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Board of Supervisors Approves Partnership with San Joaquin Zoological Society to Support Improvements for Micke Grove Zoo

Lodi, CA – The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approved an agreement between the County and the San Joaquin Zoological Society (SJZS) that would bolster efforts to upgrade the Micke Grove Zoo.

“This partnership is an investment in the zoo’s future and a commitment to improving this precious resource,” said Vice-Chair and Fourth District Supervisor Steve Ding. “I want to commend our General Services Department for their leadership and vision in creating this space for our community to enjoy.”

The SJZS is a non-profit established in 1977 with the mission of supporting the zoo through fundraising and community engagement. Under the two-year agreement, the County and SJZS will establish a framework for donor development, decision-making, and enhancing the guest experience for visitors.

“We are excited to support the County’s mission to make Micke Grove Zoo a world-class zoo for kids to enjoy, a place the community can be proud of, and a draw for visitors in our region,” said SJZA Executive Director Dr. Maria Garcia-Sheets.

The partnership will identify and prioritize fundraising projects and initiatives that are in alignment with the Zoo Master Plan and community needs. Improvement plans may include facility upgrades, new exhibits, and enhancement to visitor amenities.

The partnership coincides with the County’s ongoing development of a new Ten-Year Parks System Master Plan. A progress update presented to the Board last month included results from a community survey, in which respondents expressed interest in improved and expanded food concessions, events and experiences, along with exhibits that offer more active engagement.

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