



April 17, 2024

Dear Community of Homer,

The Board of Directors of the Pratt Museum requests your support for our roof system replacement project. The Pratt provides a gathering space for community members of all ages where art, science, and culture come together in the exploration of a wide range of topics and stories from traditional cultures to environmental concerns.

With support from the City of Homer, the Pratt Museum found a home in the community building constructed in 1967 as part of the state-wide centennial project celebrating the hundred-year anniversary of Alaska's purchase. Over the past fifty-seven years, the harsh Alaskan weather conditions have taken their toll on the building. The condition of the roof has been a concern since 2007, when the first of several comprehensive professional assessments (including infrared inspections) conducted by engineering firms clearly identified the need for the replacement of the deteriorating roof system.

While recent renovations focused on other critical upgrades including facility ADA compliance and collection stewardship, the replacement of the roof system, once again, was not addressed. To sustain the Museum's commitment to the community, the roof system replacement project can no longer be kicked down the road. Each gallery contains multiple water-collection buckets and at times water drips and splashes on the exhibits and display cases. Leaks also occur over the new elevator and in office spaces equipped with computers and electronics. The routine maintenance of the roof during the winter is a health and safety issue given that the roof needs to be hand-shoveled every time it snows. With cracked beams, leaks throughout, and hazardous work conditions for staff, the Pratt Museum roof must be replaced.

The Homer Society of Natural History, Inc. dba Pratt Museum needs your help. The Pratt Museum is a community museum. As such, we need the community to support this critical project. The estimated cost for the roof system replacement is \$1,362,481 (based on a full roof design and construction bid proposal originally prepared by Roof Consulting Services, Inc. in 2019 and updated in 2024).

A strategic plan for financing the roof replacement has been drafted. **Each level of the plan leverages support with the next solicitation.** In other words, the initial support from the City of Homer is the key to securing additional funds.

The following is a brief overview of the funding needed to be successful:

1. Capital Improvement Project Nomination with City of Homer for \$350,000
2. CAPSIS Request to the State of Alaska Legislature supported by Senator Gary Stevens for \$250,000



3. Congressionally Directed Spending Request supported by Senator Lisa Murkowski for \$250,000
4. Tier 2 Rasmuson Foundation grant for \$350,000
5. Cash on hand - \$162,481

Without the City of Homer's financial support, this project will not be able to secure the additional sources of financial support. The Roof System Replacement project needs to be a City of Homer legislative priority. Please let the Mayor and Council Members know how important the Pratt Museum is to you. Please urge the City of Homer to invest in this critical roof replacement project. Should you have questions about the project or wish to view a more detailed plan for financing the project, check out our website - <https://www.prattmuseum.org/roof-replacement-project/>

We, the Board of Directors of The Homer Society of Natural History, Inc. dba Pratt Museum, thank the community of Homer for your commitment to sustaining your museum. Please urge the Homer City Council to support the roof system replacement project by making this health and human safety project a legislative and financial priority.

Sincerely yours,



Milli Martin, Board President



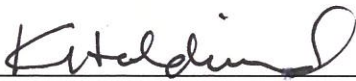
Mel Strydom, Vice President



Jennifer Bartolowits, Treasurer



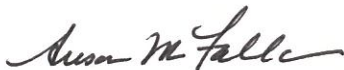
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