



REPORT FOR ACTION

Toronto Zoo Campus Plan Committee Development

Date: September 30, 2025

To: Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

From: Chief Executive Officer

Wards: All

SUMMARY

In 2026, your Toronto Zoo will launch a planning process to prepare a new Campus Plan to guide the future growth and development of the Zoo. This report intends to establish a Board committee to guide the development of the new 2027 Toronto Zoo Campus Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Zoo recommends that:

1. The Toronto Zoo Board of Management approve the establishment of a Campus Plan Steering Committee and appoint three board members to guide the development of the 2027 Toronto Zoo Campus Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held on February 14, 2022 the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo approved the Toronto Zoo's current Master Plan.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.ZB20.2>

The Master Plan was subsequently posted publicly on the Toronto Zoo's website as the 2022 Master Plan reflecting the year of approval.

https://www.torontozoo.com/!/pdfs/temp/TZ_MasterplanBooklet.pdf

COMMENTS

The 2027 Toronto Zoo Campus Plan will build upon and strengthen the Zoo's 2022 Master Plan with an aim to set the standard for modern, accredited zoos of the future. In the nearly four years since the approval of the 2022 Master Plan, significant progress has been made including the advancement of signature projects that improve animal well-being, guest experience and community connections. This includes the Community Conservation Centre under construction, new orangutan habitat, Americas pavilion energy retrofit, initiation of the indoor savanna winter holding and viewing project, accessibility improvements including the new core woods boardwalk network, site-wide technology upgrades.

Development of the new Campus Plan will be guided by the 2025-2027 Guardians of Wild Strategic Plan and ensure that your Toronto Zoo's physical site reinforces its mission to connect people, animals, conservation science and traditional knowledge to fight extinction. The Campus Plan will establish a strategic vision for the Zoo site as a manifestation of our organizational values as we work to build an inspiring, inclusive and accessible centre of excellence for conservation science and environmental sustainability leveraging the latest technology.

To help support the development of the Campus Plan, a committee of three (3) Board members, along with the Chief Executive Officer, is to be established. The committee will be consulted for a set period with the intention of dissolving the committee upon the completion of the plan.

The planning process will involve extensive engagement from Toronto Zoo staff, stakeholders, community and government partners, corporations, and members of the Board to decide on the direction and key elements of the Campus Plan. It will also ensure that key voices underrepresented in the previous Master Plan process, including youth and the Zoo's Indigenous Advisory Circle, will have an opportunity to shape the future of their zoo. A final Campus Plan will be presented to the Board of Management for approval in 2027.

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SIGNATURE

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