

**Kansas Historical Society**  
**Testimony to**  
**Joint Committee on State Building Construction**  
**September 8, 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the capital improvement plan of the Kansas Historical Society. We have provided you with a copy of our five-year plan for capital improvements. The agency uses State General Funds (SGF), as well as federal and private funds on capital improvement projects.

**Annual Emergency Repair Request**

The Kansas Historical Society owns 58 buildings and structures throughout the state, many of them historic. In addition, we are responsible for a combined 600 acres of land. This year the agency receives \$375,000 in SGF for repairs to address cyclical maintenance issues and emergency repairs due to age, accidents, or weather-related causes. The annual request for emergency repair monies is always our top priority for capital improvements. We are very thankful for the \$125,000 increase this fiscal year which will help us to better maintain our buildings. Without these funds we would not be able to adequately maintain all of our historic treasures.

**Current Year Capital Improvements**

The Kansas Historical Society FY 2023 approved budget includes private funding for the continuation of roof repairs, a smaller out-building, at the Cottonwood Ranch site in Studley, KS. Planning has started for a spring completion to paint the exterior and interior of Constitution Hall which will be funded by both private and federal funds. John Brown Museum's 21 year old thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) roof and the HVAC system, which have both been determined to be end of life, will be replaced. This year's 5-year Capital Improvement Plan shows updated estimates from the 2021 submitted plan reflecting an increase in the cost of building materials and labor.

**FY 2024 Capital Improvements**

For FY 2024 the Kansas Historical Society requests a continuation of the \$375,000 SGF Emergency and Rehabilitation Repairs allocation which is vital to support our 58 buildings and structures. The roof replacement project for the remaining two out-buildings, which includes the large barn, will complete the multi-year roof replacement project at the Cottonwood Ranch.

## FY 2024 Capital Improvements

*All Work on historic buildings is done following the Secretary of Interiors Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.  
(<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm>)*

Project	Funding	Amount	Description
Emergency and Rehabilitation Repairs (Statewide)	SGF	\$375,000	It reflects our current annual allocation. Funds are used for emergency repairs on 58 buildings.
Roof replacement due to hail damage (Cottonwood Ranch, Sheridan County)	Private Funds	\$65,000	This is a multi-year project to replace hail damaged roof on four ranch buildings. The house has been completed, a small out-building will be done in FY 2023 and the two out-buildings are now scheduled to be replaced in FY 2024.

### Conclusion

We greatly appreciate the support of the Joint Committee on State Building Construction. Today we are requesting that you concur with the Kansas Historical Society's five-year capital improvement plan as submitted by the agency. Thank you for the opportunity to be here today. Please feel free to contact either myself or Matthew if at any time you have questions.

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