



Sedgwick County...
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Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd
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Wichita, KS 67203

Legislation Text

File #: 19-047, **Version:** 1

CONSIDERATION OF A FUNDING REQUEST BY THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Presented by: Tim Kaufman, Assistant County Manager for Public Services and Kevin Arnel, President of the Sedgwick County Zoological Society.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the funding agreement.

Over the past year, the Sedgwick County Zoological Society worked with Sedgwick County and numerous stakeholders and partners to develop a new 25-year Master Plan for the Sedgwick County Zoo.

It is anticipated that the first phase of the Master Plan will include a combination of a new Visitor Entry Center that creates a functional and welcoming new front door to the Zoo, as well as functional administrative offices and gift shop. It will also include a train to transport guests around the Zoo and a new Amur Leopard habitat as an expanded exhibit for these magnificent but highly endangered animals.

Phase 1 is estimated to cost \$15 million and the Society is requesting funding of \$6.0 million from Sedgwick County. With this contribution, the Society is confident they will be able to raise the remaining \$9.0 million required to complete the phase.

Alternatives: Deny the funding request.

Financial Considerations: County funding support of \$6.0 million to be accomplished by a commitment of \$2.0 million per year for 2019, 2020, and 2021. Funding for 2019 will come from a transfer from the Operating Reserve to the Zoo fund center. Funding for 2020 and 2021 will be allocated through the budget process.

Legal Considerations: N/A

Policy Considerations: N/A

Outside Attendees: Representatives from Sedgwick County Zoological Society.

Multimedia Presentation: N/A