



## The Discovery Begins Major Capital Improvement Projects Following \$1 Million Gift from Gregory Nelson Estate

**RENO, Nev. (Aug. 28, 2024)** – The Discovery is excited to announce the commencement of several significant capital improvement projects, made possible by a generous \$1 million gift from the estate of the late Gregory Nelson. This contribution will enable the museum to enhance its 67,000-square-foot facility, ensuring it remains a welcoming and engaging space for its more than 200,000 annual visitors.

“Thanks to this incredible gift, we’re able to tackle some large, and very often expensive maintenance and upgrades here at the museum,” said Mat Sinclair, President/CEO of The Discovery. “It’s not just about keeping things running; it’s about creating a better experience for our visitors, both now and for years to come.”

The capital projects, which began on Monday, Aug. 26, are scheduled to be completed by Friday, Oct. 4, 2024. These projects focus on enhancing the museum's infrastructure and ensuring visitor safety. Key improvements include:

- **HVAC retrofit:** Replacement of the museum’s 28 rooftop HVAC units, many of which have been in operation since the building’s original use by the City of Reno. This upgrade will enhance the museum's energy efficiency and visitor comfort.
- **Non-slip flooring:** Installation of new non-slip flooring surrounding the popular Truckee Connects and Cloud Climber exhibits to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all guests.
- **Truckee Connects:** Upgrades to the pump, filters, and other mechanical systems, as well as improvements to the floor drains around the signature water exhibit, will enhance the exhibit’s functionality and longevity.
- **Carpet and paint:** The Science Underground gallery will receive a fresh coat of paint and new carpeting, creating a more inviting space for exploration and learning.
- **New equipment:** The museum will acquire new equipment for exhibition installation, de-installation and facility maintenance, reducing long-term costs and increasing operational efficiency.

During the construction period, the museum’s lower level, including Science Underground, Under the Stars, Truckee Connects and the Cloud Climber, will be closed to visitors. To accommodate for these temporary inconveniences, The Discovery will offer a 50% discount on admission through Friday, Oct. 4, 2024.

Reduced admission prices during renovations are as follows:

- Under age 1 – Free

- Child (ages 1-5) – \$5
- Youth (ages 6-17) – \$7
- Adult – \$8
- Senior (ages 65+) – \$7

“We understand that these updates might cause some temporary inconvenience, but we are committed to minimizing disruption while ensuring these much-needed improvements are made,” added Sinclair. “We appreciate the community’s patience and look forward to welcoming everyone back to a fully open, refreshed and enhanced museum.”

For more information, please visit [nvdm.org](http://nvdm.org).

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### **About The Discovery**

The Discovery creates interest and engagement in science for all. Through unique, hands-on programs, exhibitions and events, The Discovery creates learning experiences that range from simple curiosity to deep understanding, empowering a community of critical thinkers. The Discovery is a locally founded nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. To learn more about The Discovery and how you can help support the museum’s mission, visit [nvdm.org](http://nvdm.org).