

December 9, 2020

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2009, City Council authorized a twenty-five year management agreement with Dallas Zoological Society (DZS) and Dallas Zoo Management, Inc. (DZM) for the operation and maintenance of the Dallas Zoo and the Dallas Aquarium at Fair Park by Resolution No. 09-1968; and

WHEREAS, annual attendance at the Children's Aquarium located at 1462 First Avenue in Fair Park averaged 114,000 visitors with a high attendance count of 135,090 visitors in 2011 and a low attendance count of 104,000 in 2019; and

WHEREAS, due to continued declines in visitation and corresponding operating losses and the closure of the facility in 2020 due to COVID-19, funding for operations was not included in the FY 2020-21 City of Dallas budget; and

WHEREAS, City staff is working with Fair Park First and DZM to develop a plan to continue the operation of the facility with a new operator.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Manager hereby authorizes the Park & Recreation Department to provide interim funding to compensate Dallas Zoo Management to continue operations at the Children's Aquarium located at 1462 First Avenue in Fair Park for a period of six months, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00.

SECTION 2. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 to Dallas Zoo Management from Equity Revitalization Capital Fund, Fund 0719, Department HOU, Unit W489 Object 3071, Encumbrance/Contract No. PKR-2021-00015336, Vendor VC0000008212.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved