

Operating During Construction

Amy Kaufman, Managing Director, U.S. Lord Cultural Resources

Tuesday, February 19, 2013 | Workshop



Option 1: Operate On-Site

Option 1. Construction Allowing for Continued Operation of the Building			
(Phased?)			
Exhibitions	Reduce scale and/or schedule?		
Education and Public	Reduced on-site school, family, youth and adult programs?		
Programs	Increased off-site programs?		
Staff	Operational staff remains. Non-operational staff moves off site?		
	Potential increase in visitor services and security.		
Collections	Move to off-site storage? Acquisitions continue?		
Visitor Services	Museum store remains open? Timed ticketing?		
Budget Implications	\$\$ Movement of staff and operations to accommodate renovation		

Option 2: Operate Off-Site

- A. Open a dedicated space in a new/different location Precedent: MoMA QNS, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum
- B. Open partial operations in a dedicated space within a partner site

Precedent: National Museum of African American History and Culture operating at the National Museum of American History, New Museum at the Chelsea Museum

C. Nomadic (temporary locations, 3-6 months in each) Precedent: No Longer Empty

Option 2: Operate Off-Site

	A. Dedicated space	B. Partner Site	C. Nomadic operation
Exhibitions	Possibly achieve normal exhibition schedule	1-2 exhibitions at any one time	Half or reduced exhibition schedule at any one time
Education and Public Programs	Maintain on-site school, family, youth and adult programs Possibly increased off-site	Reduced on-site school, family, youth and adult programs	
Staff	 school and youth programs Reduced curatorial and visitor services staff Expanded education, communication, and technology staff 		
Visitor Services	Museum store is open Lobby services do not exist	Online museum store only No lobby services	Temp museum store open Lobby services exist
Collections	Collection in off-site storage		
Budget Implications	\$\$ Movement of staff and operations, adaptation of space	\$ Reduced staff and operations	

Top 10 Considerations

- 1. Complexity of construction project
- 2. Resources to plan and operate simultaneously
- 3. Investment required to adapt sites: on-site, off-site, options available in your market
- 4. Public expectations and demand
- 5. Expectations of donors and members
- 6. Special programming opportunities
- 7. Movement and protection of collection
- 8. Financial feasibility: impact on revenue, investment in operations, retention of staff
- 9. Development: capital campaign vs. annual operating/programming needs
- 10. Communications: balancing messaging for ongoing activities with building excitement and interest in project