Status: ONGOING. Staff continue to accept invitations to be present at others' festivals and events as staff time permits. Participation in others' events during FY23-24 and FY24-25 declined to enable MoR staff to execute its own ambitious 2024 program line-up, but the 100 programs line-up included collaborations with nearly three dozen other cultural and educational organizations. MoR participated in Día de los Muertos in November 2025, and our booth appears at events in parks, schools, and other festival locations. Due to short-staffing or conflicting events in which we're already involved, we declined several invitations to participate in 2025 and 2026 events at parks and others' sites. This will continue as the Museum remains short-staffed and much occupied with reopening plans.</i>							
Outreach, Identity, and Engagement – The Museum Community: Pursue reaccreditation successfully.	Director	All team members	O = staff time; some costs may be incurred addressing minor operational upgrades	C	Museum professional community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation begins mid-2026. • Self-study is successfully submitted by due date of 1 July 2027, at the end of this Plan. • Museum is subsequently reaccredited. 	General alignment with Arts, Culture and Recreation and High-Performing Government priorities

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
<p><i>Status: PENDING. The American Alliance of Museums is updating the accreditation process, more directly addressing standards for diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion (DEAI). It is unknown whether recent federal-level realities will alter this. The Museum will be due to complete and submit a full reaccreditation application in 2027. In conjunction with adoption of the Museum's own ethics policy, a Statement on Racism, Gender Inequity, and Other Forms of Discrimination was adopted (document approved by City Council on 5 September 2023). The Museum's recent adoption of meaningful and up-to-date core values and visions statements will be helpful for the reaccreditation process. Challenges anticipated include the slow progress on Harada House, the fact that the Museum may not quite yet have reopened when the visiting committee is likely to conduct its site review, and the limited degree to which the Museum has secured other-than-City financial support.</i></p>							
<p>Education and Digital Resources – Outreach Education: Proactively expand educational outreach to school districts, private schools, and home schoolers. Survey potential partners to ascertain needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • curriculum-based, especially ethnic studies • after-school • transportation 	<p>Museum Educator, Associate Educator, Education Curator, Assec. Education Curator</p>	<p>School district contacts, museum's program advisory team</p>	<p>O = staff time; modest costs for printed and digital materials; cost-sharing revenue to be pursued</p>	<p>A, B, C</p>	<p>Educators, schoolchildren, parents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships are maintained through active communications. • Cost-sharing is negotiated, as feasible. • Progress is reported quarterly on establishing Museum's role in aiding educators with ethnic studies mandates. • Partner feedback indicates that Museum partnerships assist educators in meeting their own curriculum mandates. 	<p>Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.6</p>
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. School tours occur at a modest pace. In 2025, staff were able to meet unusual requests for summer school tours of Heritage House. MoR is limited by the capacity of Heritage House and the available number of trained docents. Docents receive training to make the most of the temporary exhibitions installed at Heritage House. Staff educators have been tasked to increase their efforts to develop education kits (physical and digital) that can be used by docents, home schoolers, and others to amplify our reach. To reach more students, it will also be necessary for the educators to train docents to conduct more of these tours.</i></p>							

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Education and Digital Resources – Outreach Education: Develop at least one new outreach partner per year, targeting special needs groups.	Museum Educator, Associate Educator, Education Curator, Assoc. Education Curator Education Curator	Partner groups, program advisory team	O = staff time; modest costs for printed, digital, and program materials; grant and sponsorship potential	A, B, C	Project Bridge, Sherman Indian School, deaf community, senior centers, juvenile detention centers, and similar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships are maintained through active communications. Grant or sponsorship support is obtained for a portion of these special outreach programs. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3
<i>Status: ONGOING. The Museum’s 100th anniversary partnerships have expanded the list of cultural groups the Museum wishes to work with again. As the downtown site continues to be unavailable, much of the Museum’s programming is “outreach” by default.</i>							
Education and Digital Resources – Youth Engagement: Research and prepare a proposal for a junior curators’ program and/or a youth advisory team.	Museum Educator, Education Curator Education Curator	Partner groups, program advisory team	O = staff time	B	High school students	A defensible proposal is created by or before 30 June 2023 that recommends proceeding or not proceeding with such a program and why.	Workplan action 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 3.2.3
<i>Status: PENDING. This will occur after reopening of the main museum.</i>							
Education and Digital Resources – Docents: Revitalize docent program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage House (immediately) main museum (to sync with reopening) 	Museum Educator, Education Curator Education Curator	RMA	O = staff time, consulting costs for guest presenters / trainers	A, B, C	Docents and, by extension, visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By main museum reopening, size of docent corps increases by 25% over 2017 levels. Docent training program is year-round. Docents’ positive response rate is at least 75%. Attrition due to causes other than health, age, or relocation declines. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The docent training program for Heritage House touring docents continues to be refined, and a small number of potential new docents receive training once or twice annually. Because most people work, it is often difficult to retain the new trainees. Training occurs under the leadership of Museum Educator Teresa Woodard. Involvement of the eventual Curator of History is anticipated, and Curatorial Services Manager Jennifer Dickerson is also involved. Additional topics were identified to be standing items on training agendas: customer service, refreshers on collections care, sensitivity regarding cultural terminology, and emergency preparedness. A special training session was held in January 2026 for over forty docents and volunteers.</i></p>							
<p>Education and Digital Resources – Internships: Broaden university internship program; proactively define scope of opportunities.</p>	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services	UCR, CBU, La Sierra, RCCD, University of La Verne	O = staff time	A, B, C	University students in anthropology, natural history, history, ethnic studies	Museum is able to secure and support a minimum of two interns each academic term.	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 3.2.3
<p><i>Status: COMPLETED. Staff are considering this action complete because we have identified that our maximum capacity for hosting interns remains at three individuals per term, and we typically host interns at capacity. Staff communicate the availability of internship opportunities with UCR, CBU, RCCD, and La Sierra. We are often able to draw on past interns when we need to recruit Heritage House weekend staff, and some interns stay on as regular volunteers. Collection-sharing through the Inland Empire Memories project with UCR seems unlikely to resume.</i></p>							
<p>Education and Digital Resources – Adult Programs: Further develop adult programming.</p>	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services	Museum’s program advisory team	O = staff time; fees and travel expenses up to \$1,000 per program; modest participation fee revenue; limited sponsorship potential	C	Adult lifelong learners, ages 18 through senior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to reopening, at least six programs annually are successfully offered. • After reopening, at least twelve programs annually draw an average audience of at least 25 and a positive response rate of at least 90%. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. A diverse array of additional types of adult programming was part of the 100th anniversary program line-up, and the success of some of these new programs helped to determine future choices (for example, scent-making workshops, history and culture talks, after-dark programming at Heritage House, and nature hikes). Programs are chosen to be both entertaining and educational, including passive and hands-on opportunities.</i></p>							

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Education and Digital Resources – Digital Programs: Maintain steady production of new digital programs, disseminating through social media, YouTube, and website.	Museum Educator, Education Curator, all content specialists	Museum’s program advisory team	O = staff time and small investments in tech support and professional fees, estimated at \$2,500 annually	A, B, C	All audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of one new digital program is released every quarter. • Inaccuracies, when noted, are corrected immediately. • YouTube / other likes and view rates show steady growth. 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3
<i>Status: ONGOING. Videos have become a routine part of the seasonal exhibitions at Heritage House, and staff assist Chantal Downing in preparing reels for marketing purposes. Videos for inclusion in Dear Riverside were the priority in 2024. Videos are a central part of all “virtual program” kits, which continue to be developed at a pace staff can maintain until additional are possible when vacancies are filled. Release of our own videos on other planned topics will occur on an irregular schedule until further notice.</i>							

Strategic Goal: STEWARDSHIP

Work remains to bring documentation and preservation of the Museum’s collections up to standard. Many of these tasks will require more than five years, based on foreseeable staffing resources. Incremental milestones must be established to maintain progress on this behind-the-scenes function. Improved documentation and appropriate storage for all collections—Permanent, Community Collection, Education / Teaching Collection, Live Collection, and Library—is a prerequisite to effective public access to Riverside’s stories.

Key actions center on:

- ✓ Collections Management
- ✓ Supporting Community
- ✓ Supporting Scholarship

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating</i> <i>C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate</i> <i>B=mid-plan</i> <i>C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Collections Management - Documentation: Further develop staff competence with TMS Collections; implement digital visitor portal.	Collections Registrar	Collections Committee, IT Department	O = staff time; digital portal module cost TBD (anticipated >\$10,000)	A, B, C	Internal, internet audiences, collaborative database partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All custom configuration and definitions of authority levels are completed by 31 December 2022. Thereafter, a minimum of 5,000 records are added or cleaned up annually. Within six months of implementing digital portal, a minimum of 200 of the objects / specimens historically in greatest demand are available. 	General alignment with Arts, Culture and Recreation priority
<i>Status: ONGOING. Staff remain unable to set a time frame for launch of a digital visitor portal but included it in the budget for FY27-28. An informal plan is in place to activate the portal when at least a thousand of the Museum's records are in publicly presentable form. Digitizing and uploading collection records, particularly from scratch, is labor-intensive, and most institutions' collections departments—like ours—are understaffed. Proposed assistance offered to us in moving forward with selected digitizing in connection with a project under way at the California Citrus Historic Park has not progressed. Ian Wright and Katie Grim attended an international conference regarding current collection- and resource-sharing strategies and present a public program in February 2026 on developments in the field. Significant progress in bringing selected archival collections to a level to be released has occurred since the September 2025 hire of Archivist Steve Mandeville-Gamble.</i>							
Collections Management - Storage: For all disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete collection relocation to R1 and R2. Develop phased plan to resolve housing issues. ◇ Initiate a phased, rolling inventory plan. ◇ Equip effective workspaces in R1 and R2. 	Collections Registrar, content specialists	Collections Committee, tribal representatives	O = staff time	A, B	Internal, professional community, regional tribal entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A phased plan for storage of all collections is in place by 30 June 2023. Inventory is at least 25% completed by 30 June 2024. Within one year of anchoring and loading new storage cabinetry, a proposal to maximize fully R1 and R2 storage capacity is completed. 	General alignment with Arts, Culture and Recreation priority

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The continuing challenge of creating workstations impedes staff's ability to do certain projects or to recruit additional collections-specific volunteers, although some progress occurred has occurred throughout FY25-26. Reorganization in the storage warehouses to make more efficient and appropriate use of space made significant progress during the last push to empty the downtown building, which concluded in May 2025. Staff offices moved in September 2024, which also impacted overall management of Museum storage. The largest leap forward in this area has been due to the work the Museum's new Archivist Steve Mandeville-Gamble has been able to do reorganizing and rehousing the Harada family archives, and the work of Katie Grim in ensuring that spaces are prepared to host tribal groups requesting pre-repatriation consultations.</i></p>							
<p>Collections Management - Storage: Upgrade R1 and R2 environmental conditions; gather estimates and propose a phased implementation.</p>	<p>Collections Registrar, Director, Operations Mgr.</p>	<p>Consultant</p>	<p>O = staff time; C = limited grant potential</p>	<p>A, B, C</p>	<p>Internal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost estimates gathered and proposal prepared by 30 June 2023. • Implement upgrades by 30 June 2027. 	<p>General alignment with Arts, Culture and Recreation priority</p>
<p><i>Status: DEFERRED. A continued lack of the significant funding required to pursue this action leads staff to defer it. Unfunded projects to upgrade all systems will remain on the Museum's capital improvement project list, which is maintained by the General Services department. When an avenue to fund this action presents itself, staff will revisit to develop system standards and scopes of work. Not directly related to building systems, recent roof leaks have accelerated the effort to reroof two of the warehouses where collections are held. Staff are hopeful that this project will occur in 2026.</i></p>							
<p>Collections Management - Security: In context of downtown site renovation, conduct an all-sites security audit and upgrade / integrate all systems and procedures.</p>	<p>Collections Registrar, Operations Mgr., Sr. Office Specialist</p>	<p>IT, General Services departments</p>	<p>O = staff time; hardware and software costs TBD; downtown site costs to be part of Measure Z renovation budget</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Internal</p>	<p>Effective, up-to-date security surveillance systems are in place at all sites by the reopening of the downtown site.</p>	<p>Workplan action 1.4.1</p>
<p><i>Status: PENDING. A fully up-to-date security system will be part of the new downtown site. As staff gain a better understanding of its proposed operation, operational procedures relating to security can be examined and upgraded. Upgrades continue to be made incrementally at Heritage House to improve all tech systems, but reliable connectivity remains an issue at that site. Video surveillance at Heritage House has been deemed impractical.</i></p>							
<p>Collections Management - Conservation:</p>	<p>Collections Registrar,</p>	<p>Collections Committee</p>	<p>O = staff time; individual</p>	<p>A, B, C</p>	<p>Internal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plan is adopted internally by 31 December 	<p>General alignment with</p>

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Develop long-range conservation plan. • Complete object treatments per prioritized plan. 	content specialists		conservation project costs TBD; grant potential for some elements			2023 that includes a prioritized list of objects or collections for direct treatment or rehousing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual treatments identified for the years of this plan are completed on time. 	Arts, Culture and Recreation priority
<p><i>Status: DEFERRED. Virtually no progress has occurred on drafting a long-range conservation plan due to the immediate demands on staff time. However, individual treatments continue to be pursued according to urgency and the anticipated need for them in future exhibitions. Ongoing issues with water leaks in the main collection storage warehouse occasionally result in damage to objects (water leakage leading directly to mold growth). Staff respond to these discoveries promptly.</i></p>							
<p>Supporting Community: Align with City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives to prioritize improved access and inclusion in collecting and program development.</p>	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services, content specialists	Collections Committee; advisory program team	O = staff time; possible modest costs in focus groups, communications	A, B, C	All internal and external audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum earns praise for the diversity of its programming and access to collections. • Board and staff diversity increases, including temp, intern, and volunteer demographics. 	Alignment with Community Well-Being priority
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The Museum's own ethics and conduct policy includes an anti-discrimination / anti-racism statement as well as the Museum's land acknowledgement statement. Council approved this policy document on 5 September 2023. Exhibitions and programs since then have acknowledged in many ways the Museum's complex history with regard to equity in the creation and interpretation of the collections. The most demanding phase of the Museum's assistance to the Public Works Department (PW) in developing content for 24 markers on a downtown Civil Rights Walk (CRW) is completed. This project has moved to production, and the Museum will assist all sites in fleshing out their portions of the CRW website and will support the ribbon-cutting event when PW unveils the project in late 2026.</i></p>							
<p>Supporting Community: Maintain and grow regular contact with existing Indigenous advisory team regarding physical and interpretive</p>	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services, Anthro. Cur.	Collections Committee	O = staff time	A, B, C	Indigenous advisory team; academic and professional communities; general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team is convened for critical review of program plans at least once annually. • Indigenous advisory team is consulted early in decision-making processes 	Workplan actions 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.5.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.6

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
use of Indigenous resources.						affecting Indigenous resources. • A respectful exchange is maintained.	
<i>Status: ONGOING. Staff continue to work within the new guidelines regarding the way the Museum can exhibit, publish, and interpret its Indigenous resources, due to revisions to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Tribals claims and counter-claims for artifacts under "Cal-NAPGRA" continue. Statements and other content from Indigenous community members were part of Dear Riverside.</i>							
Supporting Scholarship: Identify opportunities for participation in collaborative databases and ascertain upload protocols. Examples include Vertnet, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Inland Empire Memories, Calisphere, and similar.	*Mgr. of Curatorial Services, content specialists, Collections Registrar	Collections Committee	O = staff time; possible modest costs to participate in some databases	A, B, C	Academic and professional communities; general public	Selections from Museum's collections are usefully available through a minimum of three collaborative databases by 30 June 2024. These databases are linked on the Museum's website.	Workplan actions 1.2.2, 1.2.3
<i>Status: PENDING. Membership in UCR Libraries' Inland Empire Memories has been formalized, and while this project began in a promising way, staff turnover in the UCR libraries has delayed implementation of this project, and it now seems unlikely to develop. Records that will be prepared for the Museum's own online portal will also be in a condition to share with Calisphere and other major online resources.</i>							

Strategic Goal: MAXIMIZING RESOURCES

The Museum's resources include its community—the source of its stories and collections. An ethic that places the public and its experiences first must pervade all activities. Other resources include the Museum's staff, facilities, collections, funding sources, reputation, and institutional history. Maximizing resources inherently includes conscious attention to sustainability. Sustainability means more than ensuring that the Museum's financial needs are aligned with its funding. It includes environmental and cultural imperatives as well. To adopt a well-known and widely adopted definition of the concept, the



Museum embraces an interpretation that “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”³ The Museum has a long history of respect for cultural diversity, which will be further developed along with a more explicit embrace of environmentally sustainable operational choices. To integrate sustainable choices into all operations, policy and procedural statements will reflect this emphasis.

Key actions center on:

- ✓ Growing the Museum Team
- ✓ Diversifying Revenue
- ✓ Fiscal Responsibility

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Mission and vision: Establish an inclusive process to create vision and core values statements.	Director, Operations Mgr.	Board	O = Staff time	A	All	Statements result that at least 90% of participants agree are relevant and appealing. Responses to be gathered informally at multiple stages of statement development.	Workplan action 5.5.2, 5.5.8
<i>Status: COMPLETED. A community engagement process was developed, and outreach and discussion occurred in FY22-23, Q3, aiming for completion by 30 June 2023. Gathering of community input did conclude on schedule, and the draft core values statement went to the Museum Board in January 2024. A vision statement—understood as an aspirational statement of slogan length—was developed by staff and presented to the Museum Board at its June 2024 meeting.</i>							
Growing the Museum Team: ◇ Align staffing structure with museum industry standards / best practices.	Director	Consultants, City HR Department	O = goal of net gain of 2.75 FTEs compared to pre-closure staffing at 16.25 FTEs	A, B, C	Internal	By main site reopening, staffing structure aligns with industry standards, and staff support exists for full range of key functions (administrative, curatorial [exhibitions and collections], education/outreach, and development/advancement)	Workplan action 5.1.4
<i>Status: ONGOING. The Human Resources Department is reviewing new and revised position descriptions for positions that will be required upon reopening of the main Museum. City financial pressures continue to slow recruitment of the currently vacant but theoretically funded positions. A Marketing and Outreach Assistant is</i>							

³ From *Our Common Future*, also known as the Brundtland Report, 1987.

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<p><i>expected to be hired in FY25-26, Q3. The applicant pool is strong. If City challenges abate, the next hire will be the Curator of History, followed by the Exhibition Designer. The new position of Marketing and Outreach Assistant is the first net increase in staffing for the Museum Department since 2017 when a number of positions were eliminated upon closure of the downtown site. The marketing assistant position will report to Chantal Downing. New Archivist Steve Mandeville-Gamble began his duties at the end of September 2025. Excluding temp staff, the Museum has 14.5 FTEs with 3.0 vacant as of the date of this report. Three temp staff provide close to an additional 1.0 FTE. Approximately 6.0 additional FTEs are expected to join the staff in time for reopening. Further services will be provided by contract staff (security, janitorial, grounds, and similar). The new position of Marketing & Outreach Assistant has been filled, and the new member of staff will be announced in FY25-26, Q4.</i></p>							
<p>Growing the Museum Team – Training and Professional Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish annual emergency response training schedules and update toolkits. • Improve staff training on object handling; create a library of digital training sessions. • Pursue staff “best practices” peer-to-peer opportunities. • Provide high-quality customer service training to all staff. 	Director, Operations Mgr., Collections Registrar	FD, PD, Advisory Marketing Team, possible consultant	O = staff time; costs to upgrade dedicated response supplies and toolkits; customer service training consultant; “best practices” travel expenses	A, B, C	Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By reopening, drills occur at least 3x/annually at all occupied sites. Updates to emergency response manuals occur as needed. • All staff can confidently respond to unscheduled quizzes relating to emergency preparedness. • All staff receive object handling training appropriate to their roles by 31 December 2022, and new hires thereafter as part of new-hire checklist. • Each staff member participates in a minimum of one “best practices” encounter annually. • All staff receive training and exemplify model visitor-centered service at Heritage House, the reopened main museum, and all off-site programs. 	Workplan action 2.6.1
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. Best practices trips to benchmark institutions across the country and region occurred through FY23-24; time did not permit such research in FY24-25 and may not allow much in FY25-26. Updating the emergency response manual was completed in FY23-24, Q3. Best practices trips to the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum and Harford Springs Nature Reserve occurred in Q3.</i></p>							

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
<p>Growing the Museum Team – Volunteer Recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand options for volunteer recruitment. Simplify volunteer position descriptions and orientation on GetConnected for new and existing volunteers. 	Curator of Historic Structures History, Museum Educator, Education Curator, Collections Registrar	HR, RMA, HHF, Museum’s marketing advisory team	O = staff time; potential costs to place or distribute recruitment notices	A, B, C	Internal, existing and potential volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2023, staff confidence has increased that the Museum is reaching significantly more potential volunteers (retired teachers, senior centers, colleges). By 30 June 2023, the technical process volunteers use is markedly improved. 	Workplan action 1.5.2
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. The Museum is required to work within the City’s volunteer program requirements. The HR Department adopted new volunteer management software—Cervis—that’s slightly easier to use than GetConnected was. Museum Educator Teresa Woodard is the Museum’s first point of contact for prospective new Museum volunteers. Volunteer appreciation events, which aid in retention if not recruitment, have become a popular feature each April and at the holidays.</i></p>							
<p>Diversifying Revenue – Fundraising:</p> <p>◇ Create new staff team dedicated to advancement and fundraising (sponsorships, grants, events, annual fund development).</p>	Director	CMO’s office	O = creation of 1-3 FTEs, unfilled and/or unfunded as of 1 July 2022; entire team to be revenue-positive after 3-5 years	B, C	Philanthropic community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff incrementally come on board as ramp-up to reopening approaches and with sufficient time for orientation and integration. By 30 June 2027, non-general fund revenues are on a trajectory to support, by three years after reopening, at least 15% of exhibition and program cost increases compared to pre-closure costs. 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 6.3.1
<p><i>Status: ONGOING. Coordinator of Institutional Advancement Chantal Downing—occupying a position new to the Museum—began in October 2023. The processes and tools for fundraising and communications functions are being developed or refined. Additional steps to complete include refining revenue processing procedures, obtaining donor management software, selecting a point-of-service system for the Museum, and developing small and large campaign collateral. An attempt to begin use of a donor management software package has been deferred until the new Point of Service system is selected, which would subsume those functions.</i></p>							

Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
Diversifying Revenue – Fundraising: ◇ Develop a “donor circle” support program that complements the RMA’s membership program.	Director, *Mgr. of Institutional Advancement	RMA	O = staff time (expense); donor revenue anticipated when fund-raising team is in place	B, C	Philanthropic community	A donor circle program with a minimum of 1,000 members is achieved within two years of reopening.	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 6.3.1
<i>Status: PENDING. This will be incorporated into the ramp-up plans prior to reopening the main museum. It is dependent upon adoption of an effective software system to receive and process donations and manage donor profiles. Determining a workable division of duties between the Museum and the RMA is also in the works. During FY25-26, Q3, a new direction evolved, which consolidates the RMA’s and the Museum’s efforts into a single membership program, operated by the Museum. A full proposal and presentation will come before the Board in Q4.</i>							
Diversifying Revenue – RMA and HHF: Support the Museum’s 501(c)(3) organizations. Integrate Museum staff into fundraising and communications efforts.	Director, *Mgr. of Institutional Advancement	HHF and RMA	O = staff time; HHF to build endowment; project revenue from RMA to increase from current level of \$20,000-25,000 annually	A, B, C	All program audiences and donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHF and RMA have appropriate and timely support from the Museum to pursue mutually agreed-upon goals. • Fundraising success for both organizations increases annually and/or RMA and HHF meet the specific goals they establish for themselves. 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 6.3.1
<i>Status: ONGOING. Steady work is under way. Director assists RMA’s strategic planning committee and offered minor assistance during a recent rebranding process. Director attends HHF’s and RMA’s meetings when invited. The RMA held a retreat in August 2025, facilitated by the Museum Director. The HHF elected a new board and held a retreat in October 2025. The Director expects to work closely with each organization to define our several roles, clarify logistics, and reduce existing public confusion over how to donate and to whom.</i>							
Diversifying Revenue – Earned Revenue: ◇ Implement a comprehensive fee schedule to maximize earned revenue.	Director, *Mgr. of Institutional Advancement	CMO, Finance Department, Council	O = staff time (expense); fee revenue when full proposal is implemented,	B, C	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By reopening, competitive fees are assessed for services, with a mechanism to track and credit revenue to the Museum. • At-market private services, f. ex., facility rentals, are managed to the 	Workplan actions 1.1.4, 5.4.3, 5.4.4



Action	Staff point person(s)	Outside advisory / partners	Financial impact <i>O=operating C=capital</i>	Timetable <i>A=immediate B=mid-plan C=end of plan</i>	Target audience	Measurable success criteria	Envision Riverside 2025 alignment
			and necessary staffing in place			satisfaction of Museum staff and without risk to collections or facilities.	
<i>Status: PENDING. To revisit in FY2025-2026 in the context of the larger preparations for reopening. A fee schedule will need to be approved by City Council.</i>							