CASTLE ROCK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Castle Rock Town Council
100 N. Wilcox St.
Castle Rock, CO. 80104

June 12, 2025

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Castle Rock Museum is a valuable cultural resource for the community. One of its primary goals is to provide an interesting way to educate the community on the tremendous and varied history of this town. Our Castle Rock Museum gives its residents a sense of place. New residents frequently visit the museum to get a perspective on the community they have chosen to make their home. The museum is also on the top of the list of places for visitors to Castle Rock. We frequently field questions about the community from folks who are making decisions about choosing to buy a home here. The museum is often a choice for out of town visitors with guests from at least 40 states and nine or ten foreign countries yearly. CRHS provides this service via the Museum at the lowest cost because of its management by a non-profit organization. The CRHS board contributes their time, talent, ideas and dollars to make the Museum a success. Because the Society and Museum adhere closely to the goals of the Miller Fund, the resources for the operation of the museum can be provided mostly with non-tax dollars. Your consistent support has made it possible for the museum to be in its 28th year of operation. For the fifth year the museum has conducted the Scavenge the Rock scavenger hunt as a community event with the support of the Town of Castle Rock and the Downtown Merchants association. The scavenger hunt features historic buildings and promotes awareness of downtown businesses.

The goal of the Historical Society for 2026 is two-fold: A) continue to form new relationships with a broader base of members from or growing community and B) provide a quality learning experience for the enjoyment and education of the visitors. The museum has increased support from community volunteers with help from the Douglas County Garden Club, Eagle Scout projects and the Aspen Effects organization. The estimated value of our volunteer contribution is approximately $18,000. In recent years the museum has expanded the vision of highlighting our history by adding featured exhibits which focus on a special event or an era in Castle Rock History. The museum has provided exhibits at other local sites as well. The museum has two medical exhibits at Adventist Hospital and we are working with the Town on exhibits for Cantril School. We expanded our reach with outdoor access through additions to our marker program. The Society and Museum personnel outreach includes hosting schools or speaking at schools and civic organizations and providing special tours.

Over the last few years through grants, donations and the support of local businesses, the museum has been able to insure the integrity of the building which will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year. The society and museum also provides Trolley tours and walking tours (Historic Downtown, Cemetery and Ghost Tours) to further engage the community. Victoria's Tea is our major fundraiser.

In addition to the grant from the town the CRHSM seeks funds as follows:

- Grants for museum building and restoration
- Individual and foundation donations
- Leveraging membership in Colorado Gives and other charitable endeavors
- The museum donation box and Gift shop
- Increased membership
- Business and community support through gifts or services
- Fundraising events

During 2026 the Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum plans to:

- Provide interesting and educational information about the history of Castle Rock. This year's special exhibit is the story of the catastrophic flood of 1965 which destroyed all the bridges in Castle Rock and the history of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway depot. In 2026 we will feature exhibits celebrating the 150/250 anniversaries. The museum is working with the Town staff on displays at Cantril School and maintains two exhibits at Castle Rock Adventist Hospital medical office buildings. In conjunction with the town Historic Preservation Board and Downtown Merchants we now have an annual Scavenger Hunt to provide a fun way to learn about town history. Even out of town visitors participated.
- Use volunteers to run tours, support new museum exhibits, guide visitors, help promote the Society and perform restoration duties.
- Provide community education by hosting school group tours of all ages, and historic based programs for local community groups, both onsite and off site.
- Participate in local community events such as the Car Show, Festival of Trees, County Fair, Fangtastic and Senior Center Expo and Craft Fair and participate in other area events like archeology day.
- Provide no cost historic walking tours, trolley tours, cemetery tours and fun ghost tours, while welcoming donations from participants.
- Expand its outreach through online exhibits and videos and connection with DCSD teachers around the CO State History Standards.
- Welcome new residents and provide them with an historic view of the community.
- Offer entertaining, historical and educational programs monthly.

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Several of these ventures have involved working with town staff and we are grateful to partner with the town in promoting this special place. We are also participating in plans to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the country's founding and the 150th anniversary of Colorado statehood. We will also be celebrating the 150th birthday of the depot/museum building on September 6th..

The Castle Rock Historical Society is committed to our mission of historical education, maintaining the sense of community, and the small-town feel of Castle Rock. Your steadfast support has helped enable us to receive over $115,000 in grants and donations over the last few years. These grants help ensure the continued preservation and stability of our beloved 150 year old D&RG Depot/museum. We are asking for small increase in funding to manage the costs of increased minimum wages. We look forward to the approval of our 2026 grant request and meeting with you at the Town Council meeting as scheduled.

Respectfully,

*Randy Reed*, President, Castle Rock Historical Society Board of Directors

Contact: Angie Deleo, Museum Director
420 Elbert St. Castle Rock, CO. 80104. 303-814-3164

**Board of Directors**
President, Randy Reed
1st Vice President, Caryn Johnson
2nd Vice President, David Roh
Treasurer, Sue Goff
Recording Secretary, Barb Allamian
Member at Large, Dorothy Kelly
Member at Large (non voting) Angie Deleo, Museum Director

## *III.* 2026 Proposed Performance Objectives

*Specific services to the Town the organization proposes to provide as a result of Town funding:*

*1. To continue to discover, collect and promote the preservation of any archive material, sites, buildings and oral history which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the Castle Rock area. The Castle Rock Museum has featured the geology, exploration, settlement, development, town government, conditions, events, public figures and progress of the town.*

*2. Hold open the Castle Rock Museum four days per week, five hours per day, excluding holidays, with no admission charge.*

*3. Provide permanent exhibits of artifacts and curated exhibits at the Castle Rock Museum.*

*4. Continue to curate traveling and rotating exhibits at the Castle Rock Museum and at external sites.*

*5. Continue hosting historical tours of the Castle Rock area. Past examples include an annual Trolley Tour,* Summer *Walking Tours, Cemetery Tour, our popular ghost tours and other requested tours.*

*6. Continue providing informative historical presentations to groups including the general public, seniors, and to school children. If school budgets are such that schools cannot send children to the Museum we are prepare*d to go to the schools.

*7. Assist economic development of Castle Rock by presenting the progress of Castle Rock from the founding to the present day, and feature local businesses as our partners, all the while preserving the small town atmosphere. The walking tours and Scavenger Hunt are designed to encourage people to spend time in the downtown area. The museum frequently entertains questions from newcomers and visitors about information on the town beyond history.*

*8. Participate in local community activities, such as Starlighting, Car Show, County Fair, Fangtastic, Senior Center Craft Fair, Senior Living Expo and others when the society and museum can make a beneficial contribution.*

***2026 SERVICE ORGANIZATION***
***FUNDING APPLICATION***

***ORGANIZATION REQUESTING FUNDING:***

***Castle Rock Historical Society***

***I.*** ***2026 FUNDING REQUEST*** *(Please use this form for this information and not another format.)*

***Breakdown of funds*** ***(For what specifically would monies from the Town be used?)***

| | |
|---|---|
| Salaries, including taxes & insurance | $77550 |
| Utilities | $9150 |
| Office Equipment& Building Maintenance | $6100 |
| Building & Liability Insurance | $5300 |
| Exhibit & Artifact Preservation | $1700 |
| Events | $900 |
| TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST | $100700 |

***II.*** ***2026 PROJECTED ORGANIZATION BUDGET***
*(Please use this form for this information and not another format.)*

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|---|---|
| *2026 projected organizational budget (Including funding from the Town)* | $114700 |

*Projected sources of revenue*

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|---|---|
| Town of Castle Rock | $100700 |
| Fundraising & Donations | $8500 |
| Museum donation box & Co Gives | $3500 |
| Gift shop & Community rewards | $2000 |
| TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE | $114700 |

*Projected expenditures*
*(By major budget category)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Payroll | $77550 |
| Utilities | $9150 |
| Office equipment, Building Maintenance & Security | $7100 |
| Building & Liability Insurance | $5300 |
| Exhibit & Artifact Preservation, computer maintenance | $2700 |
| Events | $2750 |
| Computer & Software upgrades | $2000 |
| Professional Assoc. Memberships, Staff Training & Travel | $2750 |
| Outreach & Fundraising | $2750 |
| Facility grounds improvements | $2750 |
| TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENDITURES | $114700 |