

Emma Store Building Site Tours

April 23rd, 2019, 5:30pm – **Pitkin County Historic Preservation Officer:** Suzannah Reid, **Steering Committee Members:** James Lindt, Raul Gawry, Carolyn Shipp, Harry Teague, Martha Ferguson, Liz Newman, Margaret Simmons, Matt Annabell, **Open Space Board Rep:** Michael Kinsley, **Open Space Staff:** Janet Urquhart, Lindsey Utter, **Public:** Martin Horwitz, Greg Jurgenson

May 3rd, 2019, 8:00am – **Pitkin County Historic Preservation Officer:** Suzannah Reid, **Steering Committee Members:** Watkins Fulk-Gray, Mitzi Rapkin, Jason Smith **Open Space Staff:** Lindsey Utter, Jessie Young

On April 23rd, the group met at the Grace Church for introductions, an overview of the process and distribution of background information. The Steering Committee is tasked with working collaboratively to develop a recommendation for the future of Emma Store buildings. This recommendation will be presented to the Open Space and Trails Board and would ultimately need to be approved by the BOCC. The group walked to the site using the pedestrian underpass.

Suzannah Reid then led a tour of the historic structures and the site. She pointed out elements of building from the restoration process. The basement of the east building had a jail at one point. The west building could have a second floor. The back (north side) of the building could be opened up and allow access and more light.

Questions discussed included:

Could the two buildings be connected on the interior? *Yes, because it is in the interior of the structures.*

Are there sound mitigation options? *The main entrance could be located on the back (north side) of the buildings and there are different techniques that could be used on the front of the buildings to help dampen the noise. A barrier between the highway and the structure had been evaluated in the past. Any information we have on the barrier will be brought to the next committee meeting.*

What is size of the septic field? *Staff will bring details to the next meeting. It is shared with the Mather House.*

The May 3rd site visit began with an overview of the process and background information packet. Suzannah then led a tour of the buildings describing the history and work completed to date.

Questions discussed included:

Are these buildings tied to any of the operations across the highway? *No they are not.*

What is the status of the Mather House? *It is undergoing renovations this summer and will be part of the Pitkin County affordable housing pool.*

What is size of the septic field? *Staff will bring details to the next meeting. It is shared with the Mather House.*

Sound mitigation options? *A barrier along the highway was explored in the past. Any information we have on it will be brought to the next meeting.*

Can the windows be opened up? *Yes, and there could potentially be a State grant that could help with the project.*

Could we add skylights? *Potentially.*

Would the County help fund or does the County have dedicated funds to help with the project? *The County does not currently have any dedicated funds for additional building restoration. Any future projects would require BOCC funding approval.*