

ORDINANCE NO. 070459

Authorizing an agreement between the City and the Friends of the Zoo, Inc. for the management and operation of the Kansas City Zoological Park for a period of five additional years beginning May 1, 2007.

WHEREAS, the Kansas City Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, is charged, by Charter with the operation and control of the City's Parks, including the Kansas City Zoological Park located within Swope Park; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Zoo, Inc. Kansas City, Missouri has been incorporated in the State of Missouri as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) support membership organization with a charitable mission since 1959; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Zoo has in the past, and currently continues to support the operation of the Zoo through its management of significant facilities, educational efforts, countless promotions, monetary donations and in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and the Friends of the Zoo organization have a shared mission to continue to provide the citizens with a quality Zoo, assuring an efficient operation, fiscal security, and providing optimal animal care and outstanding customer service; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners has determined it to be in the public interest to continue the responsibility for the management and operation of the Zoo to the Friends of the Zoo (FOTZ) for another five years; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Zoo has indicated its willingness to continue to assume such responsibility in order to achieve certain economies and efficiencies in the operation of the Zoo facilities; and

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution No. 011490 approved by the City Council November 15, 2001, and Ordinance No. 011724 as approved by the City Council on December 20, 2001, supported the transfer of the operation of the Kansas City Zoo to the Friends of the Zoo Inc. at an annual operating subsidy of \$4 million dollars per year for a term of five years; and

WHEREAS, the term of that original agreement will expire on April 30, 2007, and the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners is in support of an extension of the agreement with the Friends of the Zoo, Inc. for another five year term beginning on May 1, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, the Friends of the Zoo are asking for an additional operating and facility maintenance subsidy of \$1.5 million over five years to cover normal cost increases and to support new exhibits that were a part of the \$30 million general obligation bond package approved by voters, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

Section 1. That the City Council supports the continued operation of the management and operation of the Kansas City Zoological Park by the Friends of the Zoo, Inc. for a period of five additional years beginning May 1, 2007.

Section 2. That the Council hereby expresses its intent to provide an annual operating and routine capital maintenance subsidy to the FOTZ subject to the availability and appropriation of funds in the following amounts:

FY 2007-08	\$4,300,000.00
FY 2008-09	\$4,600,000.00
FY 2009-10	\$4,900,000.00
FY 2010-11	\$5,200,000.00
FY 2011-12	\$5,500,000.00

Section 3. The Council expects the Park Board to report annually to the City Council on the Zoo's operating revenues, and expenses and on its progress in increasing its revenue from other funding sources.

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to sign the management agreement extension which is incorporated as part of this ordinance on behalf of the City.

I hereby certify that there is a balance, otherwise unencumbered, to the credit of the appropriation to which the foregoing expenditure is to be charged, and a cash balance, otherwise unencumbered, in the treasury, to the credit of the fund from which payment is to be made, each sufficient to meet the obligation hereby incurred.

Debra R. Hinsvark
Director of Finance

Approved as to form and legality:

Kathy Adams
Assistant City Attorney