

MOTION

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, & NEIGHBORHOOD

The Los Angeles Zoo (LA Zoo) is home to more than 2,200 mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles representing more than 270 different species, of which more than 58 are endangered. It is estimated that the LA Zoo welcomes nearly 1.8 million visitors per year. Visiting a zoo offers several learning opportunities for people of all ages. By visiting zoos, children begin to understand the importance of taking care of the environment as it has a significant impact on the lives and welfare of animals. Zoo programming also helps children learn about the various species of animals that exist in the world. Additionally, visiting a zoo teaches families about the importance of conservation and animal care.

A visit to the LA Zoo can be especially difficult for low income students and households as the cost of getting there from geographically separated neighborhoods and the cost of admission per person can quickly add up. Currently, there are several museums and gardens in Southern California that offer free general admission on an annual, monthly, or even weekly or evening's basis. Free general admission days allow those who would otherwise not be able to afford the experience to take advantage of these learning opportunities.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Zoo Department be REQUESTED to report on existing low income programs and potential new options to increase access to the Los Angeles Zoo, including free or discounted admission days, partnerships with sponsoring entities, free or subsidized transportation, discounted memberships, and any other options available to the Los Angeles Zoo that would not greatly impact anticipated revenue.

PRESENTED BY: 

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