1. (a) Organization Name: Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.
   Mailing Address: 300 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214

   (b) Federal ID #: 16-0911204; Charities Registration #: 04-72-98

   (c) Point of contact for the project: Donna M. Fernandes, PhD

2. Evidence of Consultation with: Niagara River Greenway Commission:
   (a) The project was deemed consistent to the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the
       Niagara River Greenway Commission. See attached letter from Rob Belue dated November 16,
       2011. Copies of all written comments submitted by the Consulting Parties have been provided.
       Of the three consulting parties, the New York State Coastal Resources Specialist, Renee Parson,
       fully supported the project. Likewise, the New York State Department of Environmental
       Conservation wrote that the “Great Lakes and local water resource aspects of the entry plaza are
       certainly relevant. DEC considers these aspects of phase II of the Master Plan to be consistent
       with many of the goals, principles, and criteria of the Niagara Greenway Plan”. Members of
       the Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition were divided on the project. The Coalition
       wrote that “the Buffalo Zoo is a strong local partner proposing an expansion that appears to have
       substantial matching funds, to be implementable, economically viable and environmentally sound
       in terms of an overall scope that includes better water use and replacement of the outdated bear
       exhibits”. Their concern was that the project did not meet the priorities of improved waterfront
       access, development of an integrated trail system or restoration of the Niagara River ecosystem.
       In response to their concern, please note that the project will benefit the trail system by including
       substantial information about the Niagara River Greenway in the interpretive panels at the new
       entrance. This element will be used to advertise the Niagara River Greenway to more than
       450,000 Zoo visitors each year and therefore will improve waterfront access by making more
       people aware of the trail system. In addition, educational graphics within the Zoo’s exhibits
       focus on responsible behaviors that conserve and protect natural resources, which may benefit the
       Niagara River ecosystem by insuring less pollution from local residents will enter the system.

   (b) Chief elected officer: see attached Resolution from the Buffalo Common Council and signed by
       the Mayor in support of the project dated October 27, 2011. This resolution was obtained for two
       successful grant applications to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic
       Preservation. In addition, the Mayor of Buffalo included $535,000 for the project in his 2012
       Capital Budget and $550,000 in his 2013 Capital Budget. Lastly, Erie County approved a $3
       million bond resolution in support of the project (see attachment).

   (c) Appropriate State and Federal Agencies: We are providing a copy of the State Environmental
       Quality Review conducted on the Buffalo Zoo Site Improvement Plan (Master Plan) in 2006,
       which included the proposed Entry Complex and Arctic Edge exhibit. As mentioned above, the
       Zoological Society of Buffalo has been awarded $776,000 in State funds from the Environmental
       Protection Fund (EPF) Municipal Grant Program toward the project (see the two award letters).

   (d) Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy: The Buffalo Zoo has consulted with BOPC’s design
       review committee on the proposed New Entry Complex and Arctic Edge Habitat. The Buffalo
       Olmsted Parks Conservancy fully supports the project (see attached letter of support).

3. A separate Operation and Maintenance Plan is not needed for the proposed project since the two
   elements – New Entry Complex and Arctic Habitat – will replace the existing Visitor Entrance and
Polar Bear exhibit. A copy of the annual maintenance plan for the new polar bear life support system has been provided. Operations and Maintenance of the project will be covered by the Buffalo Zoo’s $7.5 million annual operating budget. The Buffalo Zoo also has a restricted endowment of $3.5 million for operations, maintenance and capital repairs yielding $175,000 per year.

4. The Buffalo Zoo is seeking $400,000 from the Buffalo and Erie County Greenway Fund to complete funding for the new Entry Complex. The project involves the renovation of an historic brick barn into offices for ticketing, membership, restrooms, café and gift shop. The new complex will also include an interactive water feature depicting the Great Lakes to underscore the importance of freshwater to the region in a fun, engaging manner as jumping jets of water leap from lake to lake. A series of interpretive panels will discuss the Great Lakes watershed and tell the Niagara Frontier’s water story (i.e. Niagara Falls and hydroelectric power, the Erie Canal and transportation) while touching on global water usage. One of the panels will feature a smartcode symbol that visitors can access via cell phone to take them to the Niagara River Greenway website. This will help to promote the Greenway and trail system to more than 450,000 zoo visitors each year. Construction of the Entry Complex is currently underway.

Arctic Edge will be a dramatic new exhibit focusing on frozen water. The exhibit will feature two large polar bear habitats with underwater viewing of salt-water pools for an up-close look at these Arctic ambassadors now threatened with extinction. The interior pathway of the exhibit will bring visitors past other iconic species including bald eagle, arctic wolf, and Canadian lynx. The exhibit culminates in the Arctic Conservation Center where educational graphics and interactive videos will focus on climate change and positive measures Zoo visitors can take to conserve natural resources. Construction of a new exhibit is required since Buffalo’s bear exhibit dates from the 1890s and does not meet the husbandry standard of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (our accrediting body). The Buffalo Zoo has had to relocate its two polar bears to other zoos which meet the standards and will not get polar bears again unless a new habitat is built. Construction of Arctic Edge is scheduled to begin in August 2013 if funding is secured.

The proposed Entry Complex and Arctic Edge exhibit advance the vision of the Niagara River Greenway and are consistent with the principles, goals, and criteria established by the NRGP.

PRINCIPLES – Excellence, Sustainability, Accessibility, Ecological Integrity, Public Well-Being, Connectivity, Restoration, Authenticity, Celebration, Partnerships, Community-Based

Excellence: The proposed project will allow the Zoological Society of Buffalo to complete Phase II of its 15 year master plan to rebuild the third oldest zoo in the country into a state-of-the-art facility for conservation education and community recreation. Phase I of the plan involved $32 million of investment in new exhibits and visitor attractions to meet the highest standards of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Phase II will involve an $18 million investment in the Zoo to continue on this path of excellence.

Sustainability: Engaging graphics and interactive exhibits throughout Arctic Edge will inform visitors how they can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by using public transportation, adopting green technologies (solar, wind, hydroelectric power), and by making other positive changes in their daily life. As the most popular cultural destination in Erie County, we believe the Buffalo Zoo can make a big difference in encouraging the entire community to help protect the environment for future generations. In addition, the Entry Complex will include both a new café and gift shop which will increase earned revenues at the Zoo and contribute to the Buffalo Zoo’s financial sustainability.

Accessibility: The Buffalo Zoo is handicap accessible throughout its 23-acre campus. The Zoo remains financially accessible to visitors of all incomes through a variety of discount programs including Labor Day at the Zoo when admission in only $1 per person. Our distance learning programs bring the Buffalo
Zoo to schools throughout the United States by offering live cameras into a variety of zoo exhibits. The Arctic Edge exhibit will include multiple cameras within the new habitats to enhance the educational experience of our distance learning and provide streaming video of the polar bears and other arctic species to our website. The Zoo is partnering with Women and Children’s hospital to provide live video to their patients.

**Ecological Integrity:** The project will not have a negative impact on any archeological or ecological resources since considerable excavation of the site was done in the 1930’s (without a significant finding) and the site has been used as a Zoological Park for the past 135 years. Very little new excavation will be involved in construction of the proposed project. In fact, the project will have a positive impact on the ecological integrity of the Zoo since the current bear exhibit wastes millions of gallons of water each year due to the five dump-and-fill pools. The only way to maintain suitable water quality (i.e. keep coliform counts to within acceptable levels) is to have an open 2” water line running into each pool and draining out the bottom. Arctic Edge will utilize the latest technology in life support to create a closed saltwater system, where the water will be cleaned, sanitized and re-circulated, thereby eliminating the current waste of millions of gallons of fresh water each year.

**Public Well-Being:** The project will provide new recreational opportunities for WNY residents and tourists. The high value and low cost of attending the Buffalo Zoo attracts visitors from every income level, including 35,000 WNY school children each year. The Arctic Conservation Center will have a strong environmental education component, but also provide a fun recreational experience for visitors of all ages.

**Connectivity:** The Buffalo Zoo provides a unique setting to connect interpretation of the Great Lakes watershed (interactive water map), with wetlands restoration and conservation (the theme of our River Otter exhibit), and Erie Canal History (the theme of our Heritage Farm exhibit). These themes complement the messaging along the Niagara River Greenway trail, which focus on preserving and restoring local freshwater ecosystems.

**Authenticity:** The Buffalo Zoo employs the best zoo designers and fabricators in the country to create an authentic depiction of wild habitats including extensive landscaping using native plants from each habitat. Arctic Edge will replace the barren concrete bear pits with two large naturalistic habitats for polar bears as well as new habitats for bald eagle, Arctic wolf, and Canadian lynx to more effectively depict some of the biodiversity found in this fragile ecosystem.

**Celebration:** The Buffalo Zoo’s animal exhibits and educational programs celebrate biodiversity and the positive impact humans can have on wildlife around the world if responsible choices are made.

**Partnerships:** The Buffalo Zoo participates in partnerships with many other cultural and environmental organizations. Zoo staff assisted the Olmsted Parks Conservancy with its releaf campaign by planting dozens of trees in Delaware Park. This is consistent with the Zoo’s commitment to Polar Bears International to help reduce atmospheric CO₂. The Zoo recently received a grant from the Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Commission to offer a joint program with the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society about the Erie Canal’s past and current impact on the citizens and wildlife of Western New York. The Buffalo Zoo is partnering with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on a headstart program to raise Eastern hellbenders, a threatened amphibian species that inhabits local streams and rivers, and release them back into the wild.

**Community-Based:** The Zoo is a highly respected educational and environmental resource within Western New York. Schools from pre-k through college participate in our on-site and offsite programming. Our herpetological staff also works with community-based volunteers to census amphibian populations to determine the extent and potential causes of recent declines.
GOALS – Improve Access, Make Connections, Protect and Restore Environmental Systems, Spark Revitalization and Renewal, Promote Long-term Sustainability, Extend the Legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted, Celebrate History and Heritage

Improve Access: The Buffalo Zoo attracts more than 450,000 visitors per year to Delaware Park. In the new Entry Plaza, information about the Niagara River Greenway in the graphics at the Great Lakes water feature is designed to encourage greater public access to and use of Greenway resources.

Make Connections: The Buffalo Zoo’s overarching theme of water will enhance visitors’ understanding of the importance of freshwater ecosystems and the need to protect them. This will help residents make the connection between what they do at home (water conservation, proper disposal of contaminated liquids, etc.) and their impact on local wildlife. The Zoo’s integrated theme and exhibits will serve to reinforce the interpretive program and experiences to be developed along the Niagara River Greenway system.

Protect and Restore Environmental Systems: The current bear exhibit dates back to the 1890s with only modest changes over the past 120 years. The crumbling enclosures are not naturalistic and offer only small pools for swimming. These pools are serviced by five 2” water lines running constantly to maintain water quality in this open system. Currently, over half of the 188,625,000 gallons of water used annually by the Buffalo Zoo goes down the drain in the bear pools. The proposed new exhibit, Arctic Edge, will utilize re-circulating saltwater pools and save the City of Buffalo approximately 100 million gallons of freshwater each year.

Spark Revitalization and Renewal: Construction of a new entrance and polar bear habitat will contribute to the revival of the Buffalo Zoo and surrounding community (i.e. Delaware Park). Re-use of the former Children’s Zoo barn at the edge of our parking lot will revitalize this now abandoned corner of the Zoo. The current bear grottos are the biggest eyesore remaining on our 23 acre campus and the only exhibit that does not meet the standards of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, our accrediting body. Unless a new exhibit is built, the Zoo’s polar bears will never be returned to Buffalo. Having a naturalistic, state-of-the-art exhibit for polar bears will promote greater attendance (particularly in winter) and further enhance the Zoo’s popularity as a major regional tourist destination and educational resource. The Buffalo Niagara Partnership has also estimated that the proposed project will create 227.8 construction jobs for the region and have an economic impact of $33.5 million.

Promote Long-term Sustainability: The goal of Arctic Edge is to educate the public about ways to lower their carbon footprint to help save polar bears. The educational components within the Arctic Conservation Center will focus on sustainability and energy consumption. One planned interactive area is a model home with home appliances, lighting, and heating elements that individuals can operate to see how their behavior affects the environment. For example, opening the door to a washing machine will activate a graphic that advises visitors to wash their clothes in cold water to save energy. Turning on a lamp will advise visitors to replace their incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, etc.

Extend the Legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted: The Buffalo Zoo is located in the northeast corner of Frederick Law Olmsted’s Delaware Park. Olmsted was known to utilize water as an important design element in his park systems. Consistent with his vision, the Zoo master plan calls for all of the major exhibit areas to be organized around bodies of WATER. Our Sea Lion/River Otter complex (opened in 2005) illustrates the difference between saltwater and freshwater ecosystems. Our indoor South American rainforest exhibit (opened in 2008) includes a dramatic two-story waterfall and tropical river system. The Heritage Farm Children’s Area (opened in 2010) recreates a historic farm along the Erie Canal and illustrates how farmers used water to transport goods downstate. The Arctic Edge exhibit will focus on frozen water and include new habitats for polar bears, arctic wolf, Canadian lynx and bald eagle. Finally, the interactive water map at the new Entry Complex will celebrate Buffalo’s role within the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world (the Great Lakes).
Celebrate History and Heritage: The Buffalo Zoo is the third oldest zoo in the country. Three of its buildings are listed as contributing structures in the Nomination Form for Olmsted’s Parks and Parkways to the National Register of Historic Places. Two of the contributing structures (Shelter House built in 1901 and the Elephant House built in 1912) are in close proximity to the project site. By reusing the existing WPA brick barn as the new Entry building, we are committed to preserving our architectural heritage.

CRITERIA – Consistency with the NRG Principles, Priority Status, Focus Area, Environmental Soundness, Implementable, Economic Viability, Availability of Local Sponsors or Partners, Ability to Match or Leverage Funds, Consideration of Other Planning Efforts, Clear Benefits

Consistency with the NRG Principles: The proposed project is consistent with the principles of Excellence, Sustainability, Accessibility, Ecological Integrity and Public Well-Being. The Entry complex will introduce visitors to the Niagara Frontier’s water story in a highly engaging way and link them to other area resources (including the NRG trail), where they can go to appreciate wildlife. The location of the entrance at the parking lot is more accessible to mobility impaired visitors while the new ticketing windows will increase through-put of visitors on busy days. The new café and gift shop will also contribute to the zoo’s financial sustainability. The Arctic Edge habitat will be built to the standards of excellence adopted by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, promote sustainability of ecosystems, particularly those currently under threat by climate change, and dramatically reduce the Zoo’s own consumption of fresh water.

Priority Status: Construction of Arctic Edge is of the highest priority for the Buffalo Zoo. The current bear exhibit was cited as a major concern in our most recent Accreditation Inspection by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Buffalo’s polar bears have already been sent to other facilities and will not be returned if a new exhibit is not built soon. Before that could be done, the visitor entrance had to be relocated to the former Children’s Zoo area adjacent to our parking lot. This is because the new polar bear habitat will be expanding into an area occupied by our current entrance.

Focus Area: The Buffalo Zoo is located in Delaware Park and therefore falls within the Olmsted Park and Parkway system eligible for funding by the Niagara River Greenway Commission.

Environmental Soundness: The project involves the adaptive re-use of two existing buildings on Zoo grounds. Our former Children’s Zoo barn built in the 1940s will become the new entry building while our current Trading Post gift shop will be repurposed as an Arctic Conservation Center. By re-using existing structures, we are saving a sizable amount of material from going into a local landfill. We will also be installing pervious concrete at the Entry Plaza to reduce the amount of site water going into storm drains. Similarly, the Arctic Edge exhibit will utilize rain gardens to reduce storm runoff. This exhibit will also incorporate a number of energy efficient elements (solar tubes for natural lighting in the holding building, variable frequency drive motors on all LSS equipment, etc.) to reduce energy consumption. Finally, Arctic Edge will replace the five freshwater pools in the current bear complex with two saltwater pools serviced by a closed life support system. Our current pools waste approximately 100 million gallons of freshwater each year because there is no filtration/recirculation system in place. Instead, the pools are maintained by having five 2” water lines running constantly to add freshwater to the pools while they continually drain from the bottom. This terribly wasteful system was designed in the 1930s before modern technology for sanitizing and re-circulating animal exhibit pools had been invented.

Implementable: Renovation of the brick barn is currently underway. Construction of the entry plaza and interactive Great Lakes water feature will occur this spring. If funding is secured, the Zoo hopes to begin construction on the Arctic Edge exhibit in August 2013. The Zoological Society has an excellent track record for construction. To date, $32 million in master plan projects have been completed on time and on budget.
**Economic Viability:** The Buffalo Niagara Partnership has calculated the Zoo’s current economic impact at $8,420,223 annually, representing 137.8 jobs. We are a leading employer of unskilled youth within the City of Buffalo, who are trained to work in our ticketing, food service and gift shop operations. The partnership has estimated Phase II construction will create 227.8 jobs and have a total economic impact of $33,544,898.

**Availability of Local Sponsors or Partners:** The Zoo has been very successful in getting support from our local government partners at the City, County and State Level. We have also received considerable support from the corporate and foundation communities.

**Ability to Match or Leverage Funds:** Over the last decade, the Zoological Society of Buffalo has invested $32 million in new exhibits and visitor amenities. These major construction projects were funded through a public-private partnership that leveraged $10.5 million in County Support with $9 million in State Funding and $12.5 million from the private sector (foundations, corporations, and individual donors). To date, the Society has raised $13.4 million toward the $17.8 total cost for design and construction of the new Entrance and Arctic Edge exhibit.

**Consideration of Other Planning Efforts:** The Buffalo Zoo unveiled its 15-year master plan in December 2001. The plan was revised in 2004 following input from the State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. Erie County identified the Site Improvement Plan as a Type I action for the purpose of SEQR and acted as lead agency in the review process. The SEQR was completed in July 2006. A copy is attached. The plan supports the region’s cultural tourism initiative and was selected as a priority project for the tourism sector by the WNY Regional Economic Development Council in 2012.

**Clear Benefits:** The Zoological Society of Buffalo will leverage the requested $400,000 with other public and private sources to guarantee a significant return on investment by the Buffalo and Erie County Greenway Fund. When completed, the Zoo’s attendance is projected to reach 488,000 visitors per year while earned income is projected to increase to $5,475,950. In contrast, permanent loss of our polar bears due to the inadequacy of the current exhibit would be a major black eye for the community and significantly reduce the Zoo’s popularity and financial stability. The Zoo’s major theme of water and planned interpretive panels about the Great Lakes watershed, including the Niagara River Greenway, will help to promote the NRG’s goals and integrated trail system.

5. The project has been designed to meet all State and Federal laws, including the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act which regulate the exhibition of marine mammals, including polar bears. Renovation of the historic brick barn will follow the preservation laws and guidelines of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The project will be designed to comply with the Americans with Disability Act to insure that all exhibit areas are accessible to all.

6. **Matching Funds Committed to Date:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Board and Staff</td>
<td>$2,200,000</td>
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<td>Other Individuals</td>
<td>$1,728,430</td>
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<td>Corporations</td>
<td>$1,402,000</td>
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<td>Foundations</td>
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<td>New York State - DASNY</td>
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<td>City of Buffalo</td>
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<td>Erie County</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL COMMITTED TO DATE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,416,430</strong></td>
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</table>
7. The Greenway funds requested will not be used to defray: (1) any obligation existing as of August 31, 2007 or (2) operation and maintenance costs associated with any project existing as of August 31, 2007.

8. The project will be located at the Buffalo Zoo’s 23-acre campus within Frederick Law Olmsted’s Delaware Park. The Zoo is managed by the Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc. however all land is owned by the City of Buffalo.

9. **Project Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Architectural Design and Construction Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Construction of Entry Complex</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Sept 2012 – June 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entry Building, Plaza and Great Lakes Water Feature</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Construction of Arctic Edge Exhibit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(August 2013 – May 2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Exhibits and Site Work</td>
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<td>Bear Holding and Life Support Complex</td>
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<td>Interpretive Building - Arctic Conservation Center</td>
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<td><strong>Total Construction Estimate for Entry Complex and Arctic Edge</strong></td>
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<td>Construction Contingency (5%)</td>
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<td>Reimbursable Expenses</td>
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<td>Graphics and Interpretive Elements</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PROJECT COST</strong></td>
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The $400,000 in requested Greenway Funds would be applied toward construction of the new Entry complex since the majority of campaign donations have been made specifically to support the polar bear exhibit including the grants received from the City of Buffalo, Erie County and New York State. Our desired disbursement would be $400,000 in 2013.
Site Map with project area for Entry Plaza circled in yellow and Arctic Edge circled in red

Proposed Main Entry off of Parking lot using existing brick barn
Current brick barn from former Children’s Zoo (built in 1940s)

Rendering of proposed re-use as the new Entry Building

Ticketing Courtyard with view of interactive water map of Great Lakes in background
View of current bear exhibit

Current bear exhibit showing one of five “dump and fill” pools and polar bear
Original bear cages from the 1890s with holding building behind

Trading Post Gift Shop that will become the new Arctic Conservation Center
Section views keyed to Polar Bear Exhibit Site Plan
November 16, 2011

Donna M. Fernandes, Ph.D.
President/CEO
Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.
300 Parkside Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14214

Dear Doctor Fernandes:

The Niagara River Greenway Commission is pleased to support the Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.’s.
“Project Consultation and Review” package for the following project:

   Entry Plaza and Arctic Edge Exhibit

This project was deemed consistent to the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The subjective evaluations were based on the principals, goals and criteria that define the Niagara River Greenway Plan. I have attached the Commission’s comments and questions as well as public comments received on the projects submitted during the deliberation timeframe for your use. The Commission is pleased to support the Zoological Society of Buffalo Inc’s project proposals and wish you great success.

Respectfully,

Rob Belue

R.A. Belue
Executive Director

Cc:  Buffalo-Erie County-Olmsted Standing Committee
Attachments:
Niagara River Greenway Commission
Consultation and Review Form

Type of Review Required:

_____ Mandatory Consultation

_____ Voluntary Review and/or Endorsement

PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

Name: Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.

Mailing Address: 300 Parkside Ave., Buffalo

State: New York Zip Code: 14214

Federal Id# 16-0911204 Charities Registration # 04-72-98

PROJECT TYPE

Check all that apply:

✓ Environmental _____ Cultural/Heritage _____ Land or Water Public Access

✓ Cultural _____ Trail _____ Educational/Interpretive

_____ Waterfront or Land Based Development _____ Signage

✓ Recreational _____ Other

Project Name: Entry Plaza and Arctic Edge Exhibit

Location: The Buffalo Zoo

Site Address: 300 Parkside Ave., Buffalo

State: New York Zip Code: 14214

Minor Civil Division(s): City of Buffalo

County: Erie

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other): Long term lease and management contract with the City of Buffalo
AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL

Name: Donna M. Fernandes, Ph.D  Title: President/CEO

Business Address: The Buffalo Zoo, 300 Parkside Ave., Buffalo

State: New York  Zip Code: 14214

Telephone Number: 716-995-6144  Cell Number: 716-400-3070

Fax Number: 716-837-0738

E-Mail Address: dmfernand@aol.com

PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT

Name: same as above  Title:

Organization/Firm:

Business Address:

State:  Zip Code:

Telephone Number:  Cell Number:

Fax Number:

E-Mail Address:
PROJECT NARRATIVE

1. The Buffalo Zoo is embarking on Phase II of its Master Plan. The Zoo’s existing brick barn adjacent to the parking lot will be completely renovated to become the New Entry Complex. It will serve as a gathering space for visitors as they embark on their Zoo adventure. An interactive “map” of the Great Lakes watershed will introduce the zoo’s water theme in a fun, engaging manner. Interpretive graphics will relate Buffalo’s water story (i.e. Niagara Falls and hydroelectric power, the Erie Canal and transportation) while touching on global water usage. A new gift shop and cafe will be accessible to visitors entering and exiting the zoo, as well as recreational users of Delaware Park. The Entry Complex is scheduled to be built in 2012.

Arctic Edge will be a dramatic new exhibit focusing on frozen water. A series of rocky outcroppings will serve as a backdrop to two large polar bear habitats with underwater viewing of the salt-water pools providing an up-close look at the bears’ playful antics. The interior pathway of the Arctic Edge exhibit will bring visitors past bald eagle, arctic wolf, and Canadian lynx, culminating in the Arctic Conservation Center. Within the Arctic Conservation Center, educational graphics and interpretive exhibits will focus on climate change and positive measures Zoo visitors can take to lower their carbon footprint. Because of its age and poor condition, the Zoo has been told that unless it replaces its current bear exhibit with one meeting the new professional standards, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) will transfer our bears to another facility. This Arctic Edge project is slated to begin in late 2012 and open in 2014.

2. The Buffalo Zoo is the most visited cultural attraction in Erie County with more than 425,000 visitors per year. The Zoo, located in Frederick Law Olmsted’s historic Delaware Park, is the third oldest in the nation. Its 23-acre pedestrian-friendly campus provides a unique resource in terms of educational and recreational activities related to the natural world. The new Arctic Edge exhibit will add to the Zoo’s popularity and encourage greater year-round visitation. Each new exhibit that has been built at the Zoo has sparked an increase in attendance and visitor spending from outside the area. The Buffalo Niagara Partnership has calculated the economic impact of the Entry Complex and Arctic Edge projects to be $33,544,898, resulting in 227.8 jobs for Buffalo Niagara.

3. The Zoo’s Bear Necessities Campaign has already raised $6.6 million toward the $18 million required for design and construction of the Entry Complex and Arctic Edge exhibit. The operation and maintenance of these two projects will be covered by the Buffalo Zoo’s annual operating budget of $7.0 million. The Zoo’s current bear exhibit will be demolished when Arctic Edge is constructed so there should be no net increase in operating expenses except for electricity to power the life support equipment. The Buffalo Zoo has a restricted endowment of $3.0 million for operations, maintenance and capital improvements. The endowment yields approximately $150,000 annually to the Zoo.

BUDGET
Planning $ 1,164,960
Construction $ 16,339,880
Acquisition $ 0
Administration $ 490,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST $ 17,994,790

Operation & Maintenance/year $ 100,000 (included in the Zoo’s Annual Operating Budget)
**Funding Sources Projected**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>City of Buffalo</td>
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<td>Niagara River Greenway</td>
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<td>Private Donors</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDS PROJECTED</strong></td>
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4. In 2001, the Zoological Society of Buffalo hired renowned Zoo architect Patrick Janikowski to develop a master plan for the Buffalo Zoo. Prior to engaging Mr. Janikowski, Zoo staff held a series of Community Meetings at 14 sites throughout Erie and Niagara County to give members of the public an opportunity to voice their aspirations for a newly renovated Buffalo Zoo. Public surveys of Zoo visitors were also conducted onsite in the fall of 2000. The results of these community hearings and visitor surveys were shared with the Zoo designers at the start of the master planning process. Two community meetings held in May and July 2001 also gave the public an opportunity to interact with the design team and participate in the formulation of the master plan.

In December 2001, the Buffalo Zoo unveiled its 15-year site improvement plan (master plan). The plan was revised in 2004 following input from the State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. Erie County identified the Site Improvement Plan as a Type I action for the purpose of SEQR and acted as lead agency in the review process. The SEQR was completed in July 2006. A copy is attached.

The plan calls for the Zoo’s major exhibit areas to be organized around bodies of WATER, due to the historic importance of water to the development of Western New York. A Sea Lion/River Otter complex will illustrate the difference between saltwater and freshwater ecosystems. An African savanna will feature a large watering hole bordered by hoof stock and their predators. An indoor South American rainforest will include a dramatic two-story waterfall while a new Arctic complex housing polar bears, arctic wolf, lynx and bald eagle will focus on frozen water. Lastly, the Heritage Farm Children’s Zoo will recreate a historic farm along the Erie Canal with heritage breeds of domestic animals to illustrate how farmers used water to transport their goods to City dwellers.

Substantial funding for Phase I of the plan was provided by Erie County and New York State in partnership with private foundations and donors, who contributed to the success of the project. The new Entry Complex and Arctic Edge will launch Phase II of the master plan. The 2011 Regional Agenda published by the Buffalo Niagara Partnership (copy attached) includes the proposed Buffalo Zoo project as one of the initiatives recommended for funding in the tourism industry sector.

5. The Zoo has been operating at this location since 1875. An aerial view of the current Zoo campus is included. The sites proposed for the Entry Complex and Arctic Edge exhibit have been used as animal exhibit and holding areas for the last 135 years. The most recent renovation to these two areas was in the late 1930s as part of a Works Progress Administration reconstruction of the Zoo. The existing brick barn of our former Children’s Zoo, conveniently located adjacent to our parking lot, will be renovated to become the new Entry Building. The Zoo’s bear pits will be demolished for construction of Arctic Edge. As can be seen in the attached photos, the current bear exhibit is showing signs of physical deterioration and decay. The exhibit was recently cited as a MAJOR CONCERN during our AZA accreditation inspection held in June 2011. In addition, the current bear exhibit includes 5 dump and fill pools which waste hundreds of thousands of gallons of freshwater each year. These will be replaced by two large saltwater pools maintained with a state of the art life support system. Renderings of the new Arctic exhibit and Entry Complex have also been provided.
The Buffalo Zoo

Entry Plaza/Arctic Edge Project

Required Regulatory Permits

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<tr>
<th>City of Buffalo</th>
<th>Building permit</th>
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<td>Preservation Board approval</td>
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<td>Planning Board approval</td>
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<td>Backflow preventer permit</td>
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<tr>
<th>New York State</th>
<th>SHPO approval (if public funds are involved in any way)</th>
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<td>Department of Labor approval/standard variance for asbestos abatement</td>
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</table>

| Federal         | USDA approval – holding/exhibit features for arctic only |

| Utility Electrical | Approval to eliminate 1 service point at zoo campus |
Internal Revenue Service

Date: December 17, 2002

Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.
300 Parkside Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14214-1963

Department of the Treasury

P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact: Kathy Masters ID# 31-04015
Customer Service Representative

Toll Free Telephone Number: 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. EST
877-829-5500

Fax Number:
513-283-3756

Federal Identification Number:
16-0911204

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in response to your request for a copy of your organization's determination letter. This letter will take the place of the copy you requested.

Our records indicate that a determination letter issued in May 1961 granted your organization exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. That letter is still in effect.

Based on information subsequently submitted, we classified your organization as one that is not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because it is an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

This classification was based on the assumption that your organization's operations would continue as stated in the application. If your organization's sources of support, or its character, method of operations, or purposes have changed, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on the exempt status and foundation status of your organization.

Your organization is required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, only if its gross receipts each year are normally more than $25,000. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the organization's annual accounting period. The law imposes a penalty of $20 a day, up to a maximum of $10,000, when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay.

All exempt organizations (unless specifically excluded) are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of $100 or more paid to each employee during a calendar year. Your organization is not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Organizations that are not private foundations are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, these organizations are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes.

Donors may deduct contributions to your organization as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to your organization or for its use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.
Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.
16-0911204

Your organization is not required to file federal income tax returns unless it is subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If your organization is subject to this tax, it must file an income tax return on the Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter, we are not determining whether any of your organization's present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

The law requires you to make your organization's annual return available for public inspection without charge for three years after the due date of the return. If your organization had a copy of its application for recognition of exemption on July 15, 1987, it is also required to make available for public inspection a copy of the exemption application, any supporting documents and the exemption letter to any individual who requests such documents in person or in writing. You can charge only a reasonable fee for reproduction and actual postage costs for the copied materials. The law does not require you to provide copies of public inspection documents that are widely available, such as by posting them on the Internet (World Wide Web). You may be liable for a penalty of $20 a day for each day you do not make these documents available for public inspection (up to a maximum of $10,000 in the case of an annual return).

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your organization's exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it with the organization's permanent records.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

This letter affirms your organization's exempt status.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John E. Ricketts, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services
Hi Rob –

I reviewed the two applications submitted for the 24th round of projects proposed under the Niagara River Greenway – with respect to Niagara River Greenway Principles; Initial Greenway Goals; and, Niagara River Greenway Plan Criteria. My comments on the project proposals are as follow.

*Buffalo Museum of Science – Tifft Nature Preserve Sustainability Center Expansion-Phase I*

**Consistent**
The Tifft Nature Preserve Sustainability Center Expansion project advances the vision of the Niagara River Greenway and is well in line with the principles, goals, and criteria of that vision. An expansion and retrofit to the visitor center is consistent with all of the principles of the Niagara River Greenway and makes significant contributions in Ecological Integrity, Sustainability, and Public Well-Being.

The Buffalo Museum of Science is seeking funding from private and public sources for this project. Future financial and in-kind assistance may come from the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Museum of Science, Friends of Tifft Nature Preserve, Inc., grants and foundation support.

The project would implement the City of Buffalo Draft LWRP, and is located within the South Buffalo Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA).

*Zoological Society of Buffalo – Entry Plaza and Arctic Edge Exhibit*

**Consistent**
The project proposal includes design and construction of a new Arctic Edge exhibit and Entry Complex at the zoo – implementing the first project of Phase 2 of the zoo’s 15-year master plan. The current polar bear exhibit is showing signs of physical deterioration and decay, and was cited as a major concern during the AZA accreditation inspection held in June 2011. The project would correct that deficiency while also significantly reducing quantities by recycling and recirculation/filtration systems resulting in lower discharges to the city sewer system.

Since 1875, when the first permanent building was erected, the Zoo has sparked revitalization and renewal and continuously involved the community and municipal officials in its expansion and celebration of place. This historic landmark is located within an Olmsted Park and the Greenway focus area, and promotes physical and emotional wellness to more than 425,000 visitors per year. Each new exhibit adds to the sustainability and excellence of the zoo by increasing the attendance and visitor spending from outside the area. The project would implement the Buffalo Niagara Partnership’s 2011 Regional Agenda.

Project construction will total approximately $18 million. The Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc., a nonprofit organization managing the Buffalo Zoo, has already raised $6.6 million and established relations with local sponsors and partners: $2 million provided by Erie County, $4 million provided by the City of Buffalo, and $8.5 million donated by private donors. The operation and maintenance of the two projects will be covered by the Zoo's annual operating budget of $7 million.
Again, I won’t be attending the Commission meeting on the 15th, and would appreciate your proxy vote. I’ll forward the form asap.

And... the new website is looking really slick! Are you done making changes/improvements, or is it a work in progress?

Best regards,
Renee

Renee Parsons
Coastal Resources Specialist
NYS Department of State
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Niagara River Greenway Commission

Project submissions: Round 24 – November 15, 2011

**Buffalo Zoo – Entry Plaza and Arctic Edge Exhibit**

The Buffalo Zoo proposes to commence phase II of its Master Plan, which involves a new entry plaza and exhibit. The entry plaza will include an interactive map of the Great lakes watershed and graphics depicting local water related themes such as power generation and the Erie Canal. While many aspects of the overall phase II plan are not of relevance to the purposes of the Niagara Greenway, the Great Lakes and local water resource aspects of the entry plaza are certainly relevant. DEC considers these aspects of phase II of the Master Plan to be consistent with many of the goals, principles, and criteria of the Niagara Greenway Plan.

**Buffalo Museum of Science – Tift Nature Preserve Sustainability Center Expansion**

The Buffalo Museum of Science proposes to commence phase I of an expansion of a new sustainability center. The purpose of the Tift preserve is for the preservation, education, and interpretation of the unique and valuable habitats located property. The new sustainability center will expand and support this mission into the future. DEC concurs with the project sponsor’s statements supporting consistency with the Niagara Greenway Plan.
DT: October 28, 2011
TO: Niagara Greenway Commissioners
FR: Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition*
RE: Comments on Proposed Greenway Projects

Of the two projects currently up for consistency review, we find one to be consistent with the criteria outlined in the Greenway Plan.

The Buffalo Museum of Science building expansion at Tifft Nature Preserve - $500,000 towards construction.

The proposed building expansion to the existing Visitor Center at Tifft satisfies most of the criteria called for in the Greenway Plan. It is within the Greenway focus area, and has priority status as an important and already well-known southern hub for the Greenway trail focused on outdoor, ecology-centered, place-based education. The building plan appears to be environmentally sound, implementable and economically viable, with a strong local sponsor, the Buffalo Science Museum. Matching/leveraging funds are being pursued with $30,000 in hand and ten other funders who are being approached. The criteria of consideration of other planning efforts and clear benefits to the Greenway are met by the project’s synergies with Outer Harbor improvements, its significance for Great Lakes restoration as the largest wetland on Lake Erie shores within New York State, and its inclusion of interpretive exhibits on “how to” revitalize industrial brownfields and once blighted urban areas through enhanced ecotourism.

We urge you to find it consistent.

The Buffalo Zoo’s New Entry Complex - $500,000

The Buffalo Zoo is also a strong local partner proposing an expansion that appears to have substantial matching funds, to be implementable, economically viable and environmentally sound in terms of an overall scope that includes better water use and replacement of the outdated bear exhibits. However, although the new entry will include an interactive map of the Great Lakes watershed and relate “Buffalo’s water story,” it does not have clear benefits to the Niagara Greenway or achieve the Greenway priorities of improved waterfront access, development of an integrated trail system or restoration of the Niagara River ecosystem.

The Environmental Coalition was thus divided on this one, but by majority vote we consider it not consistent with the overall purpose of the Greenway Plan.

*Adirondack Mountain Club*Audubon New York*Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper*Citizens Campaign for the Environment* League of Women Voters* Niagara Frontier Wildlife Habitat Council*Niagara Musky Association*Presbytery of WNY*Quality Quest*Sierra Club*
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY HALL
BUFFALO

October 27, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:
I hereby Certify, That at a Session of the Common Council of the City of Buffalo, held in the City Hall, on the 18th day of October 2011, The following resolution was Passed which the following is a true copy.

NO. 71

BY: MICHAEL J. LOCURTO; DAVID A. FRANCOZYK
SUPPORT FOR BUFFALO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY GRANT APPLICATION TO OPRHP

WHEREAS, the Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc. is applying to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) for a grant under the Environmental Protection Fund for a park project to be located at the Buffalo Zoo, a site located within the territorial jurisdiction of this Common Council;

and

WHEREAS, as a requirement under the rules of these programs, said not-for profit corporation must obtain the “approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located”;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by this august body that the Common Council of The City of Buffalo hereby does approve and endorse the application of the Zoological Society of Buffalo for a grant under the Environmental Protection Fund for a park project known as the Arctic Edge and located within this community.

And further, it is resolved that, should the Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc. be unable to do so, said property shall be forever maintained by the City of Buffalo as a municipal park in this community consistent with the rules promulgated by OPRHP.

PASSED
AYES - 9 NOES - 0

ATTEST

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION WAS SIGNED BY THE MAYOR ON 10/27/2011 AND RETURNED TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE ON 10/27/2011
EXTRACT OF MINUTES

Meeting of the County Legislature of
the County of Erie, New York.

December 8, 2011

*    *    *

A regular meeting of the County Legislature of the County of Erie, New York, was held at the Chambers of the Erie County Legislature, in the Erie County Hall, Buffalo, New York, in said County, on December 8, 2011, at 2:00 o’clock P.M. (Prevailing Time).

The following Legislators were present:


There were absent:

Edward A. Rath, III.

Also present: Robert M. Graber, Clerk of the Legislature

*    *    *

Legislator Whyte offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:
RESOLUTION NO. 212-2011

BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 8, 2011

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING
FINANCING OF THE COUNTY'S LOCAL SHARE OF THE COST OF RECREATIONAL
AREA IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BUFFALO ZOO, STATING THE ESTIMATED
MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS $3,000,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT
THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $3,000,000 BONDS OF THE
COUNTY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

(Introduced) December 8, 2011

(Adopted) December 8, 2011

RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE,
NEW YORK (by the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the voting strength of said
Legislature), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The County of Erie, New York (herein called "County"), is hereby
authorized to finance the County's local share of the cost of recreational area improvements to the
Buffalo Zoo, including construction of a new Polar Bear Exhibit as more fully described in the
duly adopted 2011 Capital Budget for the County, as amended, and pursuant to agreements with
the City of Buffalo and the Zoological Society of Buffalo. To the extent that the details set forth
in this resolution are inconsistent with any details set forth in the 2011 Capital Budget of the
County, such Budget shall be deemed and is hereby amended. The estimated maximum cost
thereof, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, is
$3,000,000 and said amount is hereby appropriated therefor. The plan of financing for such
specific object or purpose includes the issuance of $3,000,000 bonds of the County to finance
said appropriation, and the levy and collection of taxes on all the taxable real property in the County to pay the principal of said bonds and the interest thereon as the same shall become due and payable.

Section 2. Bonds of the County in the amount of $3,000,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (herein called the ‘Law’) to finance a portion of said appropriation.

Section 3. The period of probable usefulness applicable to the purpose for which said bonds are authorized to be issued, within the limitations of Section 11.00 a. 19(c) of the Law, is fifteen (15) years.

Section 4. The County intends to finance, and the Comptroller of the County is hereby authorized to advance such amounts as are necessary to pay the costs of the specific object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, prior to the issuance of the bonds or bond anticipation notes herein authorized, out of any available funds of the County on an interim basis, which respective amounts are reasonably expected to be reimbursed with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the County pursuant to this Resolution, in the respective maximum amounts of bonds herein authorized. This Resolution is a declaration of official intent adopted pursuant to the requirements of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of this Resolution and of the Law, and pursuant to the provisions of §21.00 relative to the issuance of bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service, §30.00 relative to the authorization of the issuance of bond anticipation notes or the renewals thereof, and of §§50.00, 56.00 to 60.00 and 168.00 of said Law, the powers and duties of the County Legislature relative to authorizing the issuance of any
notes in anticipation of the sale of the respective amounts of bonds herein authorized, or the
renewals thereof, relative to providing for substantially level or declining annual debt service,
relative to prescribing the terms, form and contents and as to the sale and issuance of the
respective amounts of bonds herein authorized, and of any notes issued in anticipation of the sale
of said bonds or the renewals of said notes, and relative to executing agreements for credit
enhancement, are hereby delegated to the Comptroller of the County, as the chief fiscal officer of
the County.

Section 6. Each of the bonds authorized by this Resolution and any bond
anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale thereof shall contain the recital of validity
prescribed by §52.00 of said Local Finance Law and said bonds and any notes issued in
anticipation of said bonds shall be general obligations of the County of Erie, payable as to both
principal and interest by general tax upon all the taxable real property within the County without
limitation as to rate or amount. The faith and credit of the County are hereby irrevocably
pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds and any notes
issued in anticipation of the sale of said bonds or the renewals of said notes, and provision shall
be made annually in the budgets of the County by appropriation for (a) the amortization and
redemption of the notes and bonds to mature in such year and (b) the payment of interest to be
due and payable in such year.

Section 7. The validity of the bonds authorized by this Resolution and of any
notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said bonds, may be contested only if:

(a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the County is
not authorized to expend money, or

(b) the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of the publication
of this Resolution, or a summary thereof, are not substantially complied with,
and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

(c) such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval by the County Executive.

* * *

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Legislator Mazur and duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

AYES:


NOES:

None.

THE RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

* * *
Dated: Buffalo, New York,
December 13th, 2011

The foregoing Bond Resolution is hereby approved

County Executive

Robert M. Graber, HEREBY CERTIFY that the County Executive of Erie County approved a Bond Resolution of which the foregoing is a certified copy and returned the same for filing in the office of the Erie County Legislature.

12/13, 2011.

Robert M. Graber
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

By
Erie County Comptroller

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By
Erie County Attorney
Legislator Whyte offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Clerk of the Erie County Legislature is hereby directed to publish the foregoing bond resolution, in summary, in the Front Page Newspaper and the Amherst Bee, the official newspapers of the County for such publication, together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law of the State of New York.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

*   *   *
CERTIFICATE

I, Robert M. Graber, Clerk of the Erie County Legislature, State of New York, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing annexed extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Erie County Legislature duly called and held on December 8, 2011, has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in my office in the Minute Book of said County Legislature and is a true, complete and correct copy thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said County this 8th day of December, 2011.

Robert M. Graber
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature
The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted by the County Legislature on the 8th day of December, 2011 and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Erie, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

ROBERT M. GRABER
Clerk of the County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 212-2011

BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 8, 2011

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING FINANCING OF THE COUNTY'S LOCAL SHARE OF THE COST OF RECREATIONAL AREA IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BUFFALO ZOO, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS $3,000,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $3,000,000 BONDS OF THE COUNTY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

object or purpose: to finance the County's local share of the cost of recreational area improvements to the Buffalo Zoo, including construction of a new Polar Bear Exhibit as more fully described in the duly adopted 2011 Capital Budget for the County, as amended, and pursuant to agreements with the City of Buffalo and the Zoological Society of Buffalo.

period of probable usefulness: fifteen (15) years

amount of obligations to be issued: $3,000,000

A complete copy of the Bond Resolution summarized above and maps, plans and report referred to above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the Erie County Legislature, at the Erie County Hall, in Buffalo, New York.

Dated: December 8, 2011

Buffalo, New York
December 8, 2011

Ms. Donna Fernandes  
President-CEO  
Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.  
300 Parkside Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14214-1999

Dear Ms. Fernandes:

I am pleased to inform you that a matching grant of $400,000.00 has been reserved from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Municipal Grant program for the Arctic Exhibit project you submitted this fall under the 2011-12 municipal parks, historic preservation, and heritage areas grant round through the Consolidated Funding Application.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation recognizes the vital role that this project will play in enhancing the environment, quality of life, and economic vitality of your community, and we are delighted to be able to provide a grant award for the project.

This letter will be followed by another from our Grants Bureau that will provide you with details about the next steps. I urge you to work closely with our program staff and not to begin work on your project until appropriate contract conditions have been satisfied.

Competition for the EPF grant program remains strong. This year’s budget allocated $13.3 million for municipal parks, historic preservation, and heritage areas grants. OPRHP received 324 grant applications requesting a total of more than $170 million. I am pleased that your project was one of the applications that received a grant award this year.

Our Grants Office looks forward to working in partnership with you to expeditiously advance your project.

Sincerely,

Rose Harvey  
Commissioner

Empire State Plaza • Agency Building 1 • Albany, New York 12238  
518-474-0443 • Fax: 518-474-1365  
(printed on recycled paper)
December 18, 2012

Ms. Donna Fernandes  
President/Chief Executive Officer  
Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.  
300 Parkside Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14214-9999

Dear Ms. Fernandes:

Last year, Governor Cuomo launched the Regional Economic Development Councils and the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to provide each region with the tools to create and implement their own roadmap for economic prosperity and job creation. This community-based model uses local assets to drive local economic growth and has resulted in unprecedented partnerships and collaboration that are building a reinvigorated economy.

After a successful first round in 2011, the 2012 CFA made $762 million in economic development resources available from 22 programs across a dozen state agencies. The agency programs provide resources for projects focused on community development and job creation, direct assistance to business, waterfront revitalization and environmental improvements, sustainability and low-cost financing. The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is proud to have contributed $15,275,000 to this year’s consolidated funding application through the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Municipal Grant program.

I am pleased to inform you that a matching grant of $376,000 has been reserved from the Municipal Grant program for the Arctic Edge Exhibit project.

Our agency will contact you to clarify specifics about the project, including next steps, disbursement terms, minority- and women-owned business hiring goals, employment requirements, environmental and historic preservation review requirements, and other terms and conditions. I urge you to work closely with our program staff and not to begin work on your project until appropriate contract conditions have been satisfied.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to expeditiously advance your project.

Congratulations,

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Rose Harvey  
Commissioner

Andy Beers  
Executive Deputy Commissioner
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.

Date: July 27, 2006

TO: Eric County Executive
   Erie County Legislature
   NYS DEC – Commissioner, Albany
   NYS DEC - Region 9
   NYS Empire Development Corp.
   NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
   Hon. Byron Brown, Mayor, City of Buffalo

PROJECT #: CD617-06 - 450

LEAD AGENCY: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

NAME OF ACTION: Zoo Site Improvement Plan

LOCATION: 300 Parkside Avenue, S. of Amherst St., Buffalo, Erie County, NY

SEQR STATUS: Type I Action

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: To demolish and replace 12 animal holding buildings and cages, and the concession stand. The 15-year Physical Improvement Plan for the Buffalo Zoo is based on the revised (2004) Master Plan to renovate the zoo including new exhibits: South American Rainforest & Greenhouse, Entry Plaza, Wild Place, Wonders of Water Children’s Zoo, Arctic Edge, Asian River & Highlands, African Watering Hole, West Plaza, Vet Hospital and better services such as restaurant, utilities and infrastructure. All work will be limited to within the existing confines of the zoo.

FINDING:

In accordance with adopted review procedures and the criteria set forth in Part 617, the proposed action described above will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will not be prepared.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

- No substantial adverse change in existing air quality, water quality, traffic patterns, or noise levels is anticipated as a result of this action. There will be minor increases in related air pollution and noise, limited blasting and construction/demolition solid waste generation (wood, concrete, metal cages/roofing and siding material containing asbestos) related to the demolition phase, and soils/water may be disturbed during site work resulting in minor erosion and ditch siltation that will be mitigated by use of proper erosion control measures and final site restoration planting. However, this will result in small to moderate impacts of limited duration. During demolition contractor(s) shall follow conditions as suggested by NYSDEC: proper disposal of asbestos containing materials in a DEC permitted landfill, recycling of metals, concrete and wood wastes, and no open burning.
-continued-P. 2.

• Due to the nature, size, and location of the proposed action no significant adverse effects on aesthetic, agricultural, archaeological, or other natural or cultural resources are expected. Regarding historical resources, a NY State Historic Preservation Office review (04PR02855) approved the plan in concept with a detailed review of individual plans required for each new exhibit for the zoo which is a contributing component to the Olmsted Parks Thematic Resource which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Demolition of the structure will have short-term aesthetic impacts due to the removal of some vegetation on the treed zoo exhibit sites to allow construction equipment access. Site restoration and natural revegetation over the long term should reduce the impact.

• Review of the parcel characteristics indicates that this project will not affect any significant wildlife, plant, or fish habitats; nor substantially increase the potential for erosion, flooding, or drainage problems. Mature trees shall be properly protected during demolition and construction.

• The existing use of the site will continue as a public recreation site that is consistent with the community's plans/goals. This upgrade of facilities and exhibits in this public facility operated by the Zoological Society of Buffalo will improve recreational and regional tourism opportunities in Erie County, the Niagara Frontier and New York State.

• Outside of the potential for increased tourism, the site will continue in the same use and no potential growth is expected to be induced by this proposal.

• An increase in energy use is not anticipated. New exhibits will be designed for water and energy conservation.

All facts and findings of this review are on file at the Department of Environment and Planning, 10th Floor, Rath Building, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202. These files may be examined by the public between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. of any normal operating day. Written comments may be submitted to the Review Coordinator at the same address.

Andrew M. Eszak, AICP
Commissioner, Department of
Environment and Planning

For further information contact:
Michael Alspaugh, Senior Planner - (716) 858-6013
Purpose: The full EAF is designed to help applicants and agencies determine, in an orderly manner, whether a project or action may be significant. The question of whether an action may be significant is not always easy to answer. Frequently, there are aspects of a project that are subjective or unmeasurable. It is also understood that those who determine significance may have little or no formal knowledge of the environment or may not be technically expert in environmental analysis. In addition, many who have knowledge in one particular area may not be aware of the broader concerns affecting the question of significance.

The full EAF is intended to provide a method whereby applicants and agencies can be assured that the determination process has been orderly, comprehensive in nature, yet flexible enough to allow introduction of information to fit a project or action.

Full EAF Components: The full EAF is comprised of three parts:

Part 1: Provides objective data and information about a given project and its site. By identifying basic project data, it assists a reviewer in the analysis that takes place in Parts 2 and 3.

Part 2: Focuses on identifying the range of possible impacts that may occur from a project or action. It provides guidance as to whether an impact is likely to be considered small to moderate or whether it is a potentially-large impact. The form also identifies whether an impact can be mitigated or reduced.

Part 3: If any impact in Part 2 is identified as potentially-large, then Part 3 is used to evaluate whether or not the impact is actually important.

---

THIS AREA FOR LEAD AGENCY USE ONLY

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE -- Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

Identify the Portions of EAF completed for this project: 

☑ Part 1 ☑ Part 2 ☑ Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF (Parts 1 and 2 and 3 if appropriate), and any other supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each impact, it is reasonably determined by the lead agency that:

☑ A. The project will not result in any large and important impact(s) and, therefore, is one which will not have a significant impact on the environment, therefore a negative declaration will be prepared.

☑ B. Although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect for this Unlisted Action because the mitigation measures described in PART 3 have been required, therefore a CONDITIONED negative declaration will be prepared.*

☑ C. The project may result in one or more large and important impacts that may have a significant impact on the environment, therefore a positive declaration will be prepared.

*A Conditioned Negative Declaration is only valid for Unlisted Actions

Buffalo Zoo Site Improvements Plan

Name of Action

County of Erie, Department of Environment and Planning

Name of Lead Agency

Andrew M. Essak AICP

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Commissioner

Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Preparer (if different from responsible officer)

Michael A. McGovern, Sr. Planner

Date

28 June, 2006

Page 1
PART 1--PROJECT INFORMATION
Prepared by Project Sponsor

NOTICE: This document is designed to assist in determining whether the action proposed may have a significant effect on the environment. Please complete the entire form, Parts A through E. Answers to these questions will be considered as part of the application for approval and may be subject to further verification and public review. Provide any additional information you believe will be needed to complete Parts 2 and 3.

It is expected that completion of the full EAF will be dependent on information currently available and will not involve new studies, research or investigation. If information requiring such additional work is unavailable, so indicate and specify each instance.

Name of Action Buffalo Zoo Site Improvement Plan

Location of Action (include Street Address, Municipality and County)
300 Parkside Avenue
Buffalo, Erie County, New York

Name of Applicant/Sponsor Zoological Society of Buffalo

Address 300 Parkside Avenue

City / PO Buffalo State New York Zip Code 14214

Business Telephone 716-837-3900

Name of Owner (If different)

Address

City / PO State Zip Code

Business Telephone

Description of Action:

A 15-year Physical Improvement Plan for the Buffalo Zoo based on the revised (2004) Master Plan to renovate the Zoo including new exhibits: South American Rainforest & Greenhouse, Entry Plaza, Wild Place, Wonders of Water Children's Zoo, Arctic Edge, Asian River & Highlands, African Watering Hole, West Plaza, Vet Hospital and better services including a restaurant, utilities and infrastructure improvements. Historic and supporting buildings will be retained/upgraded while obsolete, unsafe facilities such as cages, bear pits, holding barns/pens, outdoor pavilions and the concession stand are to be demolished. All work will be limited to within the confines of the existing zoo property.
Please Complete Each Question--Indicate N.A. if not applicable.

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Physical setting of overall project, both developed and undeveloped areas.

1. Present Land Use: [ ] Urban [ ] Industrial [ ] Commercial [ ] Residential (suburban) [ ] Rural (non-farm)
   [ ] Forest [ ] Agriculture [ ] Other [ ] Zoo

2. Total acreage of project area: _______ 23.5 acres.

   APPROXIMATE ACREAGE
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>PRESENTLY</th>
<th>AFTER COMPLETION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meadow or Brushland (Non-agricultural)</td>
<td>2.7 acres</td>
<td>1.8 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forested</td>
<td>2 acres</td>
<td>1.8 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural (includes orchards, cropland, pasture, etc.)</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland (Freshwater or tidal as per Articles 24, 25 of ECL)</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Surface Area</td>
<td>0.4 acres</td>
<td>0.75 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unvegetated (Rock, earth or fill)</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
<td>_______ acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads, buildings and other paved surfaces</td>
<td>9.5 acres</td>
<td>9.4 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Indicate type) Zoo Exhibit Areas</td>
<td>8.9 acres</td>
<td>10.75 acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. What is predominant soil type(s) on project site?
   a. Soil drainage: [ ] Well drained ______% of site [ ] Moderately well drained ______% of site
      [ ] Poorly drained ______% of site
   b. If any agricultural land is involved, how many acres of soil are classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System? _______ 0 acres (see 1 NYCCR 370).

4. Are there bedrock outcroppings on project site? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   a. What is depth to bedrock ______ 1.6-3.3 (in feet)

5. Approximate percentage of proposed project site with slopes:
   [ ] 0-10% ______% [ ] 10-15% ______% [ ] 15% or greater ______%

6. Is project substantially contiguous to, or contain a building, site, or district, listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places? [ ] Yes [ ] No

7. Is project substantially contiguous to a site listed on the Register of National Natural Landmarks? [ ] Yes [ ] No

8. What is the depth of the water table ______ 3.6 (in feet)

9. Is site located over a primary, principal, or sole source aquifer? [ ] Yes [ ] No

10. Do hunting, fishing or shell fishing opportunities presently exist in the project area? [ ] Yes [ ] No
11. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal life that is identified as threatened or endangered?  

Yes ☐ No ☑

According to:
US Department of the Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service

Identify each species:

However, Zoo exhibits do contain and provide safe harbor for many threatened or endangered species.

12. Are there any unique or unusual land forms on the project site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, other geological formations?)

Yes ☐ No ☑

Describe:

13. Is the project site presently used by the community or neighborhood as an open space or recreation area?

Yes ☑ No ☐

If yes, explain:

Public Zoo is patronized by community as well as out of town visitors

14. Does the present site include scenic views known to be important to the community?

Yes ☐ No ☑

15. Streams within or contiguous to project area:

None

a. Name of Stream and name of River to which it is tributary

16. Lakes, ponds, wetland areas within or contiguous to project area:

None

b. Size (in acres):
17. Is the site served by existing public utilities?  ■ Yes  ■ No.
   a. If YES, does sufficient capacity exist to allow connection?  ■ Yes  ■ No
   b. If YES, will improvements be necessary to allow connection?  ■ Yes  ■ No

18. Is the site located in an agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304?  ■ Yes  ■ No

19. Is the site located in or substantially contiguous to a Critical Environmental Area designated pursuant to Article 8 of the ECL, and 6 NYCRR 617?  ■ Yes  ■ No

20. Has the site ever been used for the disposal of solid or hazardous wastes?  ■ Yes  ■ No

B. Project Description

1. Physical dimensions and scale of project (fill in dimensions as appropriate).
   a. Total contiguous acreage owned or controlled by project sponsor: 23.5 acres.
   b. Project acreage to be developed: 1.65 acres initially; 23.5 acres ultimately.
   c. Project acreage to remain undeveloped: 0 acres.
   d. Length of project, in miles: NA (if appropriate)
   e. If the project is an expansion, indicate percent of expansion proposed. NA %
   f. Number of off-street parking spaces existing 306; proposed NA
   g. Maximum vehicular trips generated per hour: 1/0 (upon completion of project)?
   h. If residential: Number and type of housing units:

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>One Family</th>
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<th>Multiple Family</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ultimately</td>
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</table>

   i. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: .50 height; .84 width; 250 length.
   j. Linear feet of frontage along a public thoroughfare project will occupy is? 1,600 ft.

2. How much natural material (i.e. rock, earth, etc.) will be removed from the site? 2-6 tons/cubic yards.

3. Will disturbed areas be reclaimed  ■ Yes  ■ No  ■ N/A
   a. If yes, for what intended purpose is the site being reclaimed?
   Landscaping and exhibits

   b. Will topsoil be stockpiled for reclamation?  ■ Yes  ■ No
   c. Will upper subsoil be stockpiled for reclamation?  ■ Yes  ■ No

4. How many acres of vegetation (trees, shrubs, ground covers) will be removed from site? 0.2-0.4 acres.
5. Will any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally-important vegetation be removed by this project?  
   [ ] Yes  [ ] No

6. If single phase project: Anticipated period of construction: ___NA__ months, (including demolition)

7. If multi-phased:
   a. Total number of phases anticipated ___9__ (number)
   b. Anticipated date of commencement phase 1: ___ month ___2002__ year, (including demolition)
   c. Approximate completion date of final phase: ___ month ___2017__ year.
   d. Is phase 1 functionally dependent on subsequent phases?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

8. Will blasting occur during construction?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

9. Number of jobs generated: during construction ___50-100_; after project is complete: ___25_

10. Number of jobs eliminated by this project ___0__.

11. Will project require relocation of any projects or facilities?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
    If yes, explain:
    
12. Is surface liquid waste disposal involved?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
    a. If yes, indicate type of waste (sewage, industrial, etc) and amount ___sewage 6,000-10,000 gpd___
    b. Name of water body into which effluent will be discharged ___Niagara River via Buffalo Sewer Auth.____

13. Is subsurface liquid waste disposal involved?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No  Type _______________________

14. Will surface area of an existing water body increase or decrease by proposal?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
    If yes, explain:
    
    Removal of two man-made duck ponds, five bear pools & installation of new water features in the exhibits and public areas

15. Is project or any portion of project located in a 100 year flood plain?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

16. Will the project generate solid waste?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
    a. If yes, what is the amount per month? ___300 tons/cy___
    b. If yes, will an existing solid waste facility be used?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
    c. If yes, give name ___Modern Landfill___; location ___Niagara County, New York___
    d. Will any wastes not go into a sewage disposal system or into a sanitary landfill?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No
e. If yes, explain:

Construction/demolition waste to be recycled or disposed of legally at contractor's discretion, veterinary wastes and water filtration media per zoo waste disposal programs and state regulations.

17. Will the project involve the disposal of solid waste? □ Yes □ No
   a. If yes, what is the anticipated rate of disposal? ______ tons/month.
   b. If yes, what is the anticipated site life? ______ years.

18. Will project use herbicides or pesticides? □ Yes □ No No Storage

19. Will project routinely produce odors (more than one hour per day)? □ Yes □ No

20. Will project produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels? □ Yes □ No

21. Will project result in an increase in energy use? □ Yes □ No

   If yes, indicate type(s)

   New exhibits and renovated facilities will be designed for high efficiency and according to New York State Energy Codes.

22. If water supply is from wells, indicate pumping capacity ______ gallons/minute.

23. Total anticipated water usage per day 200 thousand gallons/day.

24. Does project involve Local, State or Federal funding? □ Yes □ No

   If yes, explain:

   Erie County Capital Budget, Empire State Development Corp., among several future sources.
25. Approvals Required:

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<td>for new const. &amp; renovation</td>
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<td>Federal Agencies</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>Dept. of Agriculture</td>
<td>Various</td>
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</table>

C. Zoning and Planning Information

1. Does proposed action involve a planning or zoning decision? ☐ Yes ☐ No

   If Yes, indicate decision required:
   ☐ Zoning amendment ☐ Zoning variance ☐ New/revision of master plan ☐ Subdivision
   ☐ Site plan ☐ Special use permit ☐ Resource management plan ☐ Other
2. What is the zoning classification(s) of the site?

R1 One-Family District

3. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the present zoning?

Religious or educational facilities or ~122 housing units

4. What is the proposed zoning of the site?

Same

5. What is the maximum potential development of the site if developed as permitted by the proposed zoning?

NA

6. Is the proposed action consistent with the recommended uses in adopted local land use plans? □ Yes □ No

7. What are the predominant land use(s) and zoning classifications within a ¼ mile radius of proposed action?

Residential R1 and R2, institutional and recreational uses.

8. Is the proposed action compatible with adjoining/surrounding land uses with a ¼ mile? □ Yes □ No

9. If the proposed action is the subdivision of land, how many lots are proposed? NA

   a. What is the minimum lot size proposed?
10. Will proposed action require any authorization(s) for the formation of sewer or water districts? □ Yes □ No

11. Will the proposed action create a demand for any community provided services (recreation, education, police, fire protection)? □ Yes □ No

a. If yes, is existing capacity sufficient to handle projected demand? □ Yes □ No

12. Will the proposed action result in the generation of traffic significantly above present levels? □ Yes □ No

a. If yes, is the existing road network adequate to handle the additional traffic. □ Yes □ No

D. Informational Details

Attach any additional information as may be needed to clarify your project. If there are or may be any adverse impacts associated with your proposal, please discuss such impacts and the measures which you propose to mitigate or avoid them.

E. Verification

I certify that the information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name Donna M. Fernandes Date 17 June, 2006

Signature

Title President/CEO

If the action is in the Coastal Area, and you are a state agency, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.
Part 2 – PROJECT IMPACTS AND THEIR MAGNITUDE
Responsibility of Lead Agency

General Information (Read Carefully)
- In completing the form the reviewer should be guided by the question: Have my responses and determinations been reasonable? The reviewer is not expected to be an expert environmental analyst.
- The Examples provided are to assist the reviewer by showing types of impacts and wherever possible the threshold of magnitude that would trigger a response in column 2. The examples are generally applicable throughout the State and for most situations. But, for any specific project or site other examples and/or lower thresholds may be appropriate for a Potential Large Impact response, thus requiring evaluation in Part 3.
- The impacts of each project, on each site, in each locality, will vary. Therefore, the examples are illustrative and have been offered as guidance. They do not constitute an exhaustive list of impacts and thresholds to answer each question.
- The number of examples per question does not indicate the importance of each question.
- In identifying impacts, consider long term, short term and cumulative effects.

**Instructions (Read carefully)**

a. Answer each of the 20 questions in PART 2. Answer Yes if there will be any impact.

b. **Maybe** answers should be considered as Yes answers.

c. If answering Yes to a question then check the appropriate box (column 1 or 2) to indicate the potential size of the impact. If impact threshold equals or exceeds any example provided, check column 2. If impact will occur but threshold is lower than example, check column 1.

d. Identifying that an impact will be potentially large (column 2) does not mean that it is also necessarily significant. Any large impact must be evaluated in PART 3 to determine significance. Identifying an impact in column 2 simply asks that it be looked at further.

e. If reviewer has doubt about size of the impact then consider the impact as potentially large and proceed to PART 3.

f. If a potentially large impact checked in column 2 can be mitigated by change(s) in the project to a small to moderate impact, also check the Yes box in column 3. A No response indicates that such a reduction is not possible. This must be explained in Part 3.

### IMPACT ON LAND

1. Will the proposed action result in a physical change to the project site?
   - Yes [ ] No [ ]
   - Examples that would apply to column 2
     - Any construction on slopes of 15% or greater, (15 foot rise per 100 foot of length), or where the general slopes in the project area exceed 10%.
     - Construction on land where the depth to the water table is less than 3 feet.
     - Construction of paved parking area for 1,000 or more vehicles.
     - Construction on land where bedrock is exposed or generally within 3 feet of existing ground surface.
     - Construction that will continue for more than 1 year or involve more than one phase or stage.
     - Excavation for mining purposes that would remove more than 1,000 tons of natural material (i.e., rock or soil) per year.
     - Construction or expansion of a sanitary landfill.
     - Construction in a designated floodway
     - Other impacts: ____________________________

2. Will there be an effect to any unique or unusual land forms found on the site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, geological formations, etc.)
   - Yes [ ] No [ ]
   - Specific land forms: ____________________________

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<td>Yes [ ] No [ ]</td>
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</table>
### IMPACT ON WATER

3. Will the proposed action affect any water body designated as protected? (Under Articles 15, 24, 25 of the Environmental Conservation Law, ECL) □ Yes □ No
   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Developable area of site contains a protected water body.
   - Dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a channel of a protected stream.
   - Extension of utility distribution facilities through a protected water body.
   - Construction in a designated freshwater or tidal wetland.
   - Other impacts: ____________________________

4. Will proposed action affect any non-protected existing or new body of water? □ Yes □ No
   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - A 10% increase or decrease in the surfaces area of any body of water or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease
   - Construction of a body of water that exceeds 10 acres of surface area.
   - Other impacts: ____________________________

5. Will Proposed Action affect surface or groundwater quality or quantity? □ Yes □ No
   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Proposed Action will require a discharge permit.
   - Proposed Action requires use of a source of water that does not have approval to serve proposed (project) action.
   - Proposed Action requires water supply from wells with greater than 45 gallons per minute pumping capacity.
   - Construction or operation causing any contamination of a water supply system.
   - Proposed Action will adversely affect groundwater.
   - Liquid effluent will be conveyed off the site to facilities which presently do not exist or have inadequate capacity.
   - Proposed Action would use water in excess of 20,000 gallons per day.
   - Proposed Action will likely cause siltation or other discharge into an existing body of water to the extent that there will be an obvious visual contrast to natural conditions.
   - Proposed Action will require the storage of petroleum or chemical products greater than 1,100 gallons.
   - Proposed Action will allow residential uses in areas without water and/or sewer services.
   - Proposed Action locates commercial and/or industrial uses which may require new or expansion of existing waste treatment and/or storage facilities.
   - Other impacts: ____________________________

6. Will Proposed Action alter drainage flow patterns, or surface water runoff? □ Yes □ No
   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Proposed Action would change floodwater flows.
   - Proposed Action may cause substantial erosion.
   - Proposed Action is incompatible with existing drainage patterns.
   - Proposed Action will allow development in a designated floodway.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1</th>
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<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small to Moderate Impact</td>
<td>Potential Large Impact</td>
<td>Can Impact Be Mitigated By Project Change</td>
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</table>

□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
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□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
- Other Impacts: 

**IMPACT ON AIR**

7. Will Proposed Action affect air quality?  
   ✓ Yes  ☐ No  
   
   Examples that would apply to column 2  
   
   - Proposed Action will induce 1,000 or more vehicle trips in any given hour.  
   - Proposed Action will result in the incineration of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.  
   - Emission rate of total contaminants will exceed 5 lb. per hour or a heat source producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.  
   - Proposed Action will allow an increase in the amount of land committed to industrial use.  
   - Proposed Action will allow an increase in the density of industrial Development within existing industrial areas.  
   - Other Impacts: 

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<tr>
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**IMPACT ON PLANTS AND ANIMALS**

8. Will Proposed Action affect any threatened or endangered species?  
   ✓ Yes  ☐ No  
   
   Examples that would apply to column 2  
   
   - Reduction of one or more species listed on the New York or Federal list, using the site, over or near site or found on the site.  
   - Removal of any portion of a critical or significant wildlife habitat.  
   - Application of pesticide of herbicde more than twice a year, other than for agricultural purposes.  
   - Other Impacts: 

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9. Will Proposed Action substantially affect non-threatened or non-endangered species?  
   ☐ Yes  ✓ No  
   
   Examples that would apply to column 2  
   
   - Proposed Action would substantially interfere with any resident or Migratory fish, shellfish, or wildlife species.  
   - Proposed Action requires the removal of more than 10 acres of mature forest (over 100 years of age) or other locally important vegetation.  

   IMPACT ON AGRICULTURAL LAND RESOURCES

10. Will Proposed Action affect agricultural land resource?  
    ☐ Yes  ✓ No  
    
    Examples that would apply to column 2  
    
    - The Proposed Action would sever, cross or limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc.)  
    - Construction activity would excavate or compact the soil profile of agricultural land.  
    - The Proposed Action would irreversibly convert more than 10 acres of agricultural land or, if located in an Agricultural District, more than 2.5 acres of agricultural land.  
    - The Proposed Action would disrupt or prevent installation of agricultural land management systems (e.g., subsurface drain lines, outlet ditches, strip cropping); or create a need for such measures (e.g., cause a farm field to drain poorly due to increased runoff).  
    - Other Impacts: 

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**IMPACT ON AESTHETIC RESOURCES**

11. Will the Proposed Action affect aesthetic resources? (If necessary, use the Visual EAF Addendum in Section 617.20, Appendix B.)
   - Yes [ ]
   - No [ ]

   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Proposed land uses, or project components obviously different from or in sharp contrast to current surrounding land use patterns, whether man-made or natural.
   - Proposed land uses, or project components visible to users of aesthetic resources which will eliminate or significantly reduce their enjoyment of the aesthetic qualities of that resource.
   - Project components that will result in the elimination or significant screening of scenic views known to be important to the area.
   - Other impacts: __________________________________________________________________________

**IMPACT ON HISTORICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

12. Will Proposed Action impact any site or structure of historic, prehistoric or paleontological importance?
   - Yes [ ]
   - No [ ]

   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Proposed action occurring wholly or partially within or substantially contiguous to any facility or site listed on the State or National Register of historic places.
   - Any impact on an archeological site or fossil bed located within the project site.
   - Proposed action will occur in an area designated as sensitive for Archeological sites on the NYS Site Inventory.
   - Other impacts: __________________________________________________________________________

**IMPACT ON OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION**

13. Will Proposed Action affect the quantity or quality of existing or future open spaces or recreational opportunities?
   - Yes [ ]
   - No [ ]

   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - The permanent foreclosure of a future recreational opportunity.
   - A major reduction of an open space important to the community.
   - Other impacts: PROJECT GOAL IS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF EXISTING RECREATIONAL SITE

**IMPACT ON CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS**

14. Will Proposed Action impact the exceptional or unique characteristics of a critical environmental area (CEA) established pursuant to subdivision 6 NYCRR 617.14(g)?
   - Yes [ ]
   - No [ ]

   List the environmental characteristics that caused the designation of the CEA:
   ________________________________________________________________________________________

   Examples that would apply to column 2:
   - Proposed action to locate within the CEA.
   - Proposed action will result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource.
   - Proposed action will result in a reduction in the quality of the resource.
   - Proposed action will impact the use, function or enjoyment of the resource.
   - Other impacts: ________________________________________________________________________

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9
### IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION

15. Will there be an effect to existing transportation systems?

- Alteration of present patterns of movement of people and/or goods.
- Proposed Action will result in major traffic problems of a protected stream.
- Other Impacts: 

### IMPACT ON ENERGY

16. Will Proposed Action affect the community’s sources of fuel or energy supply?

- Proposed Action will cause a greater than 5% increase in the use of any form of energy in the municipality.
- Proposed Action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two family residences or to serve a major commercial or industrial use.
- Other Impacts:

### NOISE AND ODOR IMPACTS

17. Will there be objectionable odors, noise, or vibration as a result of the Proposed Action?

- Blasting within 1,500 feet of a hospital, school or other sensitive facility.
- Odors will occur routinely (more than one hour per day).
- Proposed Action will produce operating noise exceeding the local ambient noise levels for noise outside of structures.
- Proposed Action will remove natural barriers that would act as a noise screen.
- Other Impacts:

### IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH

18. Will Proposed Action affect public health and safety?

- Proposed Action may cause a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (i.e. oil, pesticides, chemicals, radiation, etc.) in the event of accident or upset conditions, or there may be a chronic low level discharge or emission.
- Proposed Action may result in the burial of “hazardous wastes” in any form (i.e. toxic, poisonous, highly reactive, radioactive, irritating, infectious, etc.)
- Storage facilities for one million or more gallons of liquefied natural gas or other flammable liquids.
- Proposed Action may result in the excavation or other disturbance within 2,000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.
- Other Impacts:

### IMPACT ON GROWTH AND CHARACTER OF COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD

19. Will Proposed Action affect the character of the existing community?

- The permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located is likely to grow by more than 5%.
- The municipal budget for capital expenditures or operating services will increase by more than 5% per year as a result of this project.
• Proposed Action will conflict with officially adopted plans or goals.

• Proposed Action will cause a change in the density of land use.

• Proposed Action will replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures or areas of historic importance to the community.

• Development will create a demand for additional community services (e.g., schools, police and fire, etc.)

• Proposed Action will set an important precedent for future projects.

• Proposed Action will create or eliminate employment.

• Other impacts: ____________________________

20. Is there, or is there likely to be, public controversy related to potential adverse environmental impacts?

   □ Yes  □ No

If any action in Part 2 is identified as a potential large impact or if you cannot determine the magnitude of impact, proceed to Part 3.
Part 3 — EVALUATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPACTS

Responsibility of Lead Agency

Part 3 must be prepared if one or more impact(s) is considered to be potentially large, even if the impact(s) may be mitigated.

Instructions
Discuss the following for each impact identified in Column 2 of Part 2:
1. Briefly describe the impact.
2. Describe (if applicable) how the impact could be mitigated or reduced to a small to moderate impact by project change(s).
3. Based on the information available, decide if it is reasonable to conclude that this impact is important.
   To answer the question of importance, consider:
   • The probability of the impact occurring
   • The duration of the impact
   • Its irreversibility, including permanently lost resources of value
   • Whether the impact can or will be controlled
   • The regional consequence of the impact
   • Its potential divergence from local needs and goals
   • Whether known objections to the project relate to this impact.

(Continue on attachments.)
ZOO SITE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
SEQR EAF – PART 3
EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE OF IMPACTS

5. Impact on Water

Water usage exceeds 500,000 gallons per day at the Zoo; however, several of the projects in the plan will result in decreased water usage as recycling and water recirculation systems are included. In the case of the Artic Edge Exhibit, a recirculating salt-water system will replace fresh water. Water remains a major theme within the Zoo, but quantities will be significantly reduced by recycling and recirculation/ filtration systems resulting in lower discharges to the city sewer system. The elimination of some exhibits combined with the mitigation measures of water recycling/recirculation systems will reduce water consumption impacts to close to 200,000 gallons per day. The Buffalo Sewer Authority has also determined that a State Pollution Discharge Elimination System general permit for Stormwater discharges from construction activities will not be required as the discharges will be entering a combined sewer system.

12. Impact on Historical Resources

The Zoo plan calls for the demolition of the 1955 refreshment concession stand and the majority of animal holding buildings and cages, including the bear pits. They will be replaced with modern facilities meeting space requirements and new standards for animal care and husbandry. The Buffalo Zoo is on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing component of the Olmsted Parks and Parkways Thematic Resources listing. The plan will maintain the symmetry of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) plan while utilizing curved pathways within exhibit areas. Trees and shrubs will also embellish the grounds. The New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has approved the plan in concept but will review each of the plan’s new exhibits as they are designed and each project is implemented over the 15-year plan’s duration. All contributing structures will be preserved with the exception of the concession stand which will be removed to restore the view of the Delaware Park meadow from the Zoo grounds. The above measures and specific plan consultation with SHPO for all future projects will mitigate the plan’s impact on historical resources.

17. Noise and Odor Impacts

The impact of blasting the shallow bedrock, when necessary for exhibit construction, will be mitigated by careful scheduling to avoid school hours and early morning or late evenings. All other protective measures prescribed for blasting will be followed by contractors. This will be a short term impact during construction phases.

Smaller impacts include solid waste generation and management and occasional traffic/parking congestion during major Zoo events. Solid waste, including visitor garbage, animal wastes, veterinary/medical wastes and rodenticides are managed by Zoo personnel and private waste contractors for proper handling, application and disposal.
During demolition friable asbestos will be removed for proper disposal per New York State Regulations. The remaining debris will be disposed of or recycled at the contractor's discretion. Since old painted cages (containing lead) will be removed, lead waste should not be a concern. These solid waste mitigation measures should reduce the impact on the human and animal environment.

Fuel oil is stored in an underground tank for use as an alternative fuel to natural gas for firing the Zoo heating plant.

The Zoo has several major events each year which may result in parking overflowing the 300-space parking lot and spreading out onto Parkside Avenue and other local streets. This may cause short term traffic congestion, noise and auto emissions. Mitigation measures under consideration include encouraging visitors to use mass transit and establishing auxiliary park and shuttle ride lots during the major events.

Overall, the positive benefits of a modernized Zoo in terms of improved animal habitat, new visitor exhibits and services and increased regional tourism and recreation will outweigh the negative environmental impacts evaluated in this Assessment. Mitigation measures incorporated in the 15-year site improvement plan will further reduce these impacts.
Critical Need to Rebuild the Buffalo Zoo

We recognize that the Buffalo Zoo’s new master plan will have a significant impact on the original WPA plan. However, many of the animal holding facilities are functionally obsolete because the minimal standards for animal care and husbandry have changed substantially since the 1930’s. Back then, the animals at the Zoo were treated much like props within a formal landscape garden. Little thought was given to meeting minimum standards for animal welfare. All of the existing WPA holding barns need to be replaced because their hard concrete surfaces, dark interiors, uninsulated construction, lack of running water, and absence of heating and ventilation limit modern husbandry and management practices.

In addition, many of the original WPA exhibits offer 360° viewing of the animals—a cardinal sin by today’s standards since the animals do not have a chance to get out of view from the public or attain a sufficient flight distance from visitors. Our new exhibit layouts will provide back walls and hides for animals to reduce stress.

Many of the materials used in construction of the WPA buildings have also been found to have demonstrably ill effects on animals. The lead paint contained within the bars of our old primate house led to multiple miscarriages and lead poisoning in several species of monkey until those cages were demolished for our Vanishing Animals exhibit. Since that time, we have had a marked improvement in the health of our primate collection. High lead content persists within our old condor cage and the two outdoor pavilions housing our red pandas, caracal lynx, porcupines, Cinereous vultures, snowy owls, maned wolves, and collared peccaries. In addition, the old condor cage is no longer considered adequate by modern standards of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA), as it does not allow sufficient space for the animals to take flight. Recently, we were forced to send our Andean condors, an endangered species, to another Zoo because of the inadequacy of this exhibit. In the new master plan, a spacious free-flight area will be created for a large bird of prey adjacent to our Reptile House.

Our gorilla troop has also suffered from chronic diarrhea because they are unable to spend anytime outdoors. Sunlight is known to improve vitamin D synthesis and calcium regulation. In addition, a large outdoor habitat will reduce stress and cut back on ballantidium outbreaks (the protozoan responsible for their diarrhea). The new master plan calls for a large outdoor gorilla habitat adjacent to their current indoor habitat so that our gorillas can enjoy six months of natural sunlight and fresh air.

The Buffalo Zoo’s bear exhibits are also in dire need of replacement. The exhibits are dangerous to service because the underground dens do not allow keepers to easily view when the bears have shifted. The concrete surfaces are hard on joints and abrasive to the bears’ fur and skin. The exhibit pools do not have re-circulating systems so hundreds of thousands of gallons of water go down the drain each year. Although the bear exhibit pools were built at a time when unlimited water was free to the Zoo from the City of Buffalo, that arrangement is about to change with the transfer of ownership from the City of Buffalo to Erie County. In addition, the new husbandry standard for polar bears is to keep them in a salt water system. Our new polar bear habitat will have a larger area
devoted to the bears, natural substrates (soil, turf), air-conditioned dens, and re-circulating saltwater pools. With the new improvements to the Zoo, all of our currently open systems will be replaced with closed re-circulating, filtered systems to conserve water.

Standards for elephant husbandry have also changed dramatically over the last 70 years. We currently do not meet the minimum indoor space requirements for our three female elephants. In addition, the new husbandry guidelines indicate that Zoos wishing to maintain Asian elephants in the future need to be able to house a bull elephant as well. The Zoo’s master plan includes a new bull facility that will also be able to accommodate one of our elephant cows so that we can be in compliance with the new regulations.

Design Philosophy

The Buffalo Zoo is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing component of the Olmsted Parks and Parkways Thematic Resources listing. Frederick Law Olmsted is the Father of the American landscape architecture movement and Buffalo’s systems of parks and parkways is a nationally recognized example of his style and genius. Therefore, we have tried to incorporate many of his design principles into the Zoo’s new master plan. Specifically, on page 3 of the nomination, it states that Olmsted’s plan for Delaware Park “called for embellishing the grounds with trees and shrubs and winding roadways and paths. The design echoed the English romantic landscaping tradition.” While we have preserved the strong axial symmetry of the WPA plan for the primary pathways within the zoo, we have utilized curved pathways within the major exhibit areas (Asia, Africa, Arctic, etc) to create more naturalistic views of the animal habitats and to echo Olmsted’s original style for the zoo. Olmsted also included a variety of water features within the Buffalo Parks system, many of which have now been lost or diminished. In our master plan, we have designed water elements (e.g. a river, a waterfall, a watering hole) within each of the major exhibit areas, again, to reflect Olmsted’s style.

Although our original site plan for the Buffalo Zoo obliterated the WPA layout, subsequent discussions with Rick Lord and Julian Adams have indicated that the Zoo’s strong axial symmetry, which dates from the Works Progress Administration (WPA), also contributes to the Zoo’s historic significance. The new site plan has restored the original layout of the WPA Zoo. In particular, we have retained the major pathway linking the front end of the zoo to the Main Animal Building and the dominant curved pathway below the bear exhibits. We also have restored the center circle (the old seal exhibit) and the smaller pathways that radiate from it. This center circle will serve as the hub to four major exhibit areas that will radiate from it: the new Wonder’s of Water Children’s Zoo, the Arctic Edge, the South American Rainforest, and the African Watering Hole.

Three buildings are specifically called out within the nomination as Contributing Structures: The Main Zoo Building (1935-1940), the Shelter House (1900), and the Elephant House (1912). Non-contributing Structures include the Children’s Zoo (1965), the Zoo Visitor’s Center (1979), the Zoo Concession Stand (1955), and the Giraffe House. We intend to preserve the buildings cited within the nomination, and in fact, nearly every building at the Zoo that was designed for public occupation. These include the Main Animal Building, the Shelter House, the Elephant House, the Giraffe House, the Charles Drew Science Magnet School (attached to the Main Building), the Maintenance Building, the Zoo Gift Shop (to be renovated into a restaurant), and the World of Wildlife Building (now the Boehm gallery). The only exception is our current Concession Stand, which will be demolished to restore the view from the Zoo to the adjacent meadow of Delaware Park. The majority of animal holding buildings and cages, however, will be demolished and replaced with modern facilities in order to satisfy space requirements and new standards for animal care and husbandry. Buildings to be replaced include the old hoof stock barns; Children’s Zoo barn, bear pits,
outdoor pavilions, and condor cage. In the Zoo site plan, buildings to be retained are shown in gray while new buildings are shown in red. A complete listing of current buildings to be demolished and new buildings to be constructed is provided in Appendix II.

The Buffalo Zoo’s new master plan will dramatically upgrade the quality of life for its animals and greatly improve the public’s enjoyment of the Zoo. The new naturalistic habitats will meet or exceed current AZA standards for exhibit and holding space, water quality, husbandry, and care. In addition, the strong axial symmetry of the Zoo will be retained to preserve the historic character of the WPA plan. We believe that the revised master plan combines the best of both worlds. It is our hope that these changes to the Buffalo Zoo will arrest the downward spiral in attendance that the Zoo has experienced over the last 30 years (see graph below). Unfortunately, as neighboring Zoos in New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio have upgraded their animal exhibits, the Buffalo Zoo’s outdated facilities have come under greater criticism by both the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and the general public. Unless we reverse this trend, the Buffalo Zoo’s long-term survival will be in jeopardy.
Buffalo Zoo 15 Year Physical Improvement Plan

Scale: 1" = 40'-0" 05/24/04
Current Buildings to be demolished (locations 1-12)
July 11, 2006

Mr. Andrew M. Eszak
Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
95 Franklin Street, Room 1053
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Mr. Eszak:

SEQR LEAD AGENCY DESIGNATION
BUFFALO ZOO SITE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
CITY OF BUFFALO - ERIE COUNTY

In response to Erie County’s SEQR Lead Agency solicitation for the above-noted project, please be advised of the following:

1. Demolition debris should be properly disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations. If asbestos exists in the buildings to be demolished, the protection of workers is regulated by the New York State Department of Labor (716/847-7126) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 716/684-3891. In addition, the disposal of friable (readily crumbled and brittle) asbestos is regulated by this Department under 6 NYCRR Part 360-2.17(p). For more information on the disposal of friable asbestos, the project sponsor should contact Mr. Mark Hans (716/851-7220) of this Department.

Also, if elemental mercury and/or lead is present in the buildings being demolished, the project sponsor should contact Mr. Thomas Corbett of this Department (716/851-7220) or email the Department's Mercury Task Force (dshmwr@gw.dec.state.ny.us) for guidance on the proper handling and disposal of these materials. Mercury is found in many different common items such as fluorescent lights and electrical switches while lead is mainly found in older paints (pre-1980).

2. If project activities may involve land disturbance of over 1 acre, the project sponsor is required to obtain a State Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit GP-02-01 for Stormwater Discharge from Construction Activities. A Notice of Intent (NOI) is required to be sent to NYSDEC, Bureau of Water Permits, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-3505, telephone: 518/402-8111, and approved before construction commences. The General Permit GP-02-01 and NOI form are available on the Department's web site at www.dec.state.ny.us.

We concur that Erie County should act as SEQR Lead Agency as the proposal is primarily of local significance.

Thank you for providing this office the opportunity to review the proposed project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Frank Price or me at 716/851-7165.

Respectfully,

David Denk
Deputy Permit Administrator

FP:vm

cc: Mr. Mark Hans, Region 9 Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials
    Mr. Thomas Corbett, Region 9 Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials
    Ms. Donna M. Fernandes, President/CEO Zoological Society of Buffalo
July 17, 2006

RE: Buffalo Zoo, South American Rain Forest
State Stormwater Permit for Stormwater Discharge

Dear Mr. Kinsman:

After reviewing your letter dated July 13, 2006 concerning the Buffalo Zoo, South American Rain Forest Construction Project and the New York DEC’s requirements for a State Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit GP-02-01 for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities, we find that this project does not require a SPDES General Permit GP-02-01. The fact that your discharge will be entering a combined sewer system negates the need for a SPDES General Permit GP-02-01.

The review of the project’s plans, that were submitted to the BSA’s Engineering Department, were complete. The plans complied with the BSA’s Combined Sewer Overflow Best Management Practices for Managing Stormwater Runoff from New Development.

If you have any further questions in regards to this project or any other project, please feel free to contact me at 883-1820 ext. 250.

Very truly yours,

BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY

Leslie Sedita
Industrial Waste Administrator

LS:bs
Cc: D. Comerford
    F. DiMascio
    J. Keller

FILE:L/FDOCS/LS/LTR06/KINSMAN-BUFFALOZOORAINFOREST.DOC
September 22, 2005

Re: ESDC/SEQRA
South American Rainforest Exhibit
Buffalo Zoological Gardens
C/ Buffalo, Erie County
04PR02955

Ms. Gwen A. Howard
Folt-Albert Associates
763 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14203-1396

Dear Ms. Howard:

Thank you for providing the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) with revised materials for the South American Rainforest Exhibit in the Buffalo Zoological Gardens, which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This information, provided in response to issues we discussed at a July 11, 2005 meeting in our Waterford offices, has been reviewed under Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.

Based on this review, OPRHP is pleased to confirm that our concerns have been addressed and our recommendations have been incorporated. It is appropriate for this portion of the larger undertaking to proceed, with the understanding that the South American Rainforest Exhibit will be constructed and detailed as described in your July 29, 2005 letter and the drawings that accompanied it, and that any changes from those drawings will be submitted for SHPO review and approval.

The SHPO has no interest in assuming Lead Agency status under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and should be considered an Interested Party under SEQRA.

We appreciate your traveling to Waterford to discuss this proposal in person and wish you success in seeing this component of the Zoo expansion to a successful completion. Please telephone me at 518/237-8643, ext. 3276 with any questions you may have. Please also refer to the PR# above in any future correspondence for this project.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Lord
Historic Sites Restoration Coordinator
(Richard.Lord@OPRHP.state.ny.us)

cc: Dr. Donna Fernandes, President/CEO
Buffalo Zoological Gardens
300 Parkside Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14214
Greg Bernas, City of Buffalo Planning
Thomas Marchese, Buffalo Preservation Board
January 25, 2012

Ms. Donna Fernandes  
Zoological Society of Buffalo, Inc.  
300 Parkside Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14214-1999

Dear Ms. Fernandes:

The Design Review Committee of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy has reviewed your proposal for a new Entry Plaza and Arctic Edge exhibit at the Buffalo Zoo. We are happy to support this important project. Relocation of the Zoo entrance to the corner of Parkside and Jewett will help to establish this area as a stronger gateway into Delaware Park. The proposed Arctic habitat will be a great improvement over the current bear exhibit and will enhance the Zoo’s greenspace by adding significant natural landscaping in place of the barren concrete.

We look forward to the continued renewal and enhancement of the Buffalo Zoo as a major cultural asset to our region and a cultural jewel located in one of the Buffalo Olmsted Parks.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas Herrera-Mishler  
CEO and President  
Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy
MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR ARCTIC EXHIBIT

DAILY
1) Check building temp.
2) Check operation of 2 circulating pumps.
3) Check operation of 2 ozone circulating pumps.
4) Check operation of 2 ozone generators.
5) Check operation of brine circulating pump.
6) Check operation of chill water circulating pump.
7) Check operation of chill water heat exchanger pumps.
8) Check operation of ozone generator chill water system.
9) Check operation of circulating pump variable speed drive.
10) Check ozone room monitor reading.
11) Check chiller condenser operation.
12) Check operation of 2 protein fractionator pumps.
13) Ozone contact chamber degas valves – check operation, replace as needed.

MONTHLY
1) Check operation of motorized air intake louvers.
2) Lubricate and check fasteners of static screen filters.
3) Lubricate and check oil levels of rotating drum filters.

3 MONTHS
1) Bead filter motors – grease motors, check seals.

6 MONTHS
1) Change oil in 2 ozone circulating pumps.
2) Change oil on brine circulating pump.
3) Change oil on 2 exhibit circulating pumps.
4) Change oil on 2 foam fractionator pumps.
5) Clean chill water evaporator unit.
6) Clean chill water condenser unit.

ANNUALLY
1) Test plasma block ozone system; replace as needed.
2) Rebuild oxygen concentrator compressors.
3) Fill and test run chill water system for summer.
4) Clean 3 ceiling exhaust fan units.
5) Clean and test ceiling unit heater.