



BUFFALO ZOO MASTER PLAN

Zoological Society of Buffalo
Buffalo, New York



Buffalo Zoo Master Plan

In late 2000, having resolved that it would remain at its historic Delaware Park location, the Buffalo Zoo undertook a master planning effort intended to provide a clear, compelling and achievable framework for the improvement and comprehensive redevelopment of the zoo. After a national search, the zoo engaged a multi-disciplinary planning team led by the interpretive planning and exhibition design firm Main Street Design, Inc., of Cambridge, Massachusetts; in collaboration with zoo architects Patrick Janikowski Associates, of Seattle, Washington; the economics research consultants ConsultEcon, Inc., and the Buffalo-based architecture and engineering firm Foit-Albert Associates. The planning team began work in May 2001 and submitted its draft report in October.

The zoo charged its master planners with conducting a two-part planning process. First, the

team completed a detailed review and analysis of existing conditions at the zoo, including exhibits and public programs, collections, visitor services and amenities, facilities infrastructure and utilities, traffic and parking, attendance and visitation, operations, finances, and the zoo's relations with and impact on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Second, building in this analysis, the team developed and then later revised and refined a set of conceptual approaches and planning directions to guide the future evolution of the Buffalo Zoo.

Master Plans are living documents. In 2008, Foit-Albert Associates assisted the Zoo in updating this plan to reflect exhibit concept changes in a changing economic climate. This update also incorporated all changes resulting from the successfully completed designs of all the Phase I work.