



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

ROBERT P. THOMAS
Director

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CROCKER ART MUSEUM DIVISION
GOLF DIVISION
METROPOLITAN ARTS DIVISION
MUSEUM AND HISTORY DIVISION
RECREATION DIVISION
PARKS DIVISION
ZOO DIVISION

October 20, 1986

Budget and Finance Committee
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Authorization to Utilize Budgeted Zoo Attendant I

SUMMARY

This report recommends the authorization to fill a budgeted Zoo Attendant I. No additional City funds are requested.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Sacramento Zoo currently has eleven Zoo Attendant I positions with responsibility for six sections of the Zoo seven days a week, 365 days per year. The FY 1986-87 budget included a twelfth position primarily to care for animals in a new nursery. The Sacramento Zoological Society has proposed constructing a nursery at the Zoo using Society funds. The twelfth position was recommended contingent upon the Society completing the nursery (Budget Book page 286.) The revenue resulting from promotion of the 300 nursery animals was anticipated to offset the cost of the added position. It is now apparent to the Zoological Society and the Zoo staff that, due to increased demands for a Rare Feline Breeding Center, the Society funded Outdoor Interpretive Center and an expanded gift shop, it will not be possible for the Zoological Society to fund and construct a baby animal nursery this year.

The additional Zoo Attendant at the Zoo is still necessary. In the past few years, at least two nationally recognized independent professional assessment programs (Museum Assessment Program and the Institute of Museum Services) have listed the lack of animal care staff as a concern in their evaluation of the Sacramento Zoo. In addition, recent increases in exotic animal care knowledge and technology have increased the workload of animal care staff. The Zoo Attendant I position at the Zoo would allow for a seventh section that would work afternoons and early evening hours caring for baby mammals and birds, preparing animal diets, observing sick or injured animals, and locking up the animals in their night quarters. Currently, these tasks are accomplished by paying Attendants overtime. This fall, three Grey Parrot chicks were taken home by the keepers for approximately two months to provide necessary evening care. The trauma of infant animals leaving and returning to the Zoo and the increased risk of transmission of disease makes this an unacceptable zoo practice.

The Sacramento Zoo continues each year to exceed growth projections in attendance and revenue. This growth is the result of creative, aggressive efforts of the Zoological Society and Zoo staff to provide Zoo visitors the highest quality educational zoological exhibits. A comparison of projections made annually during the budget process to actual figures is shown below:

	<u>FY 1984-85</u>		<u>FY 1985-86</u>		<u>FY 1986-87</u>	
	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget Estimate</u>	<u>Revised* Estimate</u>
Attendance	450,000	472,000	472,000	490,702	495,000	515,000
Admissions Revenue	\$458,000	\$448,508	\$550,000	\$600,157	\$675,000	\$740,000
Concession Revenue	<u>115,000</u>	<u>94,341</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>100,457</u>	<u>140,000</u>	<u>108,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$573,000	\$542,849	\$675,000	\$700,614	\$815,000	\$848,000

*Based on an actual 10% increase in July-September 1986 over 1985.

The revised projected revenue increase of \$33,000 in FY revenue will more than offset the \$9,155 cost of the Zoo Attendant position for the remainder of this fiscal year.

FINANCIAL DATA

The FY 1986-87 budget includes an additional 1.00 FTE Zoo Attendant I. This report requests authorization to utilize the budgeted Zoo Attendant I position at an approximate cost of \$9,155. The increase in estimated revenue of \$33,000 for FY 1986-87 will offset this year's cost of \$9,155.

No additional City funds are requested.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Budget and Finance Committee approve this report and refer it to full City Council for action. It is further recommended that the City Council authorize, by resolution, the Department of Parks and Community Services to fill the budgeted Zoo Attendant I position.

Respectfully submitted,

for S. Eiling Longg
 ROBERT P. THOMAS, Director
 Parks and Community Services

Recommendation Approved:

Jack R. Crist
 JACK R. CRIST
 Deputy City Manager

RPT:ja

October 28, 1986
 District 4

RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL ON DATE OF

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A BUDGETED ZOO ATTENDANT I POSITION AT THE ZOO DIVISION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

That the Department of Parks and Community Services is hereby authorized to fill the previously budgeted Zoo Attendant I.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK