

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

REGARDING MAIN MUSEUM SHUTTERING PERIOD

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| Question #1 | Why is the Riverside Metropolitan Museum shuttering? |
| Answer | The Riverside Metropolitan Museum is shuttering to address serious deficiencies that must be corrected, to reorganize, re-tool and re-train staff, focus on the Harada House, begin full collections inventory, and plan and construct main building renovation and possible expansion. See July 11, 2017 Staff Report to City Council here: City Council Report – Museum Shutter |
| Question #2 | Who authorized the shuttering of the Main Museum? |
| Answer | The shuttering of the Main Museum was approved by the Riverside City Council on July 11, 2017. |
| Question #3 | How long is the shutter period? |
| Answer | The shutter period is planned for 3 years, beginning September 5, 2017. |
| Question #4 | What Museum programs and services will continue during the shutter period? |
| Answer | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Heritage House will remain open http://www.riversideca.gov/museum/heritagehouse/2. Sycamore Canyon Nature Center will remain open, now supervised by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department. https://mysycamorecanyon.com/3. Annual Insect Fair will continue.4. Tlatilco Exhibit in 2018 will be at the Riverside Art Museum in partnership with the Riverside Metropolitan Museum and the Riverside Art Museum.5. Monthly Metropolitan Museum Board Meetings will continue. The meetings are open to the public. See calendar for dates and agendas: https://riversideca.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx |
| Question #5 | What will happen during the shutter period? |
| Answer | In addition to the programs & services listed in the Answer to Question #4, staff will focus on: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Harada House Stewardship – See most recent Museum Board report here: Museum Board Report – Harada House Assessment2. Begin Collections Inventory3. Fixing fundamental internal systems and processes4. Conduct a national search for a museum director – started June 20175. Begin planning for City Council - approved museum renovation & possible expansion after arrival of new Museum Director. |
| Question #6 | How can I access the Museum Archives during the shutter period? |
| Answer | <p>The following collections will be available during the shutter period at the Main Library Local History Section during regular Main Library open hours Monday-Wednesday 11am-7pm, Thursday 11am-9pm, Friday-Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 12pm-5pm:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps2. Frank Miller Collection3. Jekel Collection4. Clinton Marr Collection5. Tax Assessor’s Scrapbook from 19336. Historic Planning and Mapping Documents <p>To request access to items in the remainder of the archival collections, please e-mail tkinsman@riversideca.gov, with subject line “Archives Access Request” and include a brief description of your request and your contact information.</p> |

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| Question #7 | How can the community help? |
| Answer | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Volunteer for Main Museum Proposed Docent Program 20172. Volunteer for Heritage House http://riversidemuseumassociates.org/3. Volunteer to be part of the “inventory brigade”. Please e-mail your interest to tkinsman@riversideca.gov with subject line “Inventory Volunteer” and include your name and contact information.4. Participate in upcoming community meetings throughout the City to help re-define the Museum’s purpose and mission for the City of Riverside and the region5. Support fundraising efforts for the Harada House6. Attend Museum Board Meetings. See calendar for dates and agendas: https://riversideca.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx |