



This Old Courthouse

Ouray County Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project Newsletter
February 2018

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Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project Update

Since the passage of the temporary sales tax increase in November 2017, County Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Staff have been busy laying the groundwork for the Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project. The Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) has convened two committees, the Courthouse Relocation Committee and the Public Outreach Committee, to help plan, develop and mobilize plans for temporary office relocation and public outreach.

In mid-January 2018, a request for proposals (RFP) for the provision of commercial office and storage space was solicited to the community. County staff is currently reviewing the proposals and expects award of the proposal and announcement of the temporary office space in mid-February. Relocation of the Courthouse offices is anticipated to occur in Summer 2018.

The County Courthouse has served continuously as the central hub for County government for 130 years; as you can imagine, moving and relocation is no easy task! With the arrival of a 30-yard dumpster, County Officials, Department Heads and Staff have begun sorting and purging decades worth of obsolete items. Of course, official records, maps and documents will be appropriately stored, while other relics, like floppy disks, cassette tapes, and broken binders get the boot.

The community’s continued patience and understanding during the initial phases of this project are greatly appreciated. Community members can expect to see this monthly newsletter informing them of temporary office locations and other updates along the way. Information can also be found on the [Ouray County website](#), as well as on the [Ouray County Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project Facebook page](#).

Underfunded Courthouse Commission Grant Award

On December 18, 2017, Ouray County received a written notice of grant award from the Underfunded Courthouse Facility Commission (UCFC) informing the County that it had been awarded \$832,075 for the Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project. Ouray County was one of six other Colorado counties that presented to the Commission. Ouray County's award reflects approximately 40% of the \$2.2 million funding pot. Ouray County has also applied for a Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Program, Tier II Grant, in the amount of \$1,000,000. Notification of grant award is expected in March 2018.

Did You Know...

The Courthouse has not always been red in color. The building was painted in an attempt to protect the bricks from deterioration. As a part of the

project, the red paint will be removed from the brick, restoring the exterior to its original state and then sealed with a clear protective coating. The bricks were milled by notable Ouray resident Francis Carney in the 1880s at the brickyard where the Hot Spring pool currently resides. Carney bricks are also

found on the Beaumont Hotel, which underwent a similar restoration process to strip the bubblegum-pink paint from the bricks in the early 2000s.



Follow Along! More information regarding the Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project can be found on the Ouray County Website (ouraycountyco.gov) or on the Ouray County Courthouse Restoration and Construction Project Facebook Page.

Questions, Concerns, or Comments can be directed to Ouray County Administrator at (970) 325-7263.