

MOTION

At 133 acres, the Los Angeles Zoo is one of the most visited locations owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles. The Zoo Department is a world leader in conservation, the protection of wildlife, and is constantly innovating ways to improve the visitor experience while always prioritizing the care of the animals first. The LA Zoo has led the nation in the conservation of animal species and in animal care.

The COVID-19 Pandemic saw the temporary closure of many public venues, including the LA Zoo. Although the LA Zoo on average has 1.8 million visitors annually, 2020 saw a drop to only 1.19 million patrons, a difference of over 600,000 less individuals due to the pandemic. Located at Griffith Park, the LA Zoo is in need of improvements, repair, and new infrastructure.

The City must lead by example, and take opportunities to maximize development of solar-battery projects, led by the nation's largest municipally-owned utility. A world class, innovative project that generates solar power generation, in order to allow peak hour energy offset through battery storage, should be planned and executed for the full opening of the Los Angeles Zoo. Additionally, the initiative should provide the means to allow for other modern amenities, such as the expansion of electric vehicle charging stations. The LADWP's Feed-in Tariff Plus program should also be employed to provide maximum returns to Angelenos and to ensure an efficient and cost effective project.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council REQUEST/INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and the Los Angeles Zoo Department, and the Bureau of Streets Services (Streets LA), with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, to report back with options for the generation of no less than 3 MW of solar generation and 1 MW of battery storage, including the incorporation of electric vehicle charging station expansion on site at the Los Angeles Zoo as described above, and options for public-private partnerships.

Presented By: 

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Seconded By: 

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