

Calumet Theatre Elevator Information

At the October 9, 2017, Calumet Village special council meeting the trustees voted unanimously to accept a renewal lease with the Calumet Theatre Company. The Lease features a length of 15 years, with an automatic 10 year renewal. The Theatre Company proposed the automatic renewal option during the negotiations to provide assurance to the elevator project donors that the Theatre Co. will support this asset for at least 25 years.

With the signed Lease in place, the Calumet Theatre Company was able to move ahead with its plan to install an elevator. After only three years of fundraising, the Theatre Company reached its project goal of \$300,000 for its “Lift Us Up” elevator project in July 2016. Since then U.P. Engineers & Architects was selected as the engineering firm to oversee the installation. Meetings were held to determine best locations and accessibility for the elevator. At the April 25, 2017, regular Calumet Village council meeting, the trustees voted to approve the U.P. Engineers & Architects’ floor plan design that had been presented by the Theatre Co. and to allow the Theatre Co. to handle all aspects of the elevator installation.

The Theatre Company has chosen a LULA (limited usage limited application) elevator to provide accessibility from the first floor Theatre/Village lobby to the second floor Ballroom. Access to the first balcony will be available by a ramped area from the Ballroom. A LULA has a limited capacity of 1400 pounds, travels more slowly between floors, and has less frequent maintenance requirements making it more affordable than a full size elevator for the Theatre Co. to maintain.

The Theatre Company selected Thomas J. Moyle Construction of Houghton to install the elevator. Due to circumstances beyond the Theatre Company’s control, Moyle will not be able to begin construction until April 2018. The much anticipated project is expected to take three months to complete.