

Museum Advisory Board

March 19, 2026

4:00 p.m. at the Greeley History Museum

This meeting is held in person at the physical location

You can provide public input/public comment for this meeting by emailing your comments to Chris Bowles at [Chris.Bowles@greeleygov.com](mailto:Chris.Bowles@greeleygov.com) or call 970-350-9218.

Comments received up to an hour before the meeting will be read into the record at the appropriate time.

Agenda:

Roll Call: Marcus Embry (Chair), George Junne, Emma Pena-McCleave, Nancy Masimer, Scott Chartier, Anne Masterson, Donna Hendren, Annareli Morales.

1. Approval of the February 2026 Museum Advisory Board minutes.
2. Reports: (10 minutes)
  - CPRD Report
  - Museums Report
  - Additional Staff Report
    - Exhibits
    - Collections
    - Historic Sites
    - Education/Interpretation
3. Old Business (10 minutes):
4. New Business (10 minutes):
  - Update on Weld County Commissioner visit to GHM
  - Presentation and Request for Feedback - draft Museums' Mission/Vision
5. Adjournment

Next meeting April 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at the Greeley History Museum

## Minutes

### Museum Advisory Board

February 19, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

1. The meeting was called to order by Marcus Embry at 4:00 p.m.

Board Present: Marcus Embry, Emma Pena-McCleave, Nancy Masimer, Donna Hendren, Annareli Morales, George Junne, Anne Masterson.

Board Absent: Scott Chartier.

Staff Present: Megan Weiler, Chris Bowles, Holly Berg, Geoff Havens, Joanna Stull, Rachel Walker, Betsy Kelums, Benjamin Alexander, Brecklyn Everhart.

2. Approval of the January 2026 minutes.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Reports:

- Managers' Report

Museum admission is now free. This has increased visitation and has helped with marketing special events. There was as anticipated a small dip in revenue that is expected to stabilize over time. Field trips will expand at Centennial Village to offset changes from history fest.

Staff reports were waived for this meeting.

4. Old Business:

- Discussion of combined commission
  - There was discussion about the survey for feedback that came out after the council presentation.

- There was large discussion on the combined commission

Key Concerns listed:

- Lack of clarity on final structure
- Survey design
- Concern of museum representation getting diminished in the combination.
- Risk of losing focus on museum-specific needs and historic preservation

Clarifications from staff:

- No final decision has been made
  - City council only directed the exploration of the concept
  - Survey feedback is still being collected
  - Options will be presented to council again sometime in April
- 
- Board members expressed concerns regarding the effectiveness of the survey in capturing detailed feedback for City Council. It was suggested that individual perspectives may be better communicated through additional comments or direct communication.
  
  - A motion was made and seconded to request that board members submit individual letters to City Council regarding the combined commission. After discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn. No formal action was taken.

5. New Business

- Annual Report from Museum Advisory Board
  - The board reviewed the draft annual report to be submitted to City Council, which highlights the museum's activities, accomplishments, and overall contribution to the community.
  
  - The chair (Marcus Embry) explained that the report is intended to emphasize the importance of the museum system to the City's cultural identity. Reinforce the Board's role in advising City council on museum related matters. Align with the boards formal charge and responsibilities.
  
  - Discussion focused on the inclusion of additional language addressing budget process and board involvement. Board members expressed concern that budgetary and operational decisions impacting the museum are often made without prior awareness or input from the board. Discussion moved to understanding that the formal limitations of their advisory role they would value earlier communication regarding upcoming decisions that may impact museum operations or strategic planning.
  
  - The board discussed whether to retain or revise specific language in the final paragraphs of the report to reflect these concerns.

Motion to remove the last 2 paragraphs of the museum report made by Annareli Morales and seconded by Donna Hendren.

Motion passed unanimously.

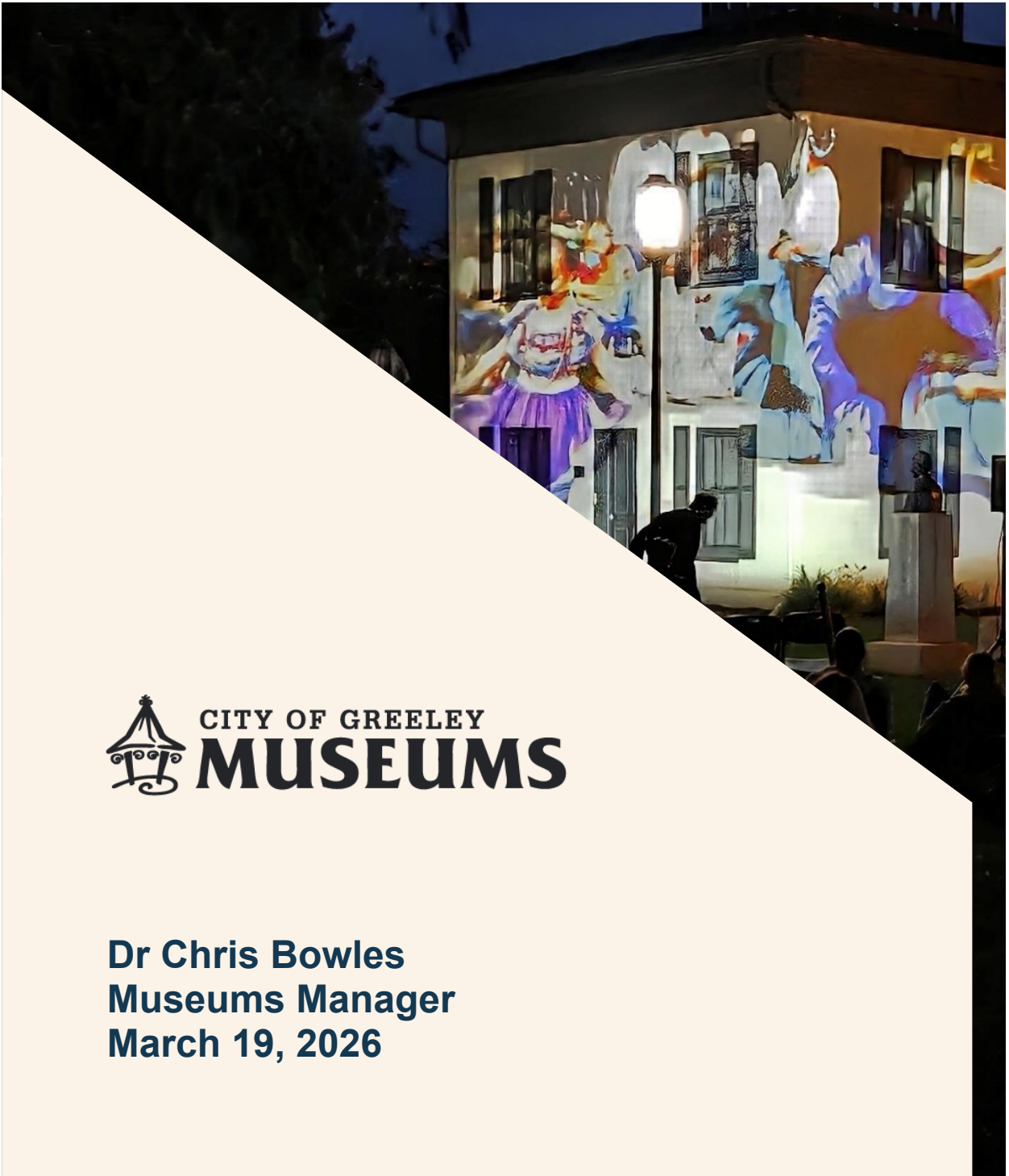
Motion to approve the Museum Advisory Board report with removed paragraphs and with staff corrections made by Emma Pena-McCleave and seconded by Anne Masterson.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 5:04 p.m.

Next meeting will be held March 19,2026 at the Greeley History Museum.

# February 2026 City of Greeley Museums Report



**Dr Chris Bowles**  
**Museums Manager**  
**March 19, 2026**

## Manager's Report for January 2026

### Key Events:

Lions and lambs were jockeying for position as we leapt into March.

We had exciting activity in February on many fronts. First, I want to give sincere gratitude to Rachel Walker who organized her first ever Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Armory on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who came!

Staff continued their excellent contributions to the community. Our interpreters took part in multiple Museum to You visits to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade classes across District 6 delivery STEM exercises from our Ute STEM kit. There was also a ton of work going on behind the scenes to ready the museums for the 250/150/50 anniversary year. Gabe and Geoff performed a double act at the annual Saving Places conference, delivering a talk on Centennial Village. Several staff visited a donor's home to view a new, incredible, acquisition – Governor Benjamin Eaton's fireplace! Finally, myself and Board Chair Marcus Embry hosted Weld County Commissioners Jason Maxey and Laura Pepler at the History Museum, where we talked Weld County collection items and potential partnerships.

There are a few key stats to make you aware of. First, our attendance is still up on last year, creating a trend from January. I believe this is thanks to free admission. Also, while our overall revenue is still suppressed, we are making up some of the lost admissions sales this year through increased store purchases. Finally, we are on pace to meet or exceed last year's excellent volunteer numbers showing community commitment to our work.



*Figure 1: Chris speaks at Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, watched from the shadows by Nosferatu*



*Figure 1 Happy Attendees at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner*



*Figure 3 Governor Eaton's Fireplace*

## Staff Reports

### Exhibits (Holly Berg and Britannia Barbour)

- Britannia and Holly visited a UNC Anthropology class and presented on the exhibition process. The class is working on creating a display about Dearfield this semester and may reach out for additional support during the project. This will be the first time that Dearfield objects we hold on behalf of the Black American West Museum (BAWM) are displayed under our new Memorandum of Understanding with BAWM.
- Britannia, Holly and Chris worked closely on the upcoming *Home News* exhibit co-curated with Chris.
- Holly presented to Geoff and Kristjana's UNC Intern History class about the ins and outs of exhibit creation.
- Holly, Kaylie, and Britannia downloaded, fabricated, and installed the History Colorado traveling (printable) exhibit called *Moments that Made US*. The display opened in the lobby on February 26 and will remain up all year, with several key elements rotating content periodically.

### Collections (Katie Ross, JoAnna Luth Stull, Miranda Todd, Annie Talmadge, Laura Cutler)

- Katie returned to work!
- Britannia, Holly, Annie, and JoAnna went to a donors house to look at the Governor Benjamin Eaton fireplace that is to be donated to GHM.
- Miranda completed webinars on blood-borne pathogen training, managing moths and carpet beetles in museum collections and controlling the preservation environment.
- Miranda also assisted museums manager Chris Bowles and Museum Advisory Board Chair Marcus Embry, with a tour by Weld County Commissioners Maxey and Pepler. She identified and pulled Weld County items from collections, as well as remaining on hand to present items, answer questions, and assist with object handling.
- Miranda assisted collections volunteers throughout January and February due to Katie's leave so that they could continue their work.

### Education and Interpretation (Kristjana Eyjólfsson, Gus Rudnick, Lilah Barth, Stephanie Work, Gabe Llanas, Rachel Walker)

- Gabe Presented with Geoff on the *History and Future of Centennial Village* at Colorado Preservation Inc.'s annual *Saving Places* Conference in Denver.
- The interpreters provided a number of Museum to You presentations to third graders using the Ute STEM Kit developed by the tribe.
- Gus attended the meeting of the Rocky Mountain Letterpress Society in Denver. She met with artisan letterpress crafters and other letterpress museum folks. Gus made connections with numerous local printers who allowed her to visit their print shops. These printers came to CV to help look at the print shop organization and offer advice from years of experience. With the help of Bill Whitley, Gus was able to identify the recently donated press as a Damon and Peet's Favorite Press from the late 1800s between 1885-1895.

- Gus helped to brainstorm and create museum swag with the new button maker. These buttons will have funny sayings on them, encourage general museum visitation, showcase the faces of influential Greeley/Weld county folks, and offer a chance to advertise for different exhibits.
- Gus worked with Geoff to make sure that all Museum to You programming was covered in Kristjana's time off.
- Rachel Celebrated 1 year at COGM!
- She also hosted her first Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Armory. It was attended by 28 volunteers and staff. The Armory was a great venue.
- Staff attended multiple outreach events resulting in new volunteer signups for the museum programs and animal care.

## Historic Sites and Facilities

- Geoff set-up Outlook Calendar for all Museum Events and Programs requiring internal CPRD Assistance for set-up and operations.
- Geoff also worked with the Recreation, Island Grove and Parks staff on planning out the next phases of work at Centennial Village.
- Geoff (aided by Chris) worked hard on pulling together statistics for the CPRD cost recovery exercise.
- Both Chris and Geoff worked on pulling together information on annual maintenance costs from both White Plumb Farm and Meeker Home.



**Celebrate Spring at**  
**Baby Animal Days**

**Centennial Village Museum**  
**April 25 & 26**  
**10 am – 3 pm**



*Figure 4 Advertising the 2026 Baby Animal Days*

## Where Did our Visitors Come From in February, 2026?

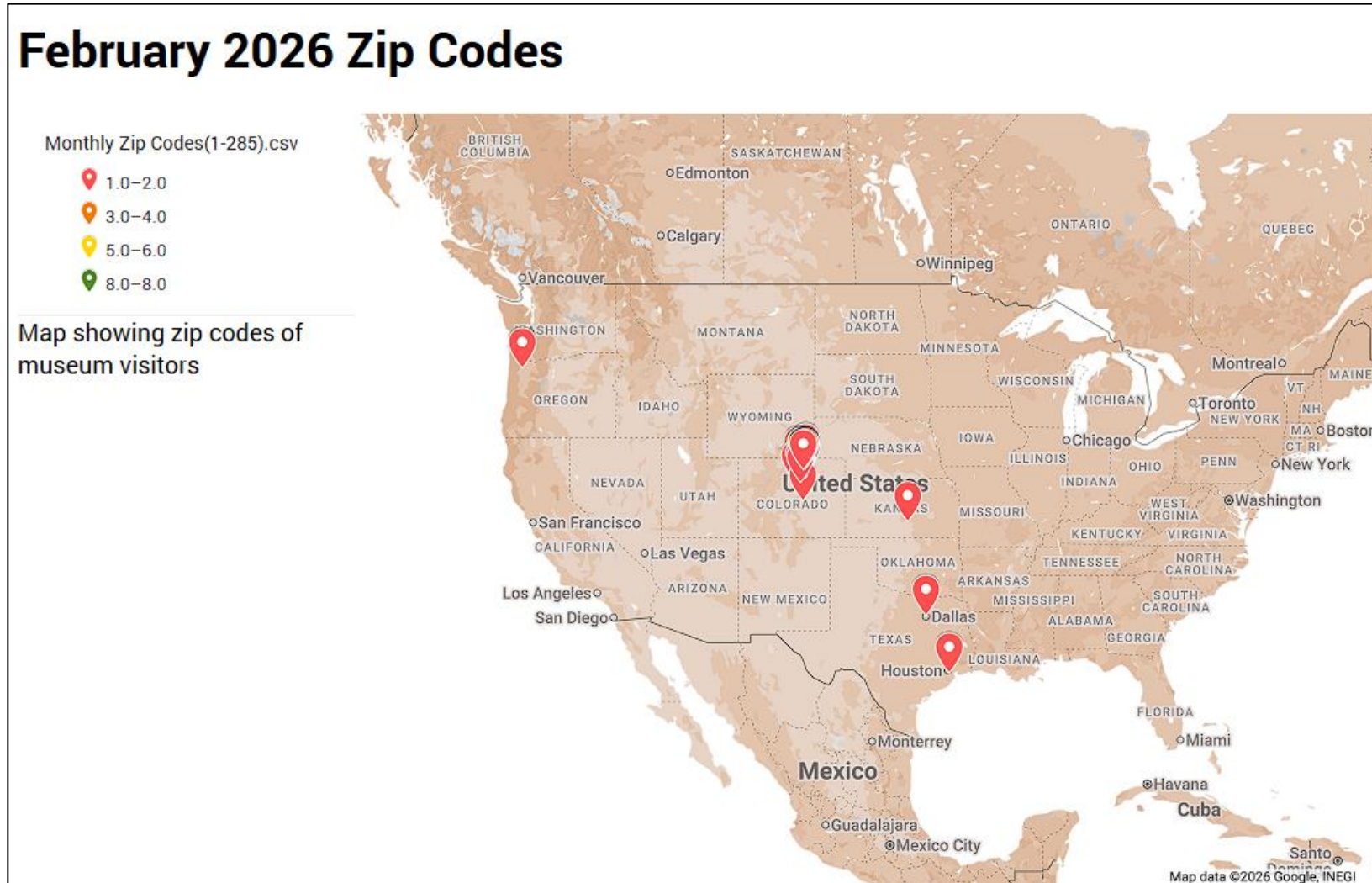


Figure 5 Map of the United States showing where museum visitors came from in February, 2026

# February 2026 Zip Codes

Monthly Zip Codes(1-285).csv

- 📍 1.0–2.0
- 📍 3.0–4.0
- 📍 5.0–6.0
- 📍 8.0–8.0

Map showing zip codes of museum visitors

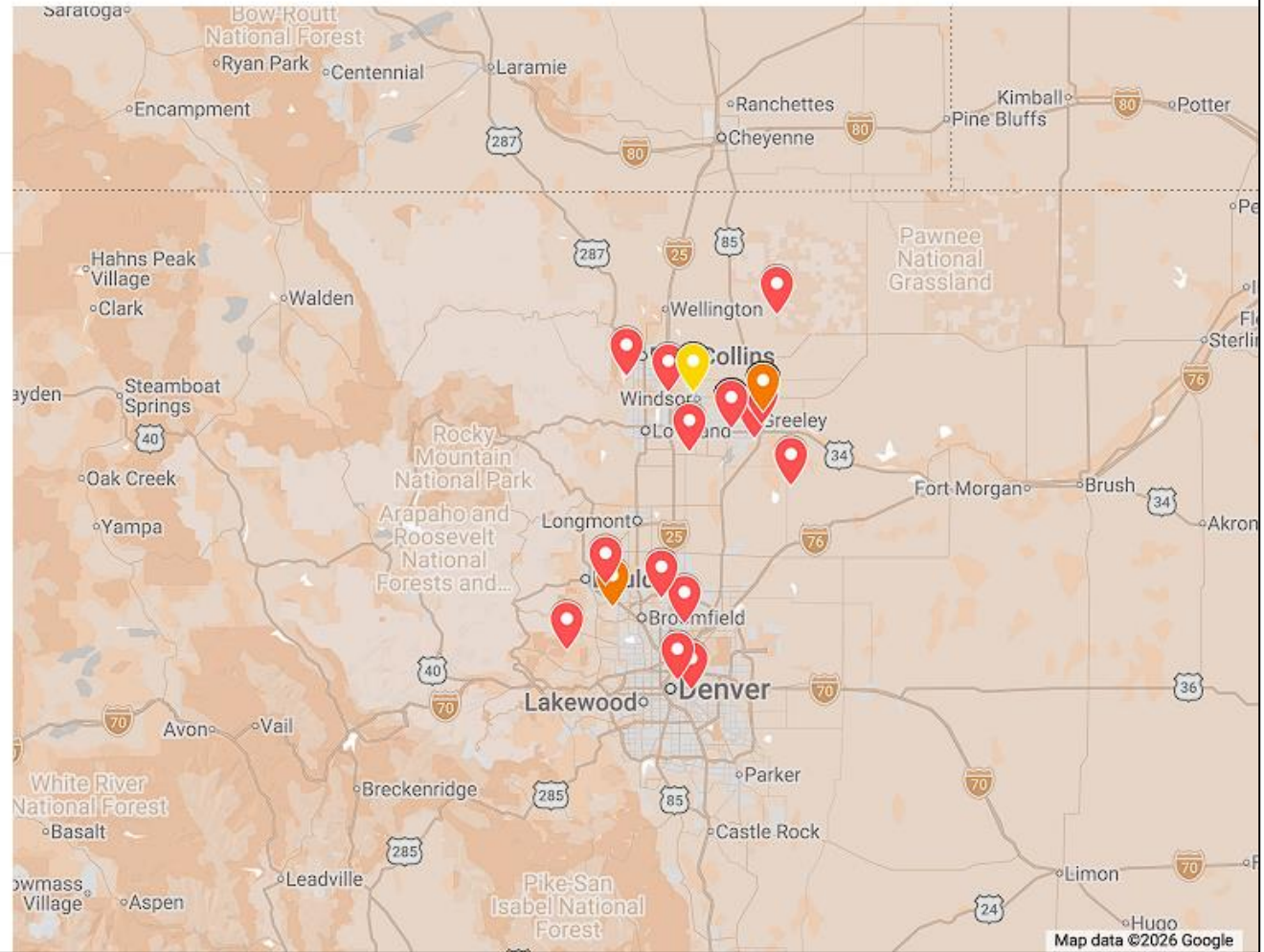


Figure 6 Map showing Colorado Front Range museum visitation in February, 2026

## February 2026 Museum Statistics


### Attendance and Revenue Statistics - Greeley History Museum

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2026	February 2025
Attendance	228	215	139
Admissions Sales <sup>1</sup>	\$0	\$94	\$506
Store	\$431	\$506	\$185
Research Center	\$220	\$0	\$140
Donations or Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities Rentals	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue (minus grants or donations)	\$651	\$600	\$831

### Attendance and Revenue Statistics - Historic Sites

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2025	February 2026
Attendance	0	0	0
Admissions Sales	\$150	\$0	\$0
Store	\$0	\$0	\$0
Donations	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Events	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities Rentals	\$0	\$0	\$0
Combined Revenue	\$150	\$0	\$0

### Attendance and Revenue Statistic Totals

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2025	2026 YTD	2025 YTD	YTD Diff.
Combined Attendance	228	215	443	242	 59%
Combined Revenue	\$801	\$600	\$1251	\$2098	 51%

<sup>1</sup> In 2026, this will only refer to group admission sales. 2025 figures represent admission sales prior to going fee free.

## Volunteer Statistics

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2025	2026 Total	2025 TOTAL
Volunteer Hours	281	253	534	3661
In-Kind Equivalent (2025 Colo. Volunteer Rate @\$38.74/hr)	\$10,886	\$9801	\$20,687	\$141,817

## Collection Interactions

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2025	February 2025
Number of Researchers Served	32 (2 internal, 30 external)	13 (9 internal, 4 external)	27 (8 internal, 19 external)
Virtual Collection Views	749	794	653
Revenue (after discounts)	\$0	\$230	\$140

## Educational Reach

Statistical Categories	February 2026	January 2025	February 2025
K-12 Visits to museum	0	0	0
Museums-to-You or Outreach	1139	911	1006

## Digital Exhibits and Programs

Title of Virtual Experience	February 2026	January 2025	February 2025
Beyond Suffrage Virtual Tour	17	27	39
Meeker Home Virtual Tour	150	64	71
Viewfinder Exhibit	2	14	8
War Comes Home Virtual Exhibit	29	39	27

<b>Title of Virtual Experience</b>	<b>February 2026</b>	<b>January 2025</b>	<b>February 2025</b>
Our History, Our Voice	157	325	0
Unsolved	19	29	34
Stqry	4	1	9
Exhibit-related Virtual Programs	25	0	0
Digital Use Totals:	403	500	188

### **Social Media (Facebook)**

<b>Statistical Categories</b>	<b>February 2026</b>	<b>January 2025</b>	<b>February 2025</b>
Posts	9	9	4
Reach	5,000	34,000	95.7k
Views	12,000	94,000	122k
Top 3 Posts:	Spring Break Camp Cancel; Great Frontier; Create a Print	Free Admission; New Hours; Coca-Cola	Dino Book, Pleibol Preview, Pleibol