

2025 Sustainability Report

Date: April 8, 2026

To: Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

From: Director, Capital Program and Sustainability

Wards: All

SUMMARY

This report provides an update to the Board of Management on the Toronto Zoo's environmental priorities and initiatives achieved in 2025, presented within the new Sustainability Report framework, which reflects a shift toward more integrated, transparent, and data-driven sustainability reporting. Throughout the year, the Zoo advanced its commitment to net-zero operations by 2030 through initiatives in energy efficiency, water conservation, waste diversion, and biodiversity restoration, while strengthening alignment with broader priorities such as decarbonization, digital transformation, and systems-based environmental management. Increased emphasis on employee engagement and community participation further supports measurable outcomes, positioning the Zoo to effectively track progress, inform decision-making, and contribute to climate resilience within the local ecosystem and beyond.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Capital Programs and Sustainability recommend that:

1. The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

In 2006, your Toronto Zoo established its first environmental sustainability framework, the Greenprint, followed by the 2007 Green Plan, which set long-term goals to reduce

the Zoo's ecological footprint and embed sustainability into operations. Building on this foundation, the Zoo adopted the TZNet0 Environmental Sustainability Plan in 2022, establishing a pathway to achieve net-zero Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 while advancing water, waste, and biodiversity priorities. Since then, the Zoo's approach has evolved toward integrated, systems-based decision-making supported by enhanced data, digital tools, and performance monitoring, with alignment to frameworks such as the Government of Canada's Net-Zero Challenge and the City of Toronto's TransformTO Strategy. This progression reflects a shift from foundational planning to coordinated implementation, embedding sustainability into capital planning, operations, and governance to drive measurable progress toward net-zero and broader environmental resilience objectives.

COMMENTS

The 2025 Sustainability Report highlights your Toronto Zoo's continued progress in advancing the TZNet0 Environmental Sustainability Plan, while reflecting a more integrated and data-driven approach to sustainability performance and reporting. Key outcomes presented in this report include:

- Continued progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the implementation of major capital projects under the Energy Retrofit Program, including expanded electrification, heat pump deployment, building optimization, and ongoing fleet transition planning aligned with the Zoo's decarbonization pathway to 2030.
- Advancements in water stewardship through the completion and optimization of floating wetlands across stormwater systems, supporting measurable improvements in water quality, alongside continued investment in nature-based solutions and community initiatives such as the Rain Barrel program that promote water conservation beyond Zoo boundaries.
- Strengthened circular economy performance through the expansion of reuse and waste diversion programs, including the growth of the Friendlier reusable container program and ongoing enhancements to waste sorting systems, supporting progress toward the Zoo's zero waste to landfill objectives.
- Continued habitat restoration and biodiversity stewardship across Zoo lands, including aquatic and terrestrial restoration initiatives that contribute to ecosystem health, improve climate resilience, and support the Zoo's long-term target of restoring 200 acres by 2030.
- Enhanced community engagement, education, and partnerships, including large-scale volunteer participation, climate awareness programming, and collaborative initiatives that extend the Zoo's environmental impact beyond its physical boundaries.

- Maturation of sustainability governance and reporting systems, including expanded data management capabilities, integration of digital tools, and the advancement of Scope 3 greenhouse gas inventory development to support more comprehensive emissions tracking and decision-making.

The Toronto Zoo continues to demonstrate leadership in environmental stewardship by aligning operational performance, capital investment, and community impact with a cohesive sustainability strategy, positioning the organization to deliver measurable progress toward its net-zero 2030 goals while contributing to broader climate and biodiversity outcomes.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - 2025 Sustainability Report