

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY
FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Ordinance No. 2014- 01

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING AN EXTENSION OF THE COUNTYWIDE
TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX FOR THE SUPPORT OF ZOOS, ZOOLOGICAL
FACILITIES, AND RELATED ZOOLOGICAL PURPOSES, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY
THE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

The Fresno County Zoo Authority ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Title and Summary.

This ordinance shall be known as the “Fresno County Zoo Authority Transactions and Use Tax Ordinance.” If approved by the voters, this Ordinance will be an extension of the transactions and use tax, and will be the same as the current tax (which expires March 31, 2015), to be applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County, the proceeds of which are to be used exclusively for zoos, zoological facilities, and related zoological purposes within the County.

SECTION 2. Submission to the Voters; Voter Approval; Operative Date.

This Ordinance is an ordinance calling for or otherwise relating to an election, and shall therefore take effect immediately upon adoption by this Board. The provisions of this Ordinance are to be submitted to the voters of the County for approval in order that the successor transactions and use tax can become operative, as provided by Revenue and Taxation Code section 7286.43. The tax submitted to the voters by this Ordinance will therefore take effect only if at least two-thirds of the electors voting on

the measure at the November 4, 2014 election vote in favor of the measure. If approved by the voters, the provisions of this ordinance authorizing the levy of one-tenth of one percent (0.10%) transactions and use tax will become operative on the later of April 1, 2015 or the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of the State Board of Equalization contract in accordance with Section 5 of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. Provisions of Fresno County Zoo Authority Ordinance Regarding Fresno County Zoo Authority Transactions and Use Tax.

Effective on the date the successor tax becomes operative under Section 2 of this Ordinance, Section 1.010 of Fresno County Zoo Authority Ordinance No. 2004-1 is amended to read as follows:

Section 1.010. Purpose.

This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following, among other, purposes and directs that its provisions are interpreted to accomplish those purposes:

a. To impose a one-tenth of 1 percent (0.10%) retail transactions and use tax according to the provisions of Part 1.6 (commencing with section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as specifically authorized by section 7286.43 of Chapter 2.85 of Part 1.7 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code;

b. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which incorporates provisions identical to those of the Sales and Use Tax Law of the State of California insofar as those provisions are consistent with the requirements and limitations contained in Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code;

c. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which imposes a tax and provides a measure for it that the State Board of Equalization can administer and collect in a manner that adapts itself as fully as practicable to, and requires the least

possible deviation from, the existing statutory and administrative procedures followed by the State Board of Equalization in administering and collecting the California Sales and Use Taxes;

d. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which can be administered in a manner which, to the greatest degree possible, will be consistent with the provisions of Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, will reduce the cost of collecting the transactions and use taxes and simultaneously will reduce the burden of record keeping upon persons subject to taxation under the provisions of this ordinance.

e. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance that provides funding for zoos, zoological facilities, and related zoological purposes within the County of Fresno.”

SECTION 4. AUTHORITY EXPENDITURE PLAN

Section 4.010. Purpose of Ordinance

The purpose of this ordinance is to allow the Authority to fund the services and programs authorized hereunder pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 7286.43.

Section 4.020. Definitions

The following terms and phrases shall be defined in the manner listed below:

a. “Capital projects” shall mean improvement projects for facilities with a useful life of five years or more as well as the acquisition of animals.

b. “Fresno Chaffee Zoo” shall mean the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in the City of Fresno, or its successor.

c. "Administrative Costs" shall mean actual expenses incurred by the Authority. Apportionment of any overhead and/or accounting of actual costs shall be accomplished in accordance with the standards and procedures found in Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 225.

Section 4.030. Imposition and Distribution Formula for Special Fresno County Zoo Transaction and Use Tax

Under the authority granted pursuant to this ordinance as approved by the voters, a one-tenth of one percent (0.10%) transaction and use tax is imposed for the special purposes and programs specified hereunder. The proceeds of the special tax shall be distributed in the following manner:

a. The proceeds of the special tax shall first be applied to reimburse Fresno County for the costs of the election held pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 7286.43. The proceeds of the tax shall also be available to pay the costs of any election for an extension of the tax.

b. Up to 2% of the annual special tax proceeds shall be allocated for administrative costs as defined herein. This administrative allocation shall be made based upon budgeted estimates of administrative costs prior to any distribution made in any fiscal year.

c. The remaining annual special tax proceeds shall be distributed to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, on a reimbursement basis, for expenditures that fall within the following limitations and are approved by the Authority:

1. A minimum of two-thirds of the funds shall be for capital projects in the Chaffee Zoo approved by the Authority Board. Authority Board approval of

improvement projects for facilities will be based upon preliminary plans submitted by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

2. Up to one-third of the funds shall be available for operations and maintenance of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

d. Nothing herein shall prevent the Authority from authorizing multi-year capital projects and/or programs within the time period established for this special tax, or from pledging future annual special tax proceeds as security for loans to fund capital projects.

e. The Fresno Chaffee Zoo shall provide the Authority with an annual use statement demonstrating the use of said funds authorized by the Authority. The statement shall be made in a form acceptable to the Authority and shall be approved by a certified public accountant prior to its submission to the Authority. The Authority may request status reports on the progress of projects and programs to be submitted to the Authority for public discussion at any Authority meeting from time to time.

Section 4.040. Ineligible Activities

No funds received by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo shall be expended for the following ineligible activities:

a. Activities normally funded by a city or county through state, federal and/or local revenues such as animal control, health care, criminal justice programs, and social service programs.

b. Programs not open and available on any equal basis to all residents of Fresno County.

c. Programs which promote religious or sectarian purposes.

- d. Scholarships, grants or other payments to individuals for educational purposes.
- e. Except as herein allowed, programs of local, state or federal governments or their subsidiaries.
- f. Out-of-state travel expense.
- g. Programs or policies that discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, religious preference, or national origin in the operation of facilities or in membership policies.

SECTION 5. Severability and Construction

If any provision of this ordinance, or part thereof, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining sections shall not be affected, but shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. The provisions of this ordinance shall be liberally construed to effectuate its main purpose of providing funding to programs and services that support zoos, zoological facilities, and related zoological purposes within Fresno County.

SECTION 6. Sunset Clause

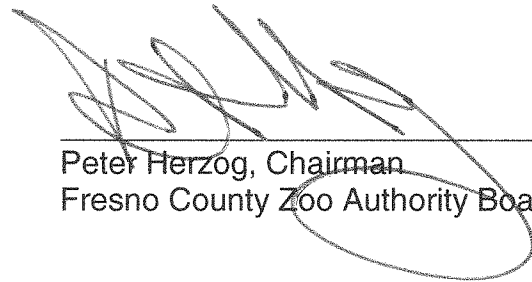
The transactions and use special tax is imposed hereunder at a rate of one-tenth of one percent (0.10%) for the period of ten (10) years. Any surplus remaining at the end of the ten-year period shall be utilized in the manner specified hereunder until the funds are fully utilized.

THE FOREGOING WAS PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Fresno County Zoo Authority Board this 30th day of April, 2014 by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES: Herzog, Lyles, Gray, Swearingin, Toste, Waterhouse

NOES: None

ABSENT: Stratford



Peter Herzog, Chairman
Fresno County Zoo Authority Board

ATTEST:

CATHERINE CROSBY
Zoo Authority Coordinator
Fresno County Zoo Authority Board