

IMAGINE TOMORROW

— OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE —

LITTLE ROCK ZOO STORYBOOK

LITTLE ROCK ZOO
CONSERVE LEARN CARE

A Legacy of Wonder

Nestled in the heart of Little Rock, the Little Rock Zoo has been a place of wonder, learning, and connection since 1924. Generations of families have walked our paths, discovering the beauty and diversity of the natural world while creating memories that last a lifetime.

But the Zoo is more than a destination. We are a center for wildlife conservation, education, and community connection. Every experience offers an opportunity to spark curiosity, build connections with wildlife, and inspire a deeper understanding of the role we all play in protecting animals and the places they call home. From conservation efforts here in Arkansas to partnerships around the world, our work reaches far beyond the Zoo's gates.

As we look to the future, the Little Rock Zoo continues to grow, evolve, and invest in what comes next. Through thoughtful planning, responsible stewardship, and continued investment in our animals, facilities, and guest experience, we are creating a Zoo built for the future—one that inspires wonder, advances animal wellbeing, strengthens our community, and helps secure a brighter future for wildlife.



Core Strategic Priorities

Our core strategic priorities will steer future investments across the Zoo and ensure these efforts strengthen the Zoo's impact for years to come.

Animal Welfare

- Honor and support our animals through exceptional habitats, comprehensive veterinary care, and enriching life experiences.
- Offer spaces and opportunities that allow animals to engage in natural behaviors, make choices, and exercise control over their environment.
- Strive beyond the standards set by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) in every aspect of planning, care, and operations.

Guest Experience

- Provide extraordinary experiences that connect guests to wildlife and nature through unique animal interactions.
- Provide hands-on learning, active play, engaging programs, and vibrant events that encouraging a deeper appreciation for the natural world.
- Inspire meaningful connections that motivate guests to support conservation and protect wildlife for future generations.

Mission Focused

- Our mission drives everything we do, shaping how we conntect people to wildlife, spark curiosity, and encourage a lifelong commitment to protecting the natural world.
- Inspiration is a key motivator providing a clear vision for the future with high hopes and positive energy.
- By championing our mission, we strengthen the connection between our community and wildlife.

Financial Sustainability

- Create experiences that captivate guests, encourage repeat visitation, and foster long-term support to secure the Zoo's future as a vibrant hub for consevation and community enjoyment.
- Operate a finacially solvent organization that meets mission goals and is accountable to the community.
- Advance a culture of innovation that fuels creativity, inspires imagination, and drives effective problem-solving.

Outlined in the pages ahead, our key priorities will be implemented in thoughtful phases to make the most of available resources, uphold the highest standards of animal care, deliver exceptional guest experiences, and foster meaningful collaboration.

A New Welcome to the Wild

The First Step in a Bigger Vision

The transformation of the Little Rock Zoo begins at our front door. Our reimagined entrance represents an exciting first phase in a larger vision for the Zoo's future—creating modern, engaging spaces that enhance animal wellbeing, bring guests closer to wildlife, and build an even stronger Zoo for generations to come.

This transformation includes an **enhanced entry plaza and four new or reimagined animal habitats**, creating an entirely new experience from the moment guests arrive.

Among the most anticipated additions is the **return of capybaras**, who will share a dynamic new habitat with **squirrel monkeys—a species new to the Little Rock Zoo**. The project also completely reimagines **Lemur Island**, creates an all-new home for our **giant anteaters**, and relocates and enhances the **Aldabra tortoise habitat**. Indoor viewing opportunities, and thoughtfully designed spaces will offer new ways for guests to connect with these remarkable animals while supporting exceptional animal care.

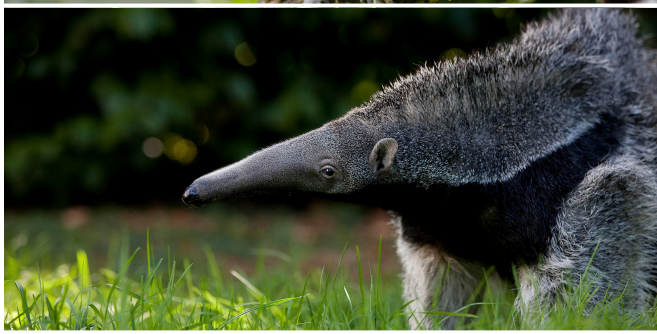
Together, these improvements create a more welcoming, immersive entrance to the Zoo—but they are only the beginning.

This first phase sets the stage for what comes next. With a long-term vision for continued investment throughout the Zoo, future projects will build upon this momentum—transforming aging spaces, enhancing animal habitats, improving the guest experience, and creating new opportunities for conservation, education, and connection with wildlife.











Reimagining the Savannah Overlook

Building on Our Momentum

As the Zoo's transformation continues, the completion of our new giant anteater habitat creates an exciting opportunity to **reimagine the Savannah Overlook** and breathe new life into an underutilized area near the front of the Zoo.

Future plans envision transforming this space into a dynamic new destination anchored by a **new, modern habitat for our sloth bears**. Relocating this unique and beloved species would bring them into a more prominent area of the Zoo while creating opportunities for enhanced animal care, improved viewing, and more meaningful connections between guests and wildlife.

The larger vision could introduce **multiple new habitats and species to the area**, with possibilities including gibbons, okapi, Asian small-clawed otters, and other species that complement the Zoo's evolving animal collection. Together, these additions could transform the Savannah Overlook into a vibrant new experience and give guests even more to discover near the beginning of their visit.

Creating Opportunity Across the Zoo

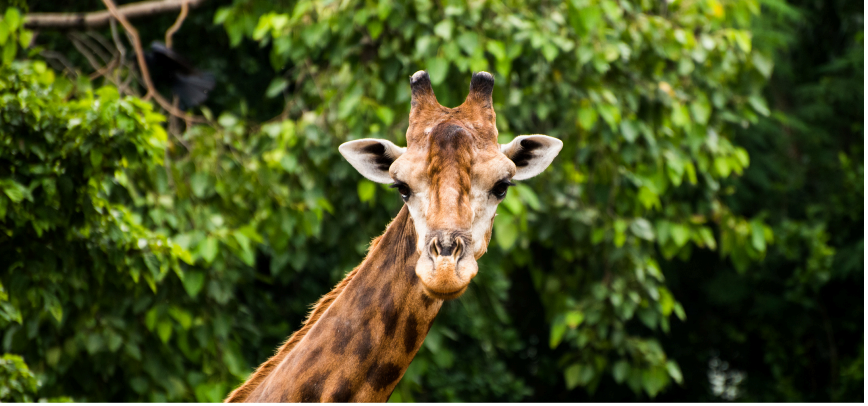
The impact of this project would extend far beyond the Savannah Overlook. The Zoo's existing bear area dates back more than 50 years and is among the areas most in need of reinvestment. Relocating the sloth bears would open this space for future redevelopment, creating an opportunity to replace aging infrastructure with modern habitats designed around the needs of today's animals, guests, and caregivers.

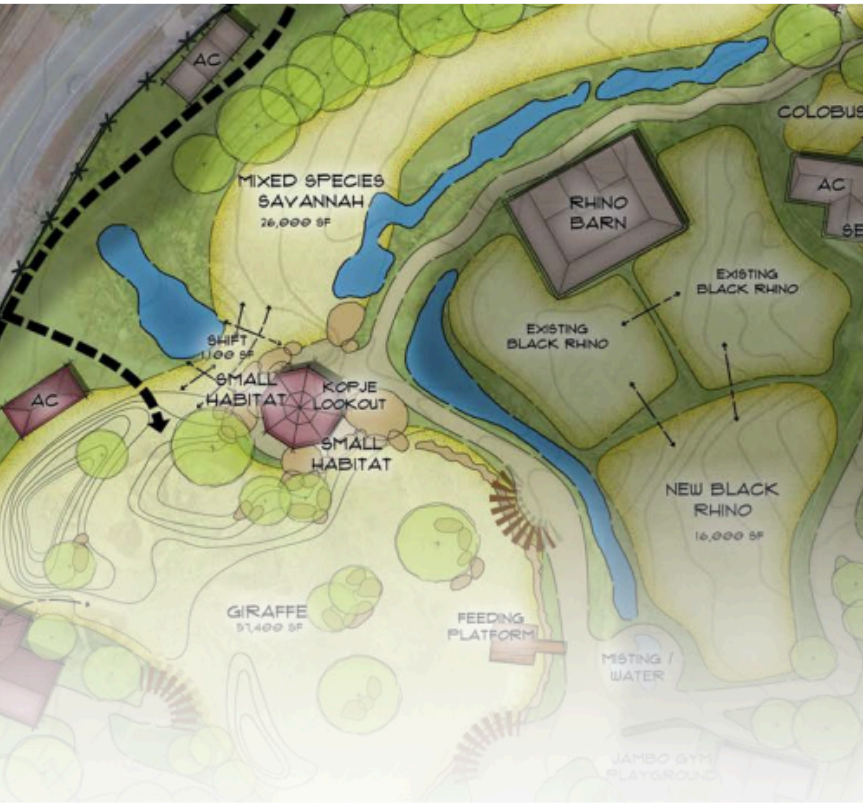
One transformation creates the opportunity for the next—allowing us to thoughtfully renew the Zoo, one area at a time.

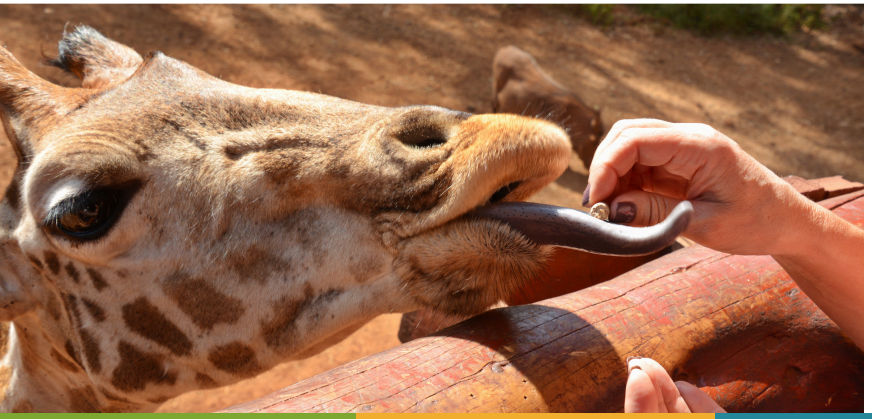












Bringing Giraffes Back to Little Rock

Expanding the African Savannah

Few animals capture the imagination quite like a giraffe—and bringing these iconic animals back to Little Rock is one of the most exciting possibilities in the Zoo's vision for the future.

Relocating the sloth bears would create valuable space adjacent to our existing **African Savannah**, providing an opportunity to expand and reimagine this area with a thoughtfully designed giraffe habitat. The new space would prioritize animal wellbeing with room to roam, opportunities for enrichment, specialized indoor facilities, and features designed to support exceptional care.

For guests, the expanded Savannah would create an entirely new way to experience one of Africa's most recognizable species. An **elevated giraffe feeding experience near Café Africa** could bring guests eye-to-eye with these remarkable animals, creating memorable opportunities for connection while encouraging curiosity about giraffes and the challenges they face in the wild.

More than the return of a community favorite, this project would build upon the Zoo's existing African Savannah to create a **larger, more dynamic destination**—strengthening an important area of the Zoo while continuing the transformation made possible by each phase that comes before it.







Advancing Animal Care

Investing in Care, Education & the Future of Veterinary Medicine

Exceptional animal care is at the heart of everything we do. Looking to the future, the Little Rock Zoo envisions a **modern veterinary hospital** designed to support the evolving needs of our diverse animal collection while creating new opportunities for learning, collaboration, and innovation.

A new facility could provide expanded spaces for **preventive care, diagnostics, treatment, surgery, recovery, and other specialized veterinary needs**, giving our animal care teams modern resources to continue providing exceptional care throughout every stage of an animal's life.

But the vision could extend beyond animal care. With the development of veterinary education in Arkansas, a new hospital could create opportunities to explore **partnerships, hands-on learning, professional training, and collaboration with future veterinary professionals.** Thoughtfully designed educational components could also give Zoo guests a unique window into the science, expertise, and dedication behind caring for wildlife.

By investing in veterinary care today, we can build a stronger foundation for the future—**advancing animal wellbeing, supporting the next generation of veterinary professionals, and strengthening the Zoo's role as a center for wildlife care, education, and conservation.**

OUR VISION FOR What's Next

Each project builds upon the last—unlocking new opportunities to transform spaces throughout the Zoo, enhance animal wellbeing, create memorable guest experiences, and shape a stronger Little Rock Zoo for generations to come.

BUILDING THE ZOO OF TOMORROW, ONE TRANFORMATIVE PROJECT AT A TIME

1



A New Welcome to the Wild

ENTRY TRANSFORMATION

A reimagined entry plaza and four new exhibits are creating a more inviting, immersive experience from the moment guests arrive.

PROJECT INVESTMENT

$12 Million

PHASE NEARING COMPLETION

2



Reimagining the Savannah Overlook

SLOTH BEARS + NEW EXHIBITS

With anteaters moving to a new habitat, we have an exciting opportunity to transform the Savannah Overlook into a dynamic new destination for guests, featuring a new habitat for our sloth bears and possibly additional species.

PROJECTED INVESTMENT

$15 Million

FUTURE PRIORITY

3



Bringing Giraffes Back to Little Rock

AFRICAN SAVANNAH EXPANSION

Relocating the sloth bears will create valuable space to expand our African Savannah and bring giraffes back to Little Rock. This project would include a thoughfully designed habitat and an elevated feeding expereince for guests.

PROJECTED INVESTMENT

$20 Million

FUTURE PRIORITY

4



Advancing Animal Care

NEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL

A modern veterinary hospital will support the evolving needs of our animal collection while creating opportunities for education, training, and collaboration with future veterinary professionals.

PROJECTED INVESTMENT

$15 Million

FUTURE PRIORITY

ENHANCE ANIMAL WELLBEING | CREATE MEMORABLE GUEST EXPERIENCES | EXPAND EDUCATION & CONSERVATION IMPACT | BUILD A STRONGER ZOO FOR THE FUTURE



Be Part of What's Next

HELP US INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION.

Every new habitat, transformed space, and investment in the Little Rock Zoo creates new opportunities for children and families to **discover, wonder, learn, and connect with wildlife.**

With the support of our community, we can inspire the next generation to care about animals and value the wild places around them.

SEE A PART OF OUR VISION THAT SPEAKS TO YOU?

There are many ways to be part of what comes next.

GIVE

Invest in the future of the Zoo and help create meaningful experiences that connect people with wildlife for generations to come.

PARTNER

Join us through corporate partnerships, sponsorships, naming opportunities, and other collaborations that strengthen our Zoo, community, and our shared commitment to wildlife.

CONNECT

See something in our future that inspires you? Let's have a conversation! We'd love to help you find a meaningful way to be a part of the Zoo's future.

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Scan the QR code to learn more, explore opportunities, or start a conversation.

LITTLEROCKZOO.COM/SUPPORT/

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD WHAT'S NEXT.