



Proclamation of the City Council
City of San Diego

SAN DIEGO ZOO YEAR

IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE SAN DIEGO ZOO

2016

Presented By Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer and
Councilmember Todd Gloria

WHEREAS, the San Diego Zoo was founded in 1916 as a sanctuary for wildlife after Dr. Harry Wedgeforth heard the roar of a lion following the 1915 Panama-California Exposition; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Harry Wedgeforth, Dr. Paul Wedgeforth, Dr. Fred Baker, Dr. Joseph Thompson, and Frank Stephens held their first meeting on October 2, 1916, out of which the Zoological Society of San Diego (and the San Diego Zoo) was born; and,

WHEREAS, through the vision and stewardship of Douglas Myers, the current President and CEO, the Zoological Society of San Diego has become San Diego Zoo Global with a mission of leading the fight against the extinction of animals through animal care and conservation; and,

WHEREAS, San Diego Zoo Global operates three world class facilities: the San Diego Zoo, the San Diego Zoo Safari Park and the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research, through which the organization is able to work on conservation projects in 80 countries on six continents; and,

WHEREAS, to date, San Diego Zoo Global has already recovered and reintroduced more than 30 species into native habitats including the California condor, Indian rhino, Caribbean iguana, burrowing owl, pond turtle, and mountain yellow legged frog; and,

WHEREAS, San Diego Zoo Global is not only an advocate for wildlife conservation, it is also an economic driver for San Diego that attracts more than five million visitors each year and an annual economic impact of approximately \$1.3 billion; and,

WHEREAS, today, the San Diego Zoo is the largest zoological membership association in the world with more than 250,000 member households and 130,000 child memberships, all together representing more than a half-million people; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition and in celebration of the Centennial of the San Diego Zoo, the City of San Diego wishes to commend and thank this iconic organization for its commitment to wildlife conservation and for helping make San Diego a truly great city; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby declare 2016 to be "SAN DIEGO ZOO YEAR" in the City of San Diego.



Shirley St. John
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mark Call
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Lorie Lopez
COUNCILMEMBER

Todd Gloria
COUNCILMEMBER

Myrtle Cole
COUNCILMEMBER

Debra
COUNCILMEMBER

Cheryl
COUNCILMEMBER

Todd
COUNCILMEMBER

Rodriguez
COUNCILMEMBER

Kevin L. Faulconer
MAYOR

Kevin L. Faulconer
MAYOR

Approved by Council on the 9th Day of May 2016