

A Resolution

NO. _____

COMMENDING THE FORT WORTH ZOOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION FOR ITS ON-GOING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE AND IMPROVE THE FORT WORTH ZOO, RE-AFFIRMING THE ADOPTED FOREST PARK MASTER PLAN AND THE ZOO DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONTAINED THEREIN, AND RE-CONFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE ZOO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Fort Worth Zoo (the "Zoo") was established by the City in 1909 in a portion of what later came to be known as Forest Park; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 1987, the Fort Worth City Council approved the Forest Park Master Plan ("Master Plan"), which included plans for development of the Zoo; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 1989, the Fort Worth City Council adopted City Ordinance 10261, which established the boundaries of the Zoo, consisting of 58.53187 acres, more or less, and including raw land identified for future Zoo development in the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Worth Zoological Association (the "Zoo Association") is a nonprofit corporation organized in 1950 as a citizen support group whose mission has been to assist the Zoo in operational, educational and developmental growth for the benefit of all Fort Worth citizens; and

WHEREAS, since 1991 the Zoo Association has been engaged by the City to manage operations at the Zoo and in that time has demonstrated dedication and excellence in its stewardship of the Zoo, leveraging City funding with grants and private donations of more than \$140 million for new exhibits, deeded improvements, and repairs throughout the Zoo; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the City and the Zoo Association executed a renewal agreement (City Secretary Contract 40564), extending the Zoo Association's management of the Zoo for an additional twenty years and reaffirming both parties' commitment to the Master Plan and development of the Zoo, within its designated boundaries, in accordance therewith; and

WHEREAS, in the five years since the renewal agreement was executed, the Zoo Association has continued its efforts to enhance and improve the Zoo and is preparing to embark in earnest on implementation of the African Savannah (exhibit attached) identified in the Master Plan and to make other improvements for the proper health and care of the Zoo's animal collection and for the education and enjoyment of all citizens of Fort Worth, all within the scope of the approved Master Plan and the ordinance-defined boundary; and



WHEREAS, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the renewal agreement and in anticipation of the impending improvements, the Fort Worth City Council wishes to publicly commend the Zoo Association for its on-going efforts and to re-affirm the City's commitment as expressed in City Secretary Contract No. 40564 to the on-going development of the Zoo by the Zoo Association in accordance with the approved Master Plan and the adopted boundary ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS THAT:

1. The City endorses, commends, congratulates, and thanks the Fort Worth Zoological Association for its on-going efforts in managing, enhancing, and improving the Fort Worth Zoo for the benefit of its animals and for the continued enjoyment and education of Zoo visitors from across the City and throughout the world.
2. The City recognizes, reaffirms, and reiterates its approval of the plan for Zoo development detailed in the Forest Park Master Plan within the existing Zoo boundaries as established by ordinance.
3. The City endorses and approves the Zoo Association's past, current, and future efforts and plans to fully develop, maintain, and update the Zoo in accordance with Master Plan.
4. The City acknowledges the Zoo Association's right and obligation to manage and construct all improvements in accordance with City Secretary Contract No. 40564 and reaffirms the Zoo Association's authority, without further City approval being required, to construct major animal exhibits within the existing Zoo boundary in accordance with all normally applicable inspection and building permit requirements and the approved Master Plan.

Adopted this _____ day of _____ 2015.

ATTEST:

By: _____

Mary Kayser, City Secretary



Update / Repair / Renovation

New Exhibitory

