

Date..... April 23, 2007

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ZOO EXPANSION AND NEW COUNTY PARK LAND
TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF DES MOINES, POLK COUNTY
CONSERVATION BOARD, POLK COUNTY, AND BLANK PARK ZOO FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2005, by Roll Call No. 05-376, the City Council entered into a 28E Operational Agreement with the Blank Park Zoo Foundation, Inc. (“the Foundation”) for the Foundation to undertake the operation and management of the A.H. Blank Park Zoo (“Zoo”) owned by the City of Des Moines for the benefit of the citizens of the Greater Des Moines metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has developed a Master Plan to expand the Zoo in order to generate higher attendance and to provide more conservation and recreation opportunities for the South side of Des Moines and the Central Iowa region which would use portions of nearby Fort Des Moines Park, which is operated by the Polk County Conservation Board (“the PCCB”); and

WHEREAS, this expansion will have a positive impact on the Greater Des Moines Metropolitan Area and the Central Iowa region and its residents; and

WHEREAS, Fort Des Moines Park is also a valued natural resource for the South side of Des Moines and the Central Iowa region which the City Council desires to preserve; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2007, by Roll Call No. 07-498, the City Council approved principles to guide an agreement between the City, Polk County, the Foundation, and the PCCB and directed the City Manager to negotiate an agreement consistent with such principles, which includes the transfer a portion of Fort Des Moines Park to the City for such Zoo expansion, the transfer by the Foundation to PCCB of an approximately 62 acre tract of land for use as a park, and the parties’ agreement to cooperate to jointly develop a master plan for uses of the parties’ properties and facilities within the “Super Block”; and

WHEREAS, the parties have negotiated such agreement, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk’s Office; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Des Moines to enter into said agreement to provide for improved recreational opportunities for the benefit of the citizens of the Greater Des Moines metropolitan area.

★ Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

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Date April 23, 2007

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the Zoo Expansion and New County Parkland Transfer Agreement Between the City of Des Moines, Polk County, the Polk County Conservation Board, and Blank Park Zoo Foundation, Inc., a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office, is hereby approved and the Mayor is authorized and directed to sign said Agreement on behalf of the City and the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to attest to said signature.

Moved by _____ to adopt.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ann DiDonato
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
HENSLEY				
KIERNAN				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VLASSIS				
TOTAL				

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Mayor

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

City Clerk