



FRESNO COUNTY  
**ZOO**  
AUTHORITY

1ST DRAFT

WORKING TOGETHER  
TO BUILD A WORLD CLASS

*Destination*



2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT





“...AND NOW WE *Welcome* THE NEW YEAR,  
FULL OF THINGS THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN”

~ Rainer Maria Rilke

PAGE

.....  
*Introduction by the Chair of Zoo Authority Board* 1

*Acknowledgements* 3

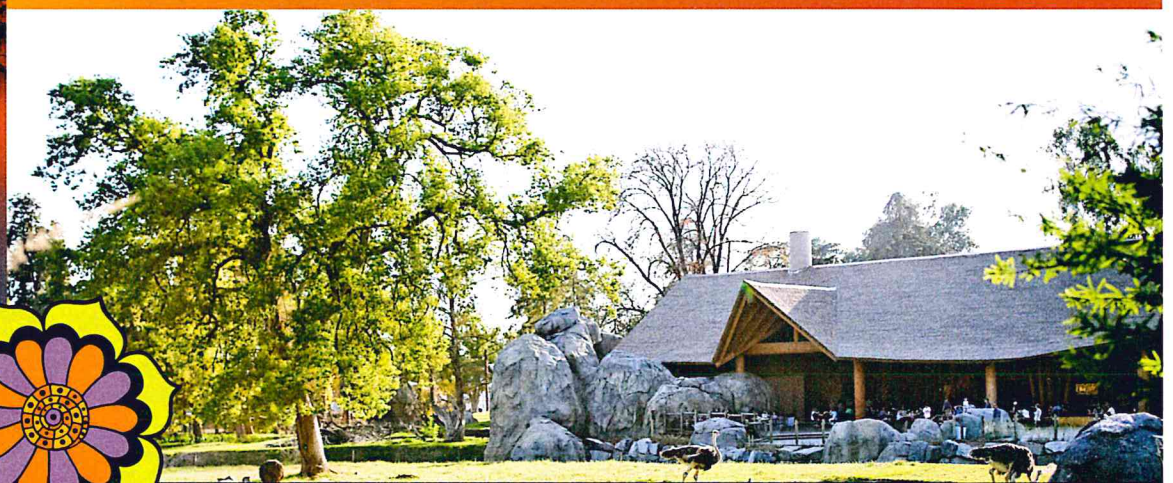
*2015 Fresno County Zoo Authority Board and Staff* 4

*Zoo Authority Milestones of Fiscal Year 2014-2015* 5

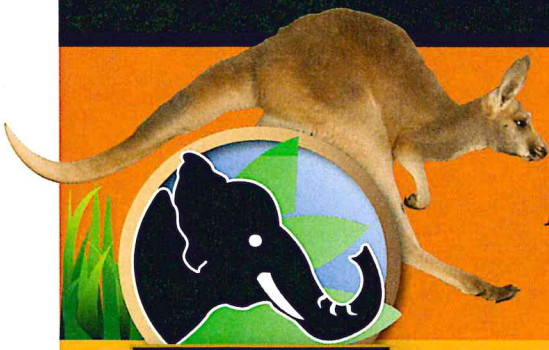
*Treasurer's Exhibits* 7

*Introduction to Zoo Authority Financial Statements* 9

*Appendix A - Financial Statement  
with Independent Auditor's Report* 10







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## NEWS FROM THE ZOO AUTHORITY



**PETER HERZOG**  
*Chairman*

**PAUL A. TOSTE, DVM**  
*Vice Chairman*

**GERALD V. LYLES**  
*Board Member*

**MICHELLE ROMAN**  
*Board Member*

**KENT L. STRATFORD**  
*Board Member*

**ASHLEY SWEARENGIN**  
*Board Member*

**RALPH WATERHOUSE**  
*Board Member*

**OLIVER BAINES**  
*Board Member*



October 7, 2016

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 300  
Fresno, CA 936721

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of the members of the Fresno County Zoo Authority Board, I am pleased to present our Annual Report for fiscal year 2015-16.

We began our eleventh year anticipating the opening of the nearly completed thirteen-acre African Adventure, and ended the year with Fresno Chaffee Zoo Director Scott Barton's report of attendance figures that illustrate the success of this outstanding addition. While in 2015 the Zoo again broke attendance records with 808,914 visitors, in just the first five months of 2016 attendance exceeded half a million visitors, surpassing the annual attendance of 2012.

Fresno County residents can be justifiably proud of their vote of confidence in 2014 to extend Measure Z for another ten years, and of African Adventure—a beautiful example of how local tax dollars can be well spent. Plans are under way for future Measure Z funded projects at Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Visitors can look forward to expanded Malayan Tiger and Sloth Bear exhibits and the popular Dino Dig, and an African River exhibit that will include the highly anticipated return of hippos.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, \$13,593,295 in Measure Z tax proceeds were received, and \$22,880,888 was available to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Disbursements totaled \$15,096,425, including \$4,481,253 for maintenance and operations, and \$10,615,172 for capital projects, primarily for the completion of African Adventure and the acquisition of its animals, the design of a new Malayan tiger exhibit, and the completion of various utility infrastructure projects.



## NEWS FROM THE ZOO AUTHORITY



- Total proceeds of the one tenth of one percent Measure Z sale tax received since inception in April 2005 through June 30, 2016 were \$125,659,689, and the Fresno Chaffee Zoo has been reimbursed \$35,977,941 for maintenance and operations, and \$70,165,081 for various capital projects.
- Two percent of Measure Z proceeds are available for the Authority's administrative expenses, primarily for professional and specialized services provided by Fresno County staff, including managerial, clerical, accounting, and legal services, as well costs associated with the annual independent audit found in Attachment A. It is worth noting here that Measure Z funds received by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo are also audited annually by the Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation independent auditors.
- In June, our website, [www.ZooAuthority.org](http://www.ZooAuthority.org), received an updated look. Visitors can find information on our meetings and agendas, as well as reports, contracts, budgets, bylaws, policies, and many other documents related to Measure Z and its extension.
- Finally, we would like to express our sincerest appreciation for the dedication and leadership of Reedley veterinarian John Gray, my predecessor from District 4 and original appointee to the Authority Board, who so generously volunteered his time for more than ten years.
- If you have any questions regarding the Zoo Authority Board or the management of Measure Z funds, please feel free to contact me or one of our able staff.

Respectfully,

Michelle Roman  
2016 Zoo Authority Chairman  
559-897-5821





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Fresno County Zoo Authority greatly appreciates the investment of personal time and effort by board members of Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation, and the cordial and collaborative relationship between the staff of the Authority and the Corporation.

We also acknowledge and appreciate the prompt and enthusiastic assistance from many Fresno County employees, without whom the needs and goals of the Zoo Authority Board could not be met.



### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

JOHN HAYS | *Principal Administrative Analyst*

### AUDITOR-CONTROLLER/TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

ELIZ MANOUKIAN | *Accounting and Financial Manager*

### COUNTY COUNSEL

JOAN QUADROS | *Executive Assistant*

### FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

ELIZABETH AVALOS | *Administrative Secretary*

PAT SRISUKWATANA | *Systems Procedures Analyst III*

KIM ZEPEDA | *Systems Procedures Analyst I*

### INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION SERVICES

GINA BARR | *Graphic Arts Specialist*

### INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

DANIEL MOORE | *Information Technology Analyst*

RAMIRO PUENTES | *Information Technology Analyst II*

### PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING

CAROL PRATT | *Principal Accountant*

KAYING VANG | *Supervising Accountant*

SHERRI GRAHAM | *Program Technician I*

KEVIN OLIVAS | *Office Assistant III*



ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN BY:

GINA BARR | *Graphic Arts Specialist*

THE COUNTY OF FRESNO, INTERNAL SERVICES  
GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION SERVICES





# BOARD AND STAFF

## ZOO AUTHORITY BOARD 2016



Served through Fiscal Year 2015-16

BOARD MEMBER	POSITION	ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT
PAUL A. TOSTE, DVM NOMINATED BY: <i>Brian Pacheco, District 1 Supervisor</i>	Vice Chairman <i>Term Expiration: 1/7/2019</i>	2/8/2005
GERALD V. LYLES NOMINATED BY: <i>Andreas Borgeas, District 2 Supervisor</i>	Board Member <i>Term Expiration: 1/9/2017</i>	3/8/2005
KENT L. STRATFORD NOMINATED BY: <i>Henry Perea, District 3 Supervisor</i>	Board Member <i>Term Expiration: 1/9/2017</i>	2/8/2005
MICHELLE ROMAN NOMINATED BY: <i>Buddy Mendes, District 4 Supervisor</i>	Chairman <i>Term Expiration: 1/7/2019</i>	7/14/2015
PETER HERZOG NOMINATED BY: <i>Deborah Poochigian, District 5 Supervisor</i>	Board Member <i>Term Expiration: 1/9/2017</i>	9/10/2013
RALPH WATERHOUSE NOMINATED BY: <i>2006 Board of Supervisors Chairman Phil Larson</i>	Board Member <i>Term Expiration: 1/9/2017</i>	1/10/2006
ASHLEY SWEARENGIN <i>Ex Officio - Mayor of Fresno</i>	Board Member <i>Term Expiration: January 2017</i>	Upon oath of office 1/6/2009
OLIVER BAINES <i>Mayor's Appointment, Councilmember, District 3</i>	Mayor's Alternate <i>Term Expiration: N/A</i>	1/28/2011

## ZOO AUTHORITY STAFF - FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

STAFF MEMBER	ZOO AUTHORITY TITLE	COUNTY DEPARTMENT	COUNTY TITLE
JOHN NAVARRETTE Through October 2015	Administrator	County Administrative Office	County Administrative Officer
JEAN ROUSSEAU From October 2015	Administrator	County Administrative Office	County Administrative Officer
CATHERINE CROSBY	Coordinator	Public Works & Planning	Staff Analyst III
JANE T. SMITH From January 2015	Counsel	County Counsel	Deputy County Counsel
JEFFREY BLANKS Through June 2016	Treasurer	Auditor-Controller Treasurer-Tax Collector	Supervising Accountant
MEGAN MARKS From July 2016	Treasurer	Auditor-Controller Treasurer-Tax Collector	Senior Accountant
STALIN HERNANDEZ Through October 2015	Accountant	Auditor-Controller Treasurer-Tax Collector	Accountant 1
VALERIE DIRLAM From October 2015	Accountant	Auditor-Controller Treasurer-Tax Collector	Accountant I





# MILESTONES

## 2003

Nine-year-old Angel Arellano writes to The Fresno Bee, enclosing her \$1 donation and inspiring the effort to save the Fresno Chaffee Zoo

## 2004

Board of Supervisors creates Zoo Authority, adopts ordinance for a special tax of 1/10th of one cent for ten years and approves placing ordinance on November ballot.

Measure Z sales tax passes with 73.42% of votes.

## 2006

Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation takes over operation of the Zoo from the City of Fresno.

## 2007

Maintenance work, including painting, pathways, lighting, signage; Renovations, including Rain Forest, Maddis House, chimpanzee, ant eater, swan, bird of prey, and hoof stock.

## 2008

Master planning and pre-design engineering in progress.

## 2009

Preparation of Environmental Impact Report and tree survey.

## 2010

Reptile house improvements in progress

Stingray Bay becomes a permanent exhibit.

Dino Dig opens.

## 2011

Fresno Planning Commission certifies Roeding Park Master Plan Environmental Impact Report.

September ground-breaking for Sea Lion Cove.

## 2012

Purchase of portable digital X-Ray machine.

August-Sea Lion Cove opens; September attendance increased 93% above September 2011.

## 2013

River Otters move into renovated former home of Sea Lions.

King Cobra, Komodo dragon and renovated Reptile House exhibits open.

X-ray confirms rare Malayan tiger is pregnant.

## 2014

In January four healthy tiger cubs are born, and construction begins on African Adventure. 75% of construction firms are local.

Tiger cubs come outside in March and bring more than 100,000 Zoo visitors in April.

Measure Z extension campaign includes updated Nosey yard signs and billboards featuring tiger cubs.

72% of voters approved Measure Z for another 10 years.

Funding approved for design of tiger exhibit expansion.

Annual admissions surpass 700,000; an increase of 70% in 5 years.

## 2015

Funding approved to acquire and transport animals for African Adventure and to complete utilities upgrades.

Thirty new full-time employees hired.

The October 15 Grand Opening of African Adventure increases attendance by 95% over October

## 2016

Utilities upgrades completed.

Funding approved for animal acquisition, expansion of Dino Dig, and design of African River exhibit for hippos and crocodiles.

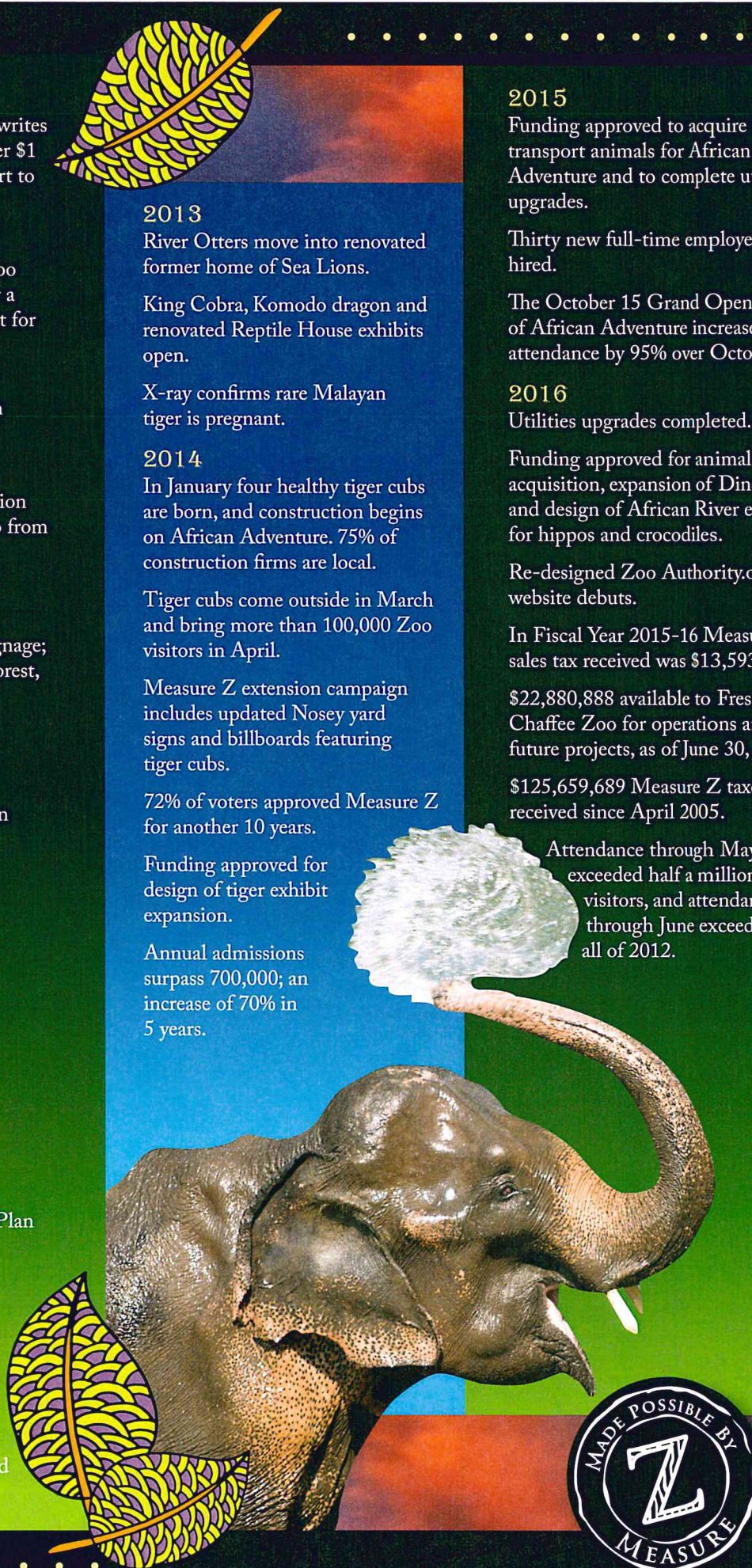
Re-designed Zoo Authority.org website debuts.

In Fiscal Year 2015-16 Measure Z sales tax received was \$13,593,295.

\$22,880,888 available to Fresno Chaffee Zoo for operations and future projects, as of June 30, 2016.

\$125,659,689 Measure Z taxes received since April 2005.

Attendance through May exceeded half a million visitors, and attendance through June exceeded all of 2012.







**EXHIBIT A**

**Fresno County Zoo Authority Cash Balance**

**EXHIBIT B**

**Cash Disbursement by Category to Fresno's Chaffee  
Zoo Corporation during Fiscal Year 2015-16**

**EXHIBIT C**

**Cash Disbursements by Fund to Fresno's Chaffee  
Zoo Corporation during Fiscal Year 2015-16**

**EXHIBIT D**

**Fresno County Zoo Authority Measure Z  
Sales Tax Proceeds Budget (Cash Basis)  
for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016**



**EXHIBIT E**

**Fresno County Zoo Authority Measure Z  
Sales Tax Proceeds (Cash Basis) by  
Fiscal Year From Inception  
to June 30, 2016**





# UNAUDITED EXHIBITS

## For the Treasurer

A, B, and C

### FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY CASH BALANCE

AS OF JUNE 30, 2016

EXHIBIT A

Cash Available for Administration (2%) Fresno County Zoo Authority		\$ 1,293,658
Cash Available for Zoological Activities (98%)		
Operations	5,961,487	
Capital Projects	16,919,401	
Total Cash Available for Zoological Activities		22,880,888
<b>Total Cash Balance as of June 30, 2016</b>		<b>\$ 24,174,546</b>

### CASH DISBURSMENTS BY CATEGORY TO FCZC DURING FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

FOR OPERATIONS

EXHIBIT B

Salaries & Benefits	\$ 3,756,956
Animal Feed	318,678
Utilities	405,359
Bank Charges	260
<b>Total Operations Disbursed to FCZC During Fiscal Year 2015-16</b>	<b>4,481,253</b>

FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Project Capital Improvements*	\$ 10,615,172
Bank Charges	—
<b>Total Capital Projects Disbursed to FCZC During Fiscal Year 2015-16</b>	<b>10,615,172</b>
<b>Total FCZC Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 15,096,425</b>

\* Includes Malaysian Tiger exhibit design and African Adventure construction.

### FISCAL YEAR CASH DISBURSMENTS BY FUND TO FCZC

FROM INCEPTION TO JUNE 30, 2016

EXHIBIT C

	FY-2006	FY-2007	FY-2008	FY-2009	FY-2010	FY-2011	FY-2012	FY-2013	FY-2014	FY-2015	FY-2016
Operations	\$ 1,538,300	\$ 2,805,819	\$ 4,082,456	\$ 3,603,994	\$ 3,095,657	\$ 2,613,501	\$ 2,842,057	\$ 3,704,007	\$ 3,497,218	\$ 3,713,649	\$ 4,481,253
Capital Projects	\$ —	\$ 140,070	\$ 239,631	\$ 565,268	\$ 722,760	\$ 667,245	\$ 7,399,437	\$ 5,968,465	\$ 8,566,482	\$ 35,280,551	\$ 10,615,172
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 1,538,300</b>	<b>\$ 2,945,889</b>	<b>\$ 4,322,087</b>	<b>\$ 4,169,262</b>	<b>\$ 3,818,417</b>	<b>\$ 3,280,746</b>	<b>\$ 10,241,494</b>	<b>\$ 9,672,472</b>	<b>\$ 12,063,700</b>	<b>\$ 38,994,200</b>	<b>\$ 15,096,425</b>

\* Note: No disbursements were made prior to FY-2006.

#### TOTAL

Operations	\$ 35,977,941
Capital Projects	\$ 70,165,081
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 106,143,022</b>



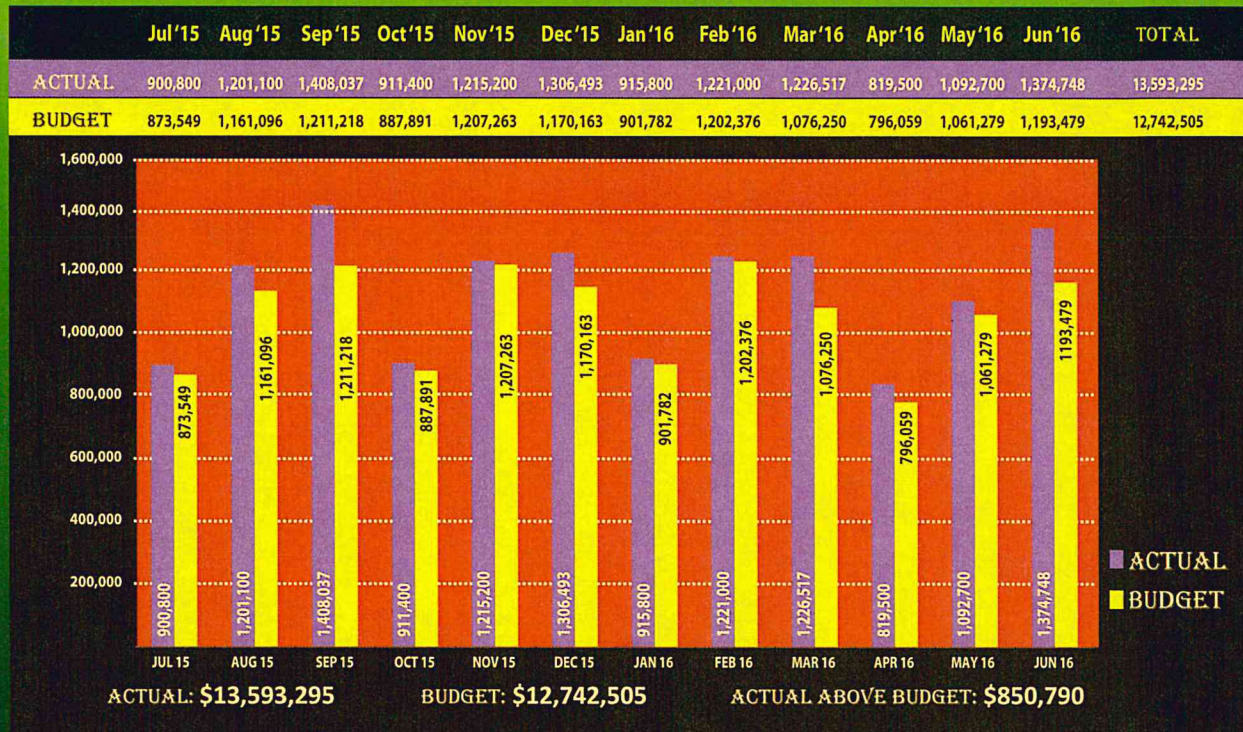
# UNAUDITED EXHIBITS

## For the Treasurer

D and E

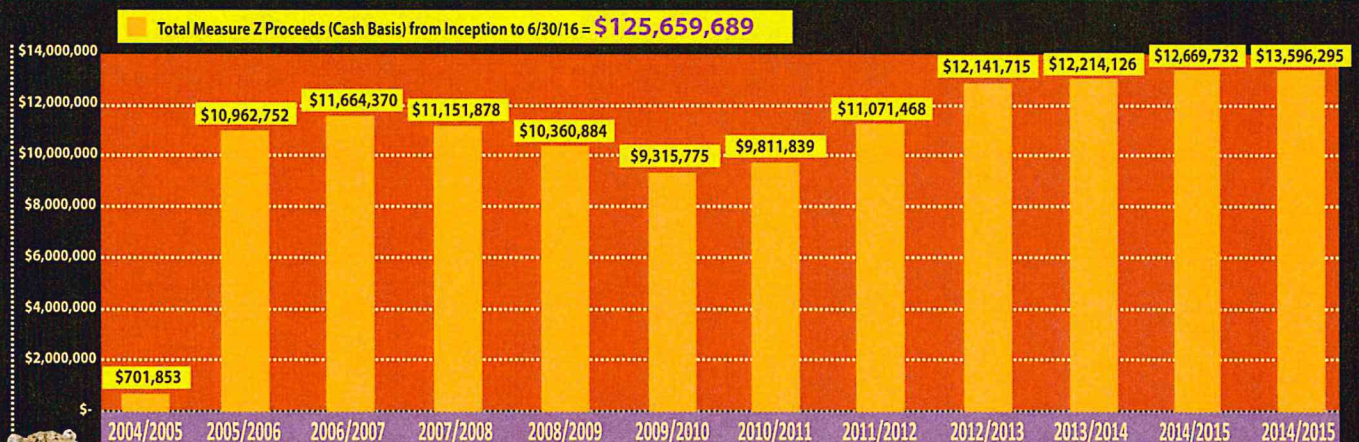
### FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY MEASURE Z SALES TAX PROCEEDS BUDGET (CASH BASIS) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

#### EXHIBIT D



### FRESNO COUNTY ZOO AUTHORITY MEASURE Z SALES TAX PROCEEDS (CASH BASIS) BY FISCAL YEAR FROM INCEPTION TO JUNE 30, 2016

#### EXHIBIT E



\*Note: Fiscal year 2004-2005 was the first year of the Measure Z tax resulting in partial year proceeds.



# INTRODUCTION TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Zoo Authority's financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 were audited by Brown Armstrong, Certified Public Accountants, which is an independent accounting firm. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These audited financial statements, as well as the independent auditor's report are presented in Appendix A. The notes to the financial statements should be read in conjunction with the statements as they are an integral part of the statements and provide disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Financial highlights can be found on page \_\_\_\_\_ of the financial statements. Additional information which is an integral part of the financial statement can be found on pages \_\_\_\_\_.

Financial information for administration by the Zoo Authority is presented in pages \_\_\_\_\_. Financial information in relation to the operations and capital projects trust funds (funds for zoological purposes) is presented in pages \_\_\_\_\_.

As further discussed on page \_\_\_\_\_ of the financial statements, the Authority adopted an operating budget for fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The variation between estimated and actual revenue and expenditures is presented in the Budgetary Comparison Schedule on page \_\_\_\_\_.

## DISBURSEMENTS TO FRESNO'S CHAFFEE ZOO CORPORATION

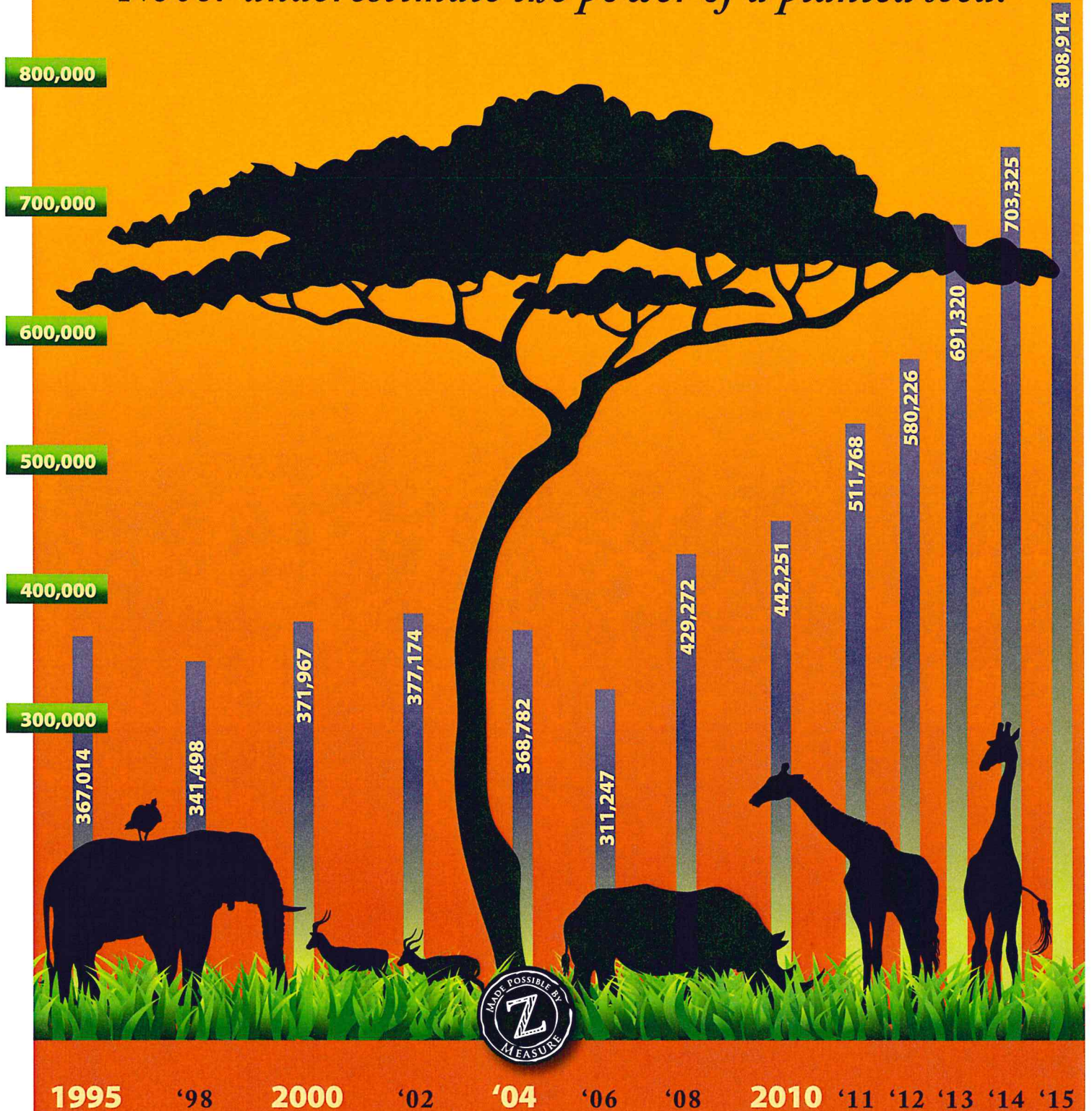
During fiscal year 2016, a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ was disbursed to the Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation; \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for operations and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for capital projects. The Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets on page \_\_\_\_\_ presents cash balances available for operations and capital projects to be used for Zoological purposes as of June 30, 2016. This statement also presents funds held in trust for operations and capital projects based on the accrual basis of accounting.



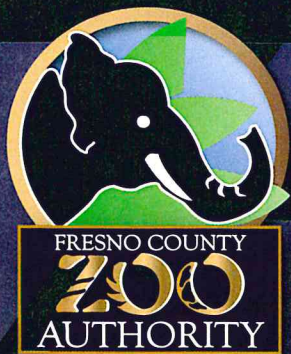


## APPENDIX A

### ANNUAL ATTENDANCE TOTALS *from 1995 to 2015* *Never underestimate the power of a planted seed.*







# Welcoming...



**JACK HANNA,**  
*Director Emeritus of the  
Columbus Zoo and Aquarium*

Mr. Hanna was the special guest for the Toucan Dinner this year, held in the Kopje Lodge. The guests were thoroughly enchanted by Jack and also entertained by the amazing view of the savannah.

At the event, Mr. Hanna told the media that he was impressed by what he saw at Fresno Chaffee Zoo's newest expansion, African Adventure

He said, "This is beyond our money's worth. This is really the voter's zoo and was worth the whole trip here".

**To read/hear more about  
his visit, log on to:**

[http://www.fresnobee.com/  
news/article40808367.  
html#storylink=cpy](http://www.fresnobee.com/news/article40808367.html#storylink=cpy)

