

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-1534, AREPEALING METRO CODE SECTION 2.19.240 (OREGON ZOO BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE) AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW, UPDATED METRO CODE SECTION 2.19.240 (OREGON ZOO BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE)

Date: July 14, 2025
Department: Oregon Zoo
Meeting Date: July 31, 2025

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BACKGROUND

On May 22, 2024, Metro area voters passed Ballot Measure 26-244 authorizing Metro to issue up to \$380 million of general obligation bonds to fund Oregon Zoo capital projects to:

- Improve facilities to enhance educational opportunities for children and other visitors to learn about animals and habitat conservation.
- Conserve water and energy in operations and updated infrastructure.
- Improve facilities supporting the zoo's conservation work protecting and restoring threatened and endangered species in the Northwest and beyond.
- Increase accessibility for visitors of all abilities, including improved paths and exhibits.
- Improve protection from heat and extreme weather for animals and visitors.
- Improve facilities to prepare for animal care in a natural disaster or emergency.

The bond measure language included a public accountability plan which requires annual audits, and annual reports to Metro Council by a community oversight committee.

Ordinance No. 25-1534 amends Metro Code Chapter 2.19 to establish the Oregon Zoo Bond Oversight Committee.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. Known Opposition: No opposition known.

2. Legal Antecedents: Metro area voters approved the Oregon Zoo Bond Measure 26-244 during the election held on May 21, 2024.

3. Anticipated Effects: This ordinance amends Metro Code Chapter 2.19 to establish the Oregon Zoo Bond Oversight Committee.

4. Budget Impacts: There are no material budget impacts associated with this resolution.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Chief Operating Officer recommends adoption of this ordinance.