

**From:** [Mindy Cuppy](#)  
**To:** [Agenda](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please deny the proposed Land Park Zoo expansion  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 23, 2025 9:45:34 AM

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**From:** Debi Gordon <dgordon904@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 23, 2025 9:44 AM

**To:** Mindy Cuppy <mcuppy@cityofsacramento.org>; Rick Jennings <rjennings@cityofsacramento.org>; Commission Submit <commissionsubmit@cityofsacramento.org>; publiccomment@cityofsacramento.org; dvsmith@sacbee.com

**Subject:** Please deny the proposed Land Park Zoo expansion

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I love William Land Park and value the Sacramento Zoo, but I oppose the proposal to expand the Zoo's footprint in Land Park (about a 41% increase across two parcels). With extreme heat already making outdoor life unsafe for people and animals, this is the wrong move in the wrong place.

**Heat risk for people and animals**

Longer, hotter summers are here. Adding crowds, hardscape, and heat-absorbing surfaces will raise local temperatures and stress animals and staff. Without a dramatic, verified net gain in shade canopy and passive cooling, expansion would make conditions worse, not better.

**Water and energy use**

A larger facility typically drives up water demand (landscaping, animal care, misting) and cooling loads. In a climate-stressed region, we should reduce—not increase—resource-intensive uses in core parkland.

**Taxpayer exposure**

In the canceled Elk Grove plan, the total build was pegged around \$302M, with a cost-sharing agreement and the Zoological Society expected to raise \$50M. That precedent is why folks want clarity before backing any new plan in Land Park. With annual operating costs around \$12M in 2023, I'm concerned about who pays, how much, and when. No land transfer or construction should proceed without a clear, public financing plan that shields taxpayers.

Before approving any change of this scale, a climate-smart city must weigh heat, water, and financial risk to taxpayers. By those tests, this proposal raises multiple red flags.

Please deny the Land Park expansion as proposed.

Thank you for your service and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Debra Gordon

