Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Homer Society of Natural History **Federal Tax ID:** 92-6002856

Project Title: **Project Type:** New Construction and Land Acquisition

Homer Society of Natural History - Pratt Museum Building Design and Construction

State Funding Requested: $100,000 **House District:** Kenai Areawide (33-35)

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Design Phase of the Pratt Museum's $8.5 million New Facility and Site Redesign project that will better serve visitors, the region, and the state, well into the future.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	$8,500,000
Funding Already Secured:	($1,900,000)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	($100,000)
Project Deficit:	$6,500,000

Funding Details:

Secured

810000, Federal (NEH/USDA) 2009

150000, State (State App/DNR) 2010/2011

125000, PGA Foundation 2009/2010

10000, FNBA 2010

600000, POPS 2009/2010

105000, Anon 2009

100000, Individuals 2011/2012

Requested, Pending

650000, State App 2013

Future Needed

1500000, Federal 2014

850000, State App 2014

100000, City of Homer 2014

1200000, Rasmuson Found

700000, Foundations

750000, Corporations

800000, Individuals

50000, Events

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

$100,000 Approved

3:16 PM 5/2/2012

Contact Name: Heather Beggs
Contact Number: 465-2028

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Currently, the Pratt Museum is located in a 10,500 square foot building, an aging structure with systems that no longer meet the functional needs of a museum. A new facility will overcome current challenges such as inadequate collections storage space, lack of ADA compliance, and low-quality exhibit space that must double as education/community gathering space. Put simply, the Museum's galleries, collections storage, public meeting, and education spaces no longer support the Pratt's goals or embrace current opportunities.

The New Facility and Site Redesign project will transform the visitor experience and serve the community and the Pratt Museum's visitors long into the future. Goals of the project include:
- Dedicated education program and community gathering space.
- Implementation of the final phase of Master Exhibit Plan exhibit renovations.
- Site redesign and stewardship to expand outdoor exhibits and fully integrate the Museum into its 9.3-acre green space.
- Expanded collections storage space with state-of-the-art environmental controls.
- Creation of back-of-house support space for research, collections conservation, and exhibit preparation.
- Full Americans with Disability Act compliance.
- Increased building system efficiency for long-term cost savings.

A number of exciting opportunities have occurred over the past several years:
- The Project is included in the City of Homer's Capital Improvement Plan 2009-2016.
- A 2009 McDowell Group economic impact analysis found that the Pratt generates substantial economic activity in the region: more than $1 million per year.
- The Pratt and its friends group, the Patrons of the Pratt Society (POPS), have secured more than $700,000 in community support.
- The Pratt has secured funds to plan and prepare for the project, including a federal 3 to 1 challenge grant of $750,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH); a federal grant of $60,000 from the USDA; a state grant of $50,000 from the Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Outdoor Recreation; $200,000 in individual gifts and pledges; and a state appropriation of $100,000 in the FY2010 Capital Bill. The Pratt was one of only 20 institutions across the country to receive the NEH grant award, out of 113 candidates. And the Pratt is the second museum in Alaska (after the Anchorage Museum) to receive this prestigious NEH Challenge Grant.
- The Pratt has worked hard over the past 10 years to purchase neighboring parcels, acquiring its current 9.3 acres of urban green space, all now debt-free.
- The Pratt has worked with its community to carry out major planning initiatives in preparation for this project, including the development of its Master Exhibit Plan, which guides the redesign of the Pratt exhibits and programming.
- The Pratt has developed strong partnerships with the National Park Service and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, expanding the reach of its exhibits and programs.
- A grant of $88,625 for planning plus more than $70,000 of in-kind support from the Pre-Development Program of the Rasmuson Foundation and Foraker Group was previously received. NOTE: These predevelopment funds are not included in the project budget.

THE REQUEST
A State of Alaska capital grant of $650,000 will help the Pratt continue to be an economic engine on the Kenai Peninsula and one of Alaska's leading cultural institutions. The Pratt's projected total State of Alaska funding request of $1.6 million started in 2010, with an appropriation of $100,000; continues with this year's request of $650,000; and will be complete with next year's request of $850,000 to help fund construction costs.

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Contact Name: Heather Beggs
Contact Number: 465-2028

3:16 PM 5/2/2012

A capital grant of $650,000 from the State of Alaska will provide necessary funding to complete the design of the new building and site. The Design Phase includes conceptualization, determination of need, and establishment of program and budget, during which time the architect, engineers and other consultants will be actively engaged in creation of documents that will be used for construction.

During the Design Phase, the Architect/Engineer team will organize the work in phases, allowing review and coordination of the project between team members and the Pratt Museum at the conclusion of each phase:
- Site Analysis: A detailed investigation and analysis of existing conditions of the site.
- Concept Design: Depicts the idea and general configuration and appearance of the proposed project.
- Schematic Design: A closer look at additional drawings; narratives describing architectural and engineering systems, by discipline.
- Design Development: Decisions made at the conclusion of Schematics, including established direction, when design will be mostly complete.
- Construction Documents: Completion of all drawings, specifications and other documents needed to solicit bids and construct the project.

The Design Phase totals $850,000 or 10% of the Pratt's $8.5 million capital project. A grant from the State of Alaska for the Design Phase will allow the Museum to maintain project momentum at a critical stage. The State has given the Pratt Museum $100,000 toward Schematic Design. A total of $750,000 remains for the Design Phase. Critical to hiring the Architect/Engineering team, this grant will help the Pratt leverage significant additional funding for a capital project that will invigorate the region and transform the Museum.

TimelineMay 2011 through December 2013
Funding Request$650,000 Design Phase

This appropriation will be used to match the above-noted $750,000 National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant which requires a 3 to 1 non-federal match.

TOTAL COSTS, DESIGN PHASE $850,000
- Concept: $ 20,000
- Schematic: $160,000
- Development: $320,000
- Construction Documents: $350,000

TOTAL PROJECT COST$8,500,000

TOTAL FUNDS SECURED$1,900,000
$750,000, National Endowment for the Humanities 3:1 Challenge Grant
$600,000, Patrons of the Pratt Society
$125,000, Paul G. Allen Family Foundation
$205,000, Individual Donors
$60,000, US Department of Agriculture
$50,000, State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
$100,000, State of Alaska, Legislative Appropriation
$10,000, First National Bank Alaska

Contact Name: Heather Beggs
Contact Number: 465-2028

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

3:16 PM 5/2/2012

THE PRATT: A NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED REGIONAL MUSEUM
The Pratt Museum is a national award-winning institution dedicated to place-based learning in the arts, sciences, and cultures of the Kachemak Bay region. The Museum is one of only two institutions in Alaska to receive the National Award for Museum Service, the country's highest honor for museums. Considered a leading cultural institution in the state, the Pratt is consistently used as model among similar institutions across Alaska and the nation. Visitor feedback overwhelmingly reflects a high-quality experience, and the numerous prestigious grants and awards the Pratt has received are testaments to its unique position among cultural institutions in Alaska. In 1982, the American Association of Museums accredited the Pratt Museum, the first private museum in Alaska to receive this national accreditation. The Museum was reaccredited in 1997 and 2008, and today is one of only five accredited museums in Alaska.

The Pratt Museum "is dedicated to the process of education by exploring the natural environment and human experience relative to the Kachemak Bay region of Alaska and its place in the world. The museum seeks to inspire self-reflection and dialogue in its community and visitors through exhibitions, programs, and collections in the arts, sciences, and humanities."

The 9.3-acre site features 10,500 square feet in the current museum building. It offers permanent, online and traveling exhibits, outdoor exhibits, and meeting space; and includes a homestead cabin and additional outbuildings. Collections include archaeological, historical, biological and earth sciences, art, photography, and a reference library. The Pratt Museum's Educational Program, reaching all age groups from toddlers to seniors, encourages learning and understanding of the region's science and culture.

COMMUNITY SERVED
Each year, the Pratt serves more than 35,000 visitors and engages about 4,000 students and adult learners in its programs. The Pratt is an integral part of Alaska's educational infrastructure, filling critical gaps in this infrastructure by providing hands-on programs to school groups. These programs help develop skills and knowledge in the sciences, arts, and humanities. The Pratt is an important repository in Alaska for collections that represent the cultural, natural, and historical heritage of South Central Alaska. These are the only substantial collections in the region and are a resource for students, researchers, writers, educators, and the general public. They include archaeological materials that represent Kachemak Bay's earliest inhabitants, historic photographs, oral histories, and community archives. For Alaska residents, the Pratt is an expression of civic and cultural identity. For summer travelers, the Pratt is a highly-anticipated destination where they can learn about and explore Alaska.

The Museum is a regional economic engine, according to the 2009 McDowell Group study, "Economic Impact Analysis of the Pratt Museum Renovation and Expansion," generating approximately $1 million in annual economic activity and drawing visitors to our community from across the state, across the nation and around the world. A source of pride for southern Kenai Peninsula residents, the Pratt has earned broad local, regional, state and national support from its individual members and donors, businesses and corporations, Native organizations, and private foundations.

Project Timeline:

January 2008-December 2010, Pre-development/Visioning/Capacity assessment/Community Outreach/Public Meetings
January-March 2011, Community Outreach/Public Meetings/Site Selection/ Architect and Engineer Team Requests for Proposals
March-May 2011, Interviews/Architect and Engineering Team Selected
May 2011-December 2013, Design Phase/Construction Documents Complete
2014-2016, Construction/Grand Opening

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Contact Name: Heather Beggs
Contact Number: 465-2028

3:16 PM 5/2/2012

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Homer Societyof Natural History, dba Pratt Museum

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Michele Miller
Title:	Director of Development
Address:	3779 Bartlett Street
	HOMER, Alaska 99603
Phone Number:	(907)435-3343
Email:	mmiller@prattmuseum.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? [X] Yes [ ] No

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

3:16 PM 5/2/2012

Contact Name: Heather Beggs
Contact Number: 465-2028

Office of the Mayor
James C. Hornaday
Homer City Hall
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624

Phone 907-235-8121 x2229
Fax 907-235-3143

February 6, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton,

This letter supports the Pratt Museum's legislative grant request of $650,000 for the Design Phase of its new facility and site redesign project.

The Pratt Museum's building project is included in the City of Homer 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Plan; Homer's City Council has unanimously approved Resolution 12-005, expressing support for the Pratt Museum's legislative grant request; and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly unanimously approved Resolution 2012-004, also expressing support for this legislative grant request of $650,000.

Homer's nationally-recognized museum is a regional economic engine, drawing visitors to our community from across the state, from all parts of the country, and from around the world. This project will serve this community and its visitors by providing new exhibits, full handicap accessibility, expanded research capacity for students and scholars, and the ability to expand the largest collections in the sciences, arts and humanities on the Kenai Peninsula.

The Pratt Museum was awarded a prestigious Challenge Grant of $750,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which must be matched three to one with nonfederal dollars to leverage these funds. A capital grant award for $650,000 will be used to match this challenge grant.

Thank you for your consideration of the Pratt Museum's request for funding for the Design Phase of its new facility and site redesign project, which I support.

Sincerely,

James C. Hornaday

James C. Hornaday
Mayor

CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

Roberts

RESOLUTION 12-005

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PRATT MUSEUM'S LEGISLATIVE GRANT REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF $650,000 FOR THE DESIGN PHASE OF ITS NEW FACILITY AND SITE REDESIGN PROJECT.

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum is a national award-winning museum that serves more than 35,000 visitors and engages more than 4,000 education program participants annually; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt is consistently recognized as one of Alaska's leading cultural institutions and a model among community museums across the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt is the recipient of the Governor's Award for the Humanities and the National Award for Museum Service, the country's highest honor for museums; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt is a regional economic engine, generating about $1 million in annual economic activity and drawing visitors to our community from across the state, nation, and world; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt is embarking on a construction project to better serve its visitors and the community long into the future by providing new exhibits; full handicap accessibility; expanded research capacity to serve students and scholars; and improved ability to expand and preserve the largest collections in the sciences, arts, and humanities on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt was awarded a Challenge Grant of $750,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which must be matched three to one with non-federal dollars to leverage these funds; and

WHEREAS, A capital grant of $650,000 from the State of Alaska will provide necessary funding for the Design Phase of the Pratt Museum's $8.5 million new facility and site redesign project, enabling the Museum to maintain project momentum at this crucial stage; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum's construction project is included in the City of Homer 2011 – 2016 Capital Improvement Plan and the City supports the Pratt Museum with operational and capital project funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Homer City Council hereby expresses support for the Pratt Museum's legislative grant request in the amount of $650,000 for the Design Phase of the Museum's New Facility and Site Redesign Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 9th day of January, 2012.

CITY OF HOMER

JAMES C. HORNADAY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A

Introduced by:	Smith
Date:	01/17/12
Action:	Adopted
Vote:	7 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2012-004

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PRATT MUSEUM'S LEGISLATIVE GRANT REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF $650,000 FOR THE DESIGN PHASE OF ITS NEW FACILITY AND SITE REDESIGN PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum is a national award-winning museum on the Kenai Peninsula that serves more than 35,000 visitors and engages more than 4,000 education program participants annually; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum is consistently recognized as one of Alaska's leading cultural institutions and a model among community museums across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum is a regional economic engine, generating about $1 million in annual economic activity and drawing visitors to the Kenai Peninsula from across the state, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum is embarking on a construction project to better serve its visitors and the community long into the future by providing new exhibits; full handicap accessibility; expanded research capacity to serve students and scholars; and improved ability to expand and preserve the largest collections in the sciences, arts, and humanities on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum was awarded a Challenge Grant of $750,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which must be matched three to one with non-federal dollars to leverage these funds; and

WHEREAS, a capital grant of $650,000 from the State of Alaska will provide necessary funding for the Design Phase of the Pratt Museum's $8.5 million new facility and site redesign project, enabling the Museum to maintain project momentum at this crucial stage; and

WHEREAS, the Pratt Museum's construction project is included in the City of Homer 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Plan and the City of Homer supports the Pratt Museum with operational and capital project funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly hereby expresses support for the Pratt Museum's legislative grant request in the amount of $650,000 for the Design Phase of the Museum's New Facility and Site Redesign Project.

SECTION 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2012.

Gary Knopp, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH 1964

Yes:	Haggerty, Johnson, McClure, Murphy, Pierce, Smalley, Smith
No:	None
Absent:	Tauriainen, Knopp

HOMER
Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

Mission: To promote cooperative economic development that preserves the essence of the community while enhancing the quality of life

January 16, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol

Gentlemen,

The Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center, representing over 500 members staunchly supports the request by the Pratt Museum for $650,000 for the remaining stages of their capital expansion project. The project will enhance the experience of culture, history and entertainment enjoyed by visitors and locals alike while certainly aiding our efforts at sustainable long term economic development.

The mission of the Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center is "to promote cooperative economic development that preserves the essence of the community while enhancing the quality of life." The Pratt Museum project meets and surpasses this lofty mission statement! The ADA accessible community space the Pratt Museum continually offers to local constituencies and the educational opportunities offered to local and statewide students will recognize huge benefits from this project.

We are proud that the award winning Pratt Museum is located in our community. This project will undoubtedly have long lasting economic impacts – from the construction itself through to the finished product – for us here in Homer.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the Pratt Museum request.

Monte Davis
Executive Director

201 Sterling Hwy., Homer, AK 99603
907.235.7740 fax: 907.235.8766 info@homeralaska.org www.homeralaska.org

KENAITZE

INDIAN

TRIBE

WWW.KENAITZE.ORG

PHONE: (907) 335-7200 • FAX: (907) 335-7239

P.O. BOX 988 • KENAI, AK 99611

February 5, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Kenaitze Indian Tribe is federally recognized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (IRA), as amended for Alaska in 1936, as a sovereign independent nation. Tribal members number over 1,405; the Tribe has established long term goals which enhance the health, social and economic well-being, cultural heritage, and governmental concerns of its people, and serves approximately 5,000 Alaska Natives, American Indians and others who reside in central Kenai Peninsula. We share our ancestors' deep respect and caring for the land and its resources and continually seek to reaffirm and preserve our cultural traditions by promoting greater awareness of our history.

We are writing to express our support for the Pratt Museum's proposed new museum facility. We are particularly supportive of the plans for improved collections storage space for long-term care of cultural collections and the plans for continued development of cultural exhibits and programs. To that end, we support the Museum's request to the State of Alaska for $650,000 in funds to support design of the new building.

Kenaitze Indian Tribe has a long history of working closely with the Pratt Museum for the benefit of Tribal members and the public at large. In partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenaitze Indian Tribe placed cultural objects collected from the Sqilantnu Archaeological District in Cooper Landing at the Pratt Museum for long term storage and curation. This collection is vital to our Tribal efforts to preserve, protect, and present our Kenaitze Dena'ina culture and traditions. Many of the objects were collected by our youth at Susten Camp over a period of 14 years, forging strong connections between our past and future.

We chose to place the collections at the Pratt Museum for several reasons. The first is the fact that the Pratt is the only accredited museum with excellent standards for curation and conservation easily accessible by our Tribal members and staff. The second is the fact that the employees at the Pratt are respectful and honor our cultural perspective. Third, we are active participants in the design and implementation of exhibits that feature Kenaitze Dena'ina culture and benefit all learners and museum visitors.

Kenaitze Indian Tribe values and appreciates the Pratt Museum. Ours is a relationship based on mutual trust and appreciation and a shared mission of excellence in education and programming. We are eager to participate in the growth and development of the Pratt Museum and have been in ongoing conversations with the Museum during the planning of the new facility.

Sincerely,

Jaylene Peterson-Nyren
Executive Director
Kenaitze Indian Tribe

SELDOVIA VILLAGE TRIBE

Tradition Integrated with Technology

January 06, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton,

Seldovia Village Tribe, IRA is a Federally recognized Tribe under the provisions of the U.S. Federal Indian Reorganization Act of 1937. We are a blend of several native heritages including Aleut, Yupik, Alutiiq and Athabascan peoples and currently have 469 members. We promote the wellness of our people and communities through health care, social services, economic development and education.

As the President/CEO of the Seldovia Village Tribe (SVT), I am writing to express my support for the Pratt Museum's new facility. The development of this facility will mean the Pratt is able to better care for cultural collections that are important to our tribal members and the countless others who visit the Pratt each year. In addition, the new facility will provide opportunities for SVT to work with the Museum to develop new exhibits and education programs that promote cultural awareness and understanding.

The Seldovia Village Tribe and the Pratt Museum have had an ongoing partnership since 1995. Together, we have taught cultural skills to SVT members through tradition-bearer workshops. We have supported archaeological digs operated cooperatively by the Pratt Museum, the Smithsonian Institution's Arctic Studies Center, and the National Park Service and have supported the Pratt Museum in offering educational programs to SVT members that arose from the archaeological project. We have been in ongoing conversations with the Pratt Museum to give input on the planning of the Pratt's new facility. And, as you know, we work together on an ongoing basis to host the *Tamamta Katurlluta: A Gathering of Native Traditions* event that happens every other year and involves Elders and youth from Seldovia.

I fully support the Pratt Museum's work to plan and construct a new museum facility. I hope you will work hard to ensure the State of Alaska supports the Museum and its stakeholders in these efforts.

Sincerely,
SELDOVIA VILLAGE TRIBE

Crystal Collier
President/CEO

PO Drawer L • Seldovia, Alaska 99663 • Tel: 907.234.7898 • Fax: 907.234.7865 • Email: svt@svt.org • Web: www.svt.org

Smithsonian Institution

Arctic Studies Center
Department of Anthropology
National Museum of Natural History

Dr. Aron L. Crowell, Alaska Director
Arctic Studies Center
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
625 C St.
Anchorage, AK 99501
907.929.9207 / crowella@si.edu

February 3, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton:

I'm writing to express enthusiastic support for the Pratt Museum's request to the State of Alaska for $650,000 in funds for completion of the Design Phase of the Pratt's new museum facility.

As you may know, the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center is the only U.S. government program with a special focus on northern cultural research and education. The Center is dedicated to the exploration of the history of northern peoples, cultures, and environments and the issues that matter to northern residents today. At the Alaska office of the Center, now located in the new Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, Alaska Natives, scholars, and museum associates work together on a broad range of collaborative research, exhibits, and education programs.

Over the years, the Arctic Studies Center and the Pratt Museum have worked collaboratively on a number of successful projects. In the coming months, I will be working closely with Pratt staff as they develop new cultural and archaeological exhibits to be opened in the new facility. The Pratt has earned an incredible amount of trust from their Native stakeholders, which positions the Museum to present cultural exhibits and programs that provide exceptional experiences to visitors as well as tell the stories these Native stakeholders seek to tell.

A new museum facility will enable the Pratt to continue to collect and to properly care for the cultural and archaeological objects that reveal the rich cultural history of the region. These objects

and associated exhibits and programs are crucial in enhancing public understanding and scholarship of northern peoples and environments. Without a new facility, I'm afraid that the Pratt's collections will suffer and the Museum may lose relevance to its stakeholders.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have follow-up questions at CROWELLA@si.edu.

Truly yours,

Aron L. Crowell
Alaska Director
Arctic Studies Center

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Arctic Studies Center
625 C St.
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 929-9207 Telephone
(907) 929-9232 Fax

Kachemak Bay Campus
Kenai Peninsula College
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

533 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624
T 907.235.7743 • F 907.235.1686
www.homer.alaska.edu

January 30, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens;

The Kachemak Bay Campus of Kenai Peninsula College is pleased to express its support for the Pratt Museum's $650,000 legislative capital request for funding the design phase of its exciting new "state of the art" facility.

This extensive project will significantly enhance the Pratt's abilities to better serve our community, State and its numerous visitors. Our anthropology, history, biology, art and other students through our continuing education and post-secondary academic programs will benefit from the expanded and accessible exhibits, interpretive trails and significant collections storage.

The Pratt Museum, a world-class and award-winning museum committed to excellence, has long demonstrated its commitment to community-based programs and professional exhibit planning. This campus's students and faculty have greatly benefited from the Pratt's numerous exhibits and activities over the years and greatly look forward to new and exciting collaborative opportunities that this greatly needed project will provide.

Thank you for this opportunity to enthusiastically recommend your support of funding for the new facility's design. Your support will be greatly appreciated for years to come.

Sincerely,

Carol Swartz

Carol Swartz, Campus Director

Kachemak Bay Campus
Kenai Peninsula College
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

533 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624
T 907.235.7743 • F 907.235.1686
www.homer.alaska.edu

January 30, 2012

Rep. Paul Seaton
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Seaton;

The Kachemak Bay Campus of Kenai Peninsula College is pleased to express its support for the Pratt Museum's $650,000 legislative capital request for funding the design phase of its exciting new "state of the art" facility.

This extensive project will significantly enhance the Pratt's abilities to better serve our community, State and its numerous visitors. Our anthropology, history, biology, art and other students through our continuing education and post-secondary academic programs will benefit from the expanded and accessible exhibits, interpretive trails and significant collections storage.

The Pratt Museum, a world-class and award-winning museum committed to excellence, has long demonstrated its commitment to community-based programs and professional exhibit planning. This campus's students and faculty have greatly benefited from the Pratt's numerous exhibits and activities over the years and greatly look forward to new and exciting collaborative opportunities that this greatly needed project will provide.

Thank you for this opportunity to enthusiastically recommend your support of funding for the new facility's design. Your support will be greatly appreciated for years to come.

Sincerely,

Carol Swartz

Carol Swartz, Campus Director

Kenai Peninsula College
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Jan. 6, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton,

This is a letter in support of the Pratt Museum's new facility project. I strongly support their capital budget request of $650,000 that will pay for the entire design phase of the new facility.

As the director of Kenai Peninsula College with campuses in Homer and Soldotna, and extension sites in Seward and Anchorage, I am very aware of the great work and wonderful partnership the Pratt has had with the college over the years. I believe this project will provide invaluable benefits to the college and our students.

As I understand it, the renovation and expansion project will preserve collections, enhance educational opportunities, and increase scholarship and learning about the Kachemak Bay region. This work will improve the ways that KPC students can access cultural and natural history collections and enhance the educational opportunities for students, Kenai Peninsula residents and the thousands of visitors the Pratt hosts each year. These opportunities could open the door to internships leading to jobs for our students, new research projects to uncover the region's rich cultural history and improved interpretive programs.

The opportunities above are just a few that may be realized as the Pratt embarks on its ambitious goals. The Pratt Museum has the full support of the college in their efforts and I ask that you support their budget request this legislative session.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Turner
Director/CEO

Homer High School
Mariners

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

D. Allan Gee, Ed.D., Principal
Doug Waclawski, Assistant Principal
Pam Newton, Athletic Director
Cindy Koplin, Head Secretary

Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

February 1, 2011

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton,

I am writing to express my support of the Pratt Museum's $650,000 request to the State of Alaska for the Design Phase of the New Facility and Site Redesign Project.

Having only been a Homer resident for the last eighteen months, I am beginning to understand the worthwhile contribution that our Pratt Museum demonstrates through its wonderful exhibits as well as their community outreach through enriching lessons that provide an opportunity for our students to learn about the history of the Kachemak Bay region.

The recognition of having received a $750,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities speaks to the national respect that has been garnered by the Pratt Museum as it continues its focus on the arts, sciences, and humanities of the Kenai Peninsula.

It is without reservation that I support their request and I eagerly look forward to the day when the ribbon-cutting ceremony opens the doors to even more opportunities for our children to learn and grow from our Pratt Museum.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Allan Gee

600 East Fairview Avenue, Homer, AK 99603 Telephone: 907-235-4600 FAX: 907-235-8933

Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society
PO Box 97 • Homer, Alaska 99603
Phone: 907-235-2986

Diane Converse, Director
Pratt Museum
3779 Bartlett St.
Homer, AK 99603

1-5-2012

The Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society supports the Pratt Museum's efforts to expand their exhibit space, especially in the area of maritime heritage.

The mission of the KBWBS is to foster knowledge and appreciation of local and regional maritime history, to showcase and support new construction and ongoing marine projects by local practitioners, and to support efforts toward the preservation of important local maritime icons.

The Wooden Boat Society recognizes that the Pratt is the logical choice as the last home for significant local craft, both those they already own, and those worthy of future acquisition, and that there is a great need for proper storage and work space.

David S Seaman III, president, KBWBS

Miranda Weiss • P.O. Box 1498 • Homer, AK 99603

February 4, 2012

Senator Gary Stevens & Representative Paul Seaton
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Stevens and Representative Seaton,

I'm writing to urge you to do everything you can to secure $650,000 in state funds for the Pratt Museum's design phase of its new facility.

Recently, I took my 2-year-old daughter to the Pratt Museum for a special program for toddlers designed by Ryjil Christianson, a Pratt staff member. My daughter and I participate in a lot of activities around town, but nothing comes close to being able to hold a sea star, feed a decorator crab, watch an octopus in the saltwater tank, or touch a sea otter pelt, and all with gentle encouragement from a knowledgeable educator. Through the Pratt, my daughter is becoming literate in the natural world around her—and she's only two years old! The hands-on exploration that these kinds of Pratt programs deliver is unique in our community. After the program, we took a walk on the Pratt's snow-covered forest trails and saw about a half-dozen snowshoe hares. Both the indoor and outdoor resources of the Museum are invaluable.

The toddler program was held in the morning—before the Museum was open to the public—because the staff are responsive to the realities of working with little kids, which means avoiding afternoon nap time. And the program came about because I mentioned to Ryjil that there would be a great deal of interest in a program such as this. This is just one of many examples that show how the Pratt is responsive to the needs and interests of our community and its visitors. In the weeks since this well-attended program, the Museum has added another toddler program to its calendar.

Our family will certainly be a supporter of the capital campaign for the new facility—but the Museum won't be able to carry out this project successfully without serious state support. The Pratt is a gem among cultural institutions in Alaska—I know this not just because I was a former staff member but because now, as a mom, I've visited other museums across the state with my daughter. In addition to its highly respected collections and exhibits, the Pratt Museum provides early childhood experiences that are unequaled in the region. And they do all of this, even while buckets set on gallery floors collect rainwater leaking through the roof, and there is no space for energetic interactive education programs aside from the galleries themselves, and there's a huge untapped educational resource in Woodard Creek—Homer's largest urban stream—which runs right under the Museum's parking lot.

Thank you for doing everything you can to secure $650,000 for the design phase of the Pratt Museum's facility project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions about this letter at mirandaweiss@gmail.com or 907-299-5550.

Sincerely,

Miranda Weiss

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

After visiting 95 countries of the world and seen many of their museums, the Pratt is one of the very best. Congratulations now

Thank you,
William T. Hunter, Sr.
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
August 29, 2011

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Date:
Email:
Street or PO Box:
City:
State: Zip:
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

What a marvelous well thought out museum - beautiful things to look at and artfully arranged
Thank you for your excellent work in maintaining this
Especially loved the art quilts, + personal discussion of what it is like to live here

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Carla Butcher Date: Aug 13, 201
Email: CBUTCHER13@YAHOO.COM
Street or PO Box:
City:
State: Zip:
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

My wife and I travel a great deal. During our travels we enjoy visiting museums, especially ones that focus on local natural history and culture.
The gull camera was one of the most unique, interesting and entertaining exhibits we have ever seen.
What could be better than 'real time' natural history

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Lin Risner Date: 7/2/11
Email: risner64@yahoo.com
Street or PO Box: 908 Shadowood
City: Marshall, TX
State: TX Zip: 75672
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

We have visited close to one dozen museums in the past year -
This is by far - the best, most informative - most interactive of all -
Thank you so much - a true joy to visit

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Camille Walls Date:
Email: INSP112@aol.com
Street or PO Box: 21827-244th Ave SE
City: Maple Valley
State: WA Zip: 98038
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

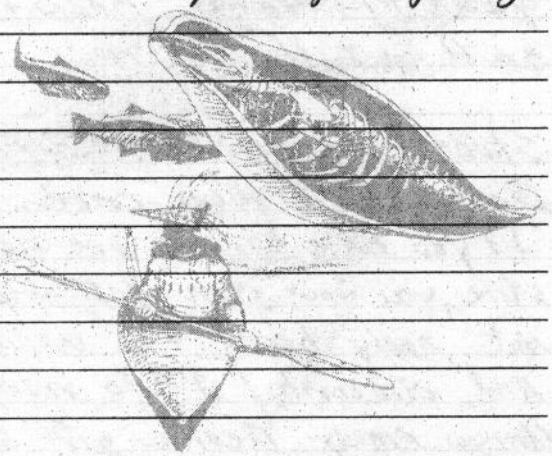
Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

This is a wonderful museum.
We have spent nearly 3 hours
here & could probably stay longer.



Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Beth Roberts Date: 7-29-11
Email:
Street or PO Box:
City: Livingston
State: La Zip: 77399
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

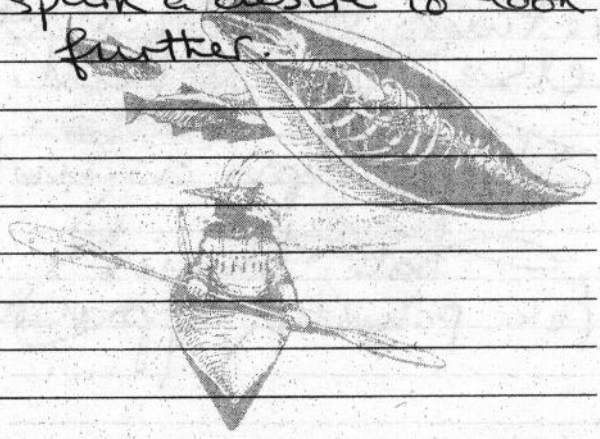
Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

Wonderful small museum
well laid out with
just enough detail to
spark a desire to look
further.



Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Rosalind Lewis Date: 7/13/11
Email: oldlimeys@comcast.net.
Street or PO Box:
City:
State: Zip: 33947.
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

Thank you for the wonderful experience. Best museum/educational treat I have seen. I would gladly return to see what else you install.

Thank you again!

Kate Kislevitz
(ex-painting appraiser)

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: KATE KISLEVITZ Date:
Email: KCLOSE56@HOTMAIL.COM
Street or PO Box: 13C DOGWOOD LANE
City: WESTPORT
State: CT Zip: 06880
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

Museum – Excellent, 10 out of 10. The marine room has the right mixture of live + exhibits. The staff passing though were quite knowledgeable. Beans + oil spill just the right mix.

Store – my word is "relevant." Books, sea shore cards.

"If you have been in one museum store, you have seen most" – does not apply here. The variety and diversity 2nd to none. Unique among museum gift shops

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Larry Zettwood Date: 20 MAY 11
Email:
Street or PO Box: PO Box 1913
City: Islamorada
State: FL Zip: 33036
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

I've been to a lot of museums - large & small, and I've never enjoyed one more than this one. The people of Homer should be very proud.

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Connie Barker Date: 9-2-11
Email: jcbarker@cox.net
Street or PO Box: 27472 Silver Creek Dr.
City: San Juan Capistrano
State: CA Zip: 92675
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

The whole museum is wonderful but I am especially struck by the curating and installation of the exhibit "Bushes" Beautiful!!

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: Barbara Gunther Date: 3 July 11
Email: barbara.gunther@comcast.net
Street or PO Box: 858 Lathrop Dr
City: Stanford
State: CA Zip: 94305
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

To whom it may Concern —
This has been without
doubt the best laid out
museum I have ever
encountered —
The Interactive 1st Floor
is amazing,
And the Valdez Floor
Brought tears to my eyes —
Thank you so much

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

Name: KAREN CLOSE Date: 6/29/11
Email: cookieclose@hotmail.com
Street or PO Box:
City:
State: Zip:
Gallery Host:

COMMENTS

Dear Visitor,
Thank you for visiting the Pratt Museum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about the Museum's exhibits, programs, facilities and services. Please write in the space below.

Cordially,

The Board and Staff
of the Pratt Museum

you have something
Special here That has
To Be Preserved & By All
means Expanded To
include All The information
& material present & past
That All The People in
Alaska, US & International
have To see when
They are here
your STAFF is
Fabulos in my short
visit I made That
assesment

Please include your name and mailing address so we may forward a response to you.

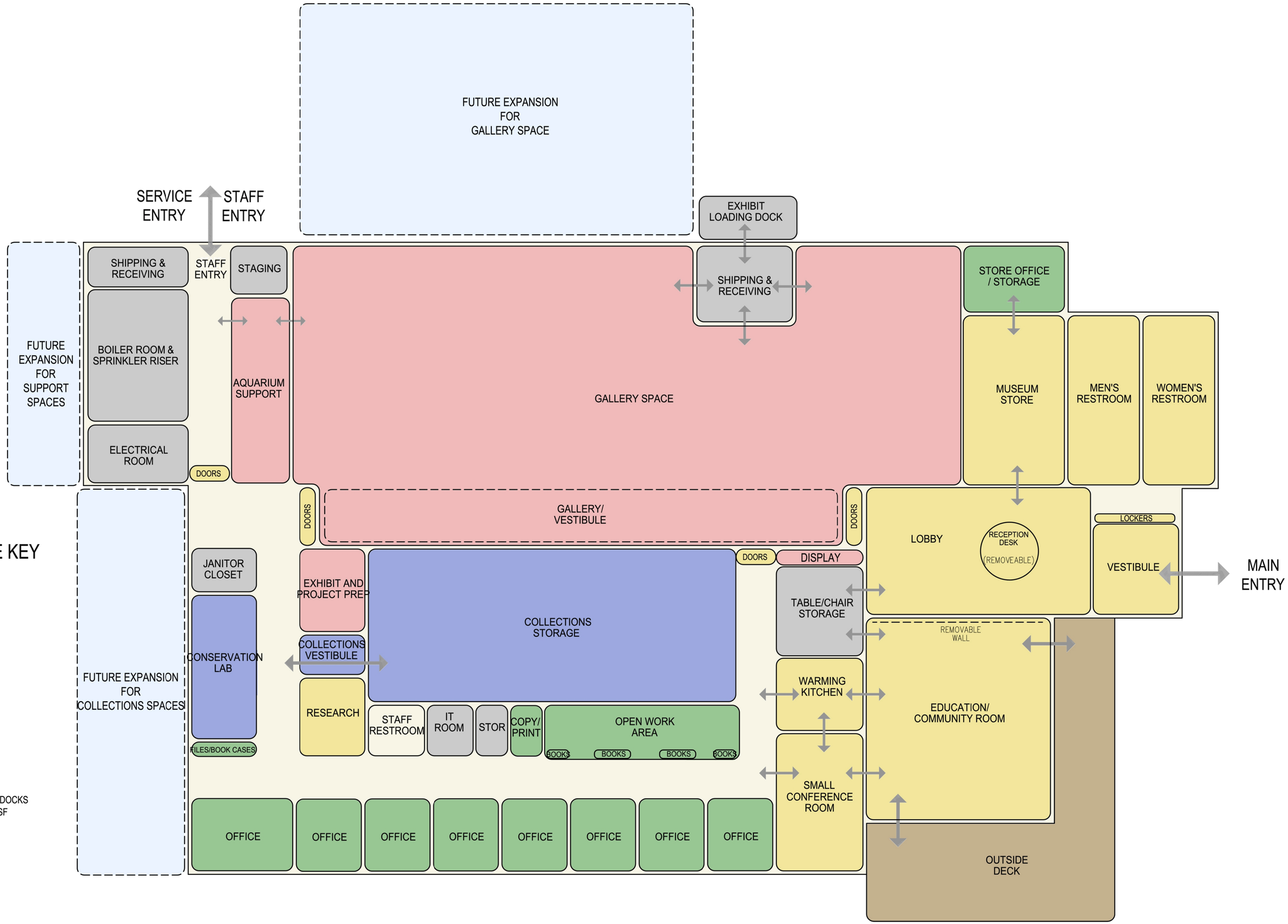
Name: Iver MALUTIN Date: 4-10-11
Street or PO Box: P.O. Box 8501
City: KODIAK AK
State: AK Zip: 99615
Gallery Host: Super People Holly & Jennie

LIVINGSTON SLONE

NEW PRATT MUSEUM

CONCEPT RENDERING

JANUARY 25, 2012



LIVINGSTON SLONE

NEW PRATT MUSEUM

CONCEPT FLOOR PLAN

JANUARY 25, 2012