



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Encouraged to Tour Historic Hiawatha Gardens Building

MANITOU SPRINGS CO – Over the past few months, non-historically significant portions of the Hiawatha Gardens building have been removed and structural experts have assessed the remaining historic dancehall pavilion to be structurally sound. Now, we are inviting our community to tour the pavilion building hosted by members of the Hiawatha Gardens Task Force.

All Manitou Springs residents are invited to participate. Tours will be held from noon to 2PM on Saturday, Sept. 11, and from 4PM to 6PM Monday, Sept. 13.

Because of the need for social distancing, tours in groups of 12 will be conducted in half hour increments. Attendees are required to sign up. To sign up online, please visit [here](#) and choose a date and time. Those without computer access should call (719) 648-8284. To participate, masks are required per order of the City of Manitou Springs.

As part of the tours, members of the Task Force will be on-site to provide information about the history as well as the current condition of the building.

An architect specializing in historic structures and a structural engineer recently inspected the remaining pavilion and provided a brief report of their findings. In the report to the City, they assessed both the roof and the foundation to be in good condition. In summary, their report stated, “in general, the existing pavilion building is in good structural shape, considering its age.”

In an October 2020 resolution, the Manitou Springs City Council directed the Task Force to investigate and implement the restoration of historic aspects of Hiawatha Gardens with the goal to establish it for community use including but not limited to a multi modal transportation hub. Information will be provided to tour participants about what the Task Force has accomplished to-date and what next steps are planned in the near future.

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