

Vote FOR **Issue 19**



Hamilton County **ZOO LEVY** Renew the **ZOO**



IT WON'T RAISE TAXES!

Every day, thousands of children and families are inspired with nature and adventure at our Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. And support from Hamilton County over the last 40 years has helped it become a world-class Zoo that benefits residents and attracts millions of tourists.

**1.7
MILLION
VISITORS!**

The Zoo Levy helps keep the Cincinnati Zoo affordable for everyone!

About **65%** of visitors come from outside the metro region



On average, for every **\$1** of tax levy funding the Zoo receives, it generates **\$10** in economic benefit with Hamilton County due to the spending of non-local visitors.



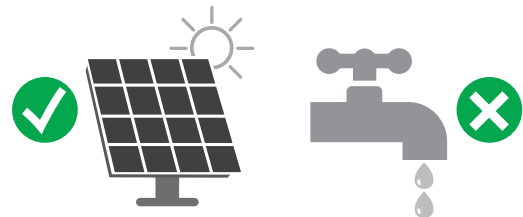
The Cincinnati Zoo has a significant and beneficial impact on the area, providing **\$170,000,000** annual economic impact to our region*, a 400% return on investment (generated via operating expenditures.)

**2023 University of Cincinnati study*

LEVY FUNDS ONLY GO TO ONGOING, BASIC ZOO NEEDS:

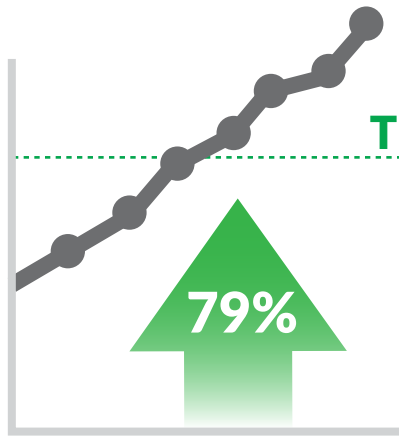
-  **Veterinary Care**
-  **Animal Care Staff**
-  **Animal Food**
-  **Maintenance & Utilities**

*New habitats, like **Elephant Trek**, are funded by private donations.*



GOOD STEWARD OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS

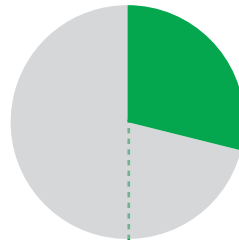
Sustainability efforts have saved the Zoo over **\$1 million** per year on utilities and almost two billion gallons of water over the last 15 years.



Qualified expenses are up **79%** since 2008.

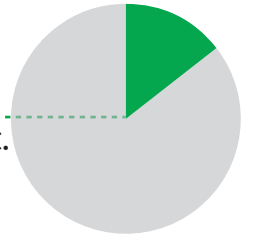
THE ZOO LEVY HAS REMAINED FLAT*

for the last several cycles (since 2008).



Levy funding used to cover **41%** of operational costs

but it currently covers only **17%** of the Zoo's budget.



**The Cincinnati Zoo's levy is the lowest of all Ohio zoos.*

ZOO ACCESS FOR ALL

The Zoo offers reduced admission and membership to low income families, and provides **FREE field trips** to thousands of students in Hamilton County.



WORLD-CLASS ZOO PROVIDING WORLD-CLASS CARE

AZA accreditation and USDA standards have evolved, increasing the cost to care for 1600 animals.



AGING INFRASTRUCTURE



The Zoo has **3 buildings** over **115 years old** and **40% of our facilities** are over **80 years old**.

HAMILTON COUNTY IS HOME TO THE #1 ZOO IN THE COUNTRY!

