

To: Executive Committee

From: John Tracogna
Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **ELEPHANT TRANSFER STATUS UPDATE**

Date: October 18, 2012

SUMMARY

This report provides the current status of the Toronto Zoo elephant transfer (Iringa, Toka, Thika) to the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) sanctuary in northern California.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Executive Committee forward the (September 25, 2012) memorandum from the Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Zoo and related material, to City Council for consideration.

Financial Impact

There will be no financial impacts to the City of Toronto or the Toronto Zoo as a result of adoption of the recommendations in this report.

BACKGROUND

On September 25, 2012, members of the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo were given an update by the CEO and the Senior Veterinarian of the Toronto Zoo on the elephant transfer to PAWS sanctuary.

The Board directed that the memorandum and related material be forward to the Executive Committee and City Council for consideration. Decision history:

ZB5.3: "Toronto Zoo Elephant Program", May 12, 2011, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.ZB5.3>

The Board directed that the Toronto Zoo phase out of the Elephant Program. The existing three elephants be transferred as soon as practical to an accredited AZA institution(s) and meet the Toronto Zoo's accepted processes and policies for animal transactions.

MM13.9: "Moving the Three Toronto Zoo Elephants to the PAWS Sanctuary as Soon and as Safely as Possible-by Councillor Michelle Berardinetti, seconded by Councillor Raymond Cho", October 24, 2011, City Council meeting

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.MM13.9>

City Council directed the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo to make the necessary arrangements with the Performing Animals Welfare Society (PAWS) sanctuary to physically transfer the 3 elephants, Iringa, Toka, and Thika to its facility in California and to transfer legal ownership to PAWS as soon as arrangements can be made by PAWS to safely transport the elephants and permits can be obtained.

ZB9.1: “Elephant Transfer-Status Report”, November 24, 2011, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.ZB9.1>

The Board affirmed, reviewed, assessed and corroborated City Council’s decision of October 25, 2011 to move the Toronto Zoo’s three elephants to PAWS sanctuary, and furthermore directed that qualified Toronto Zoo staff undertake due diligence prior to transporting the elephants to PAWS sanctuary including: site visits, documentation of health records, transportation, and associated legal agreement between the Toronto Zoo and PAWS.

ZB16.16: “Elephant Transfer Status”, September 25, 2012, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.ZB16.16>

The Board directed the Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Zoo to forward the (September 25, 2012) memorandum on the elephant transfer status to the Executive Committee, and thereon to City Council for consideration.

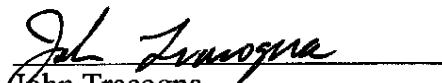
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SIGNATURE


John Tracogna
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ATTACHMENTS

Memorandum: Elephant Transfer Status, September 25, 2012 , Toronto Zoo Board of Management