

**WHEATON PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2024-02**

**RESOLUTION RESCINDING THE JUNE 21, 2017 APPROVAL OF THE MASTER PLANNING
DOCUMENT FOR COSLEY ZOO COMMISSIONED BY THE COSLEY FOUNDATION AND
COMPLETED BY TORRE DESIGN CONSORTIUM LTD AND SHULTZ AND WILLIAMS**

WHEREAS, the Wheaton Park District (the “Park District”), DuPage County, Illinois is an Illinois park district and unit of local government, duly organized under and operating pursuant to the laws of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Park District’s corporate powers include, but are not limited to, the ability to provide passive and active park and recreational facilities, amenities, activities, and equipment as set forth under various provisions of the Park District Code (70 ILCS 1205/1-1 *et seq.*), and specifically includes the power to acquire, construct, operate, extend and improve zoos and other necessary facilities pertinent thereto under 70 ILCS 1205/9.2-1, and the power to purchase, erect, and operate museums under 70 ILCS 1290/1; and

WHEREAS, the Cosley Zoo was established in 1974, is owned and operated by the Park District, is an Association of Zoos and Aquariums (“AZA”) accredited zoo, and exists to create connections between people and animals that will inspire lifelong conservation of the natural world; and

WHEREAS, the Cosley Foundation, Inc. (“Cosley Foundation”) is an Illinois not for profit corporation organized under and operating pursuant to the laws of the state of Illinois and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with the purposes of supporting the mission of Cosley Zoo and raising funds to support operational and capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with AZA standards and industry best practices for zoo exhibit and support facility development, the Cosley Foundation engaged Torre Design Consortium Ltd and Shultz and Williams in 2014 for the completion of a long-range master plan for Cosley Zoo (the “Master Plan”); and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2017, the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners (the “Park Board”) approved the Master Plan with the understanding that the Master Plan was a set of creative ideas and concepts that might provide inspiration for future action over the next 30 plus years and be funded primarily through Cosley Foundation generated philanthropic fundraising; and

WHEREAS, the Cosley Foundation has determined that its rate and capacity of philanthropic fundraising is not equal to the rate and capacity of philanthropic fundraising assumed by the Master Plan’s vision for a future Cosley Zoo; and

WHEREAS, the approved Master Plan contains creative ideas and concepts including the concept of expanding the Cosley Zoo exhibit footprint into its current parking lot and the Park Board has become aware that this concept may not be viewed as favorable by some members of the community and that a new creative process, including soliciting current stakeholder feedback, should be undertaken.

**WHEATON PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2024-02**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION ONE: The Park Board finds that the recitals contained in the preamble to this Resolution are true and correct and does hereby incorporate them in this Resolution as though fully set forth herein.

SECTION TWO: The Park Board declares that the June 21, 2017 approval of the Master Plan is hereby rescinded.

SECTION THREE: Since long range planning is required to maintain AZA accreditation, the Park Board directs the Executive Director to engage Staff and any necessary outside consultants to complete a comprehensive Cosley Zoo Exhibit and Support Facility Existing Conditions Report (the "Existing Conditions Report") by January 1, 2025.

SECTION FOUR: Upon the completion of the Existing Conditions Report, the Park Board authorizes the formation of a Cosley Zoo Exhibit and Support Facility Renovation or Replacement Prioritization Committee. This committee will be charged with creating a formal recommendation regarding the order of existing Cosley Zoo exhibit and support facility renovation or replacement projects. A draft of this recommendation will be shared with community stakeholders, and their input will be solicited. After receiving community stakeholder input, a final report will be completed for the Park Board's review and any action it deems appropriate.

SECTION FIVE: The Secretary for the Park District will provide certified copies of this Resolution upon request.

SECTION SIX: Other than Resolutions 2023-06 and 2023-11, all prior actions, ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

SECTION SEVEN: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption as provided by law.

Adopted this 21st day of February, 2024 by roll call vote as follows

AYES: Barrett, Frey, Mee, Pecharich, Vires, Kelly

NAYS: 0


ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0



President, Board of Park Commissioners
Wheaton Park District

ATTEST:



Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners
Wheaton Park District

(S E A L)

**WHEATON PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2024-02**

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am Secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District, DuPage County, Illinois, and as such official, I am keeper of the records, ordinances, files and seal of said Park District; and,

I hereby certify that the foregoing instrument is a true and correct copy of the

**RESOLUTION RESCINDING THE JUNE 21, 2017 APPROVAL OF THE MASTER PLANNING
DOCUMENT FOR COSLEY ZOO COMMISSIONED BY THE COSLEY FOUNDATION AND
COMPLETED BY TORRE DESIGN CONSORTIUM LTD AND SHULTZ AND WILLIAMS**

adopted at a duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District, held in Wheaton, Illinois, in said District at 5:00 p.m. on the 21st day of February, 2024.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board on the adoption of said resolution were conducted openly, that the vote on the adoption of said resolution was taken openly, that said meeting was called and held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and with the provisions of the Park District Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Act and said Code and with all of the procedural rules of the Board.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of said Wheaton Park District in Wheaton, Illinois this 21st day of February, 2024.



Michael J. Benard, Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners
Wheaton Park District

[SEAL]