

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** November 23, 2021

**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Sam Rodriguez, P.E., City Engineer  
(915) 212-1808

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** No. 4: Enhance El Paso's quality of life through recreational, cultural, and Educational Environments

**SUB GOAL:** 4.1. Deliver bond projects impacting quality of life across the city in a timely, efficient manner

**SUBJECT:**

Resolution that the City Manager or Designee be authorized to reprogram the projects identified in Exhibit A of this Resolution as Reprogrammed Zoo Projects and reallocate the funding to the budget of the Penguins Exhibit and South American Exhibit Restrooms.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

In March 2012 the El Paso Zoo and the City of El Paso contracted for the development of a master plan that would provide a framework for moving the zoo forward in a positive direction. The 2012 Quality of Life bond allocated \$50,000,000 for zoo improvements in accordance with the master plan. To date, approximately \$25,000,000 has been expended on zoo projects; an additional \$21,000,000 is budgeted for active zoo projects.

Between the approval of the projects and associated budgets the best practices for zoo exhibits have evolved so as to enhance the customer experience, protect the health and welfare of the animals, and ensure that zoo visitors are kept a safe distance from the animals. Because of this and updated estimates to reflect the final design and account for post-pandemic escalation in material and labor costs the costs for zoo exhibits have increased. The approved budget for the Penguin Exhibit and South American Restrooms is \$5,166,324; the required funding to complete the exhibit is \$6,666,324 leaving a funding variance of \$1,500,000. Staff is recommending reprogramming funds from projects that have not yet been initiated to cover the shortfall as shown in Attachment A.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

On February 18, 2020 Council approved reallocation of funds from the Tapir. African Exhibit Restrooms, Administration Building, and the Asia Discover Center in the amount of \$1,472,993 to the Penguin Exhibit and South American Exhibit Restrooms.

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

\$1,500,000 2012 Quality of Life Bonds allocated for zoo projects.

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?**  YES  NO

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** Capital Improvement Department  
**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:** El Paso Zoo

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

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X *Jerry DeMuro/for*

Sam Rodriguez, P.E., City Engineer

## Attachment A

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Recommended Action</b>
Alligator Exhibit	\$ 685,950	Transfer budget to Penguin Exhibit
African Bird Indoor Holding	\$ 294, 230	Transfer budget to Penguin Exhibit
Komodo Dragon Exhibit	\$4,323,900	Transfer \$519,820 to Penguin Exhibit
<b>Total Recommended Transferred</b>		<b>\$1,500,000</b>

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, on February 5, 2013 the City Council approved the “2012 Quality of Life Bond Proposed 3 Year Roll-out Plan” which included the Alligator Exhibit, African Bird Indoor Holding, Komodo Dragon Exhibit, and the Penguins Exhibit; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the paragraph 8 of Budget Resolution for FY2022, the City Manager or designee is authorized to increase or decrease the budget for up to \$1,000,000.00 for any capital projects within a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) approved by the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to reallocate funds allocated to the following projects: Alligator Exhibit, the African Bird Indoor Holding, and the Komodo Dragon Exhibit; and

**WHEREAS**, the funds will be reallocated to the Penguins Exhibit.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

That the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to reallocate funds from the projects identified in Exhibit A of this Resolution to the Penguins Exhibit as shown in Exhibit A of this Resolution, for a total reallocation of funds in the amount of \$1,500,000; and that the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to establish the funding sources and make any necessary budget transfers and execute any and all documents necessary.

ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2021.

**CITY OF EL PASO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Omar De La Rosa  
Assistant City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
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Samuel Rodríguez, P.E., City Engineer  
Capital Improvement Department

**Exhibit "A"**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Recommended Action</b>
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