

From the StarPhoenix June 3, 2011 - Letter to the Editor

The editorial, *New gallery will maintain Mendel's vision* (SP, May 28), contains inaccurate information.

The SP says opponents of the new art gallery are comparing the current \$84-million price tag with an almost decade-old estimate for expanding and renovating the Mendel. However, the city administration updated the renovation estimate every year during the capital budget process.

In 2007, the Mendel's renovation cost was \$18.3 million. In 2008, it was \$21.3 million. And in 2009, the price was \$24 million. The Mendel was not listed in the 2010 capital budget. Had it been included, the figure would likely have been about \$27 million, less than one-third the cost of the new gallery.

[Read the full letter at the StarPhoenix website.](#)