

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Historical Society to Relocate Galleries and Operations within Existing Building

Hayward (August 13, 2019) – The Hayward Area Historical Society announced today that the galleries at their Museum of History and Culture building on Foothill Boulevard will be temporarily closed so they can be relocated to the second floor of the same building. The last day to visit the galleries in their current layout will be Sunday, September 1.

“It was a very difficult decision that was not taken lightly. We had reviewed all the possible options,” says Board President Richard Patenaude. “After careful review and planning, we determined this was the best way forward for HAHS to reduce the Museum operations to a more sustainable size while generating some additional income by leasing the gallery spaces to a new tenant.”

Last autumn, the Historical Society announced that the building would be listed for sale as part of a financial and operational restructuring of the organization. While the building has not yet sold, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to move forward with the leasing of the first floor gallery space.

During the gallery closure, modifications will be made to space on the second floor. The new space will house the Research Library, Archives, staff offices, and gallery spaces. “The space will be more intimate, but we are excited about the changes. We will reuse, repurpose, and reinvent exhibits to provide new experiences and stories for our audience,” says Interim Executive Director Diane Curry.

The Museum galleries are expected to re-open in mid-2020. During the closure, staff will continue offering research services at the Foothill Boulevard site. School tours and other educational programming will continue to be offered at other sites, including at the historic properties the organization manages, McConaghy House and Meek Estate. Its popular Toddler Time program will move to McConaghy House on the second Thursdays of the month, while adding a new, additional Toddler Time program on the first Saturdays of the month, also at McConaghy House. Other programs and events will be announced in the coming months.

“We are committed to our mission to connect people, experiences, and stories now more than ever,” Curry said. “We are physically reorganizing but we are not going out of business. The Historical Society has been around a long time and we are working diligently to make sure we are around for a long time to come.”

For more information about the Hayward Area Historical Society’s activities, call (510) 581-0223, email info@haywardareahistory.org and visit online www.haywardareahistory.org.

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