

ABQ BioPark GRT* REPORT

A 15-Year Plan to Grow the ABQ BioPark
APRIL 2022

*GRT refers to the 1/8 cent gross receipts tax that was approved by Albuquerque voters and went into effect on July 1, 2016 to support the ABQ BioPark.



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THANK YOU

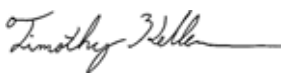
Dear Albuquerque,

Big things are happening at our ABQ BioPark – from construction on new exhibits that will be treasured for years, to the infrastructure overhauls happening just out of sight that make it all possible. These evolutions are about creating a more enriching experience for our children, the animals and plants that call the BioPark home, and for the visitors from across the world who walk through the park gates each day.

Visitors to the BioPark this year will see major projects funded by the Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) passed by voters start coming to life. Construction on new state-of-the-art Australia and Asia exhibits is underway, our Botanic Garden fans will have something special to look forward to at the Heritage Farm, and I know my kids are especially excited about the new electric tram that will help visitors see all that the park has to offer!

The investments we make in the BioPark reflect the deep level of care Burqueños have for this resource that connects our families to the natural world. In the following report, you'll learn more about how and where the GRT funding is being used to improve upon and expand New Mexico's most visited attraction. Thank you to the New Mexico BioPark Society, Board, and our entire employee team for your work improving and running the BioPark. And thank you to the Albuquerque community for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Tim Keller
Mayor, City of Albuquerque

Dear Albuquerque,

It's a time of growth and transformation at the ABQ BioPark, and this evolution is thanks to your support of the Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) passed in 2016.

We appreciate your investment in the BioPark, and rest assured that it is being managed wisely while at the same time making a huge impact at the Zoo, Aquarium, Botanic Garden and Tingley Beach. There is an incredible team of professionals focused on creating high-quality habitats and experiences to connect visitors with nature – the cornerstone of the BioPark's mission.

We share your excitement and anticipation of the Asia and Australia openings, and while there are many projects currently underway, there is still plenty to see and do at your BioPark.

This investment benefits our quality of life, our children and our economy. Albuquerque will continue to reap the rewards long after the GRT expires in 2031. Thank you for helping shape the future of our beloved BioPark and funding a more sustainable future for nature and the wildlife in our care.

Sincerely,



Julie Miller Rugg
Executive Director, New Mexico BioPark Society

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SUMMARY

Transformation is underway at the ABQ BioPark. The 1/8 cent Gross Receipts Tax (GRT), approved by voters, has brought a steady wave of improvements to the ABQ BioPark.

Your tax dollars are hard at work bringing the BioPark's Master Plan to life. In 2021, The GRT contributed \$19.2 million to the BioPark. Its impact this year is immense, transforming an undeveloped section of the Zoo into the new Asia exhibit and updating decades-old infrastructure to support the current and future construction.

Our world has also transformed since the GRT went into effect in 2016. As the needs of our city and the plants and animals in our care evolve, so too must the BioPark's Master Plan. This summer, the Master Plan will be updated to reflect new priorities and financial adjustments for today's economy.

While the GRT makes the BioPark an exciting place to explore and an engaging classroom for learners of all ages, it also makes the BioPark a place to meaningfully connect with nature. The ultimate return on the GRT's investment will be a community that is committed to protecting the natural treasures of our shared planet.

We look forward to sharing this transformation with you.



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NEW PROJECTS COMPLETED

Asia Phase 1: Elephant Overlook - \$2M

The first phase of the Zoo's Asia Exhibit features a new elephant observation and event deck giving families a bird's eye view of the elephants roaming five acres of outdoor space. A new entryway, infrastructure and landscaping are included.

Utility Expansion: Zoo-wide – \$1M

Essential infrastructure improvements to support the upcoming Australia exhibit include fiber optic, electric, gas and sewer. These will support state-of-the art new exhibits for crocodiles, penguins, koalas and more.

BioPark Irrigation Master Plan – \$50,000

A new irrigation plan provides the guidelines to rehabilitate the miles and miles of irrigation lines delivering water to over 30,000 plants throughout the BioPark. It includes new equipment, digital tools and water saving strategies.

Tram Prep – \$400,000

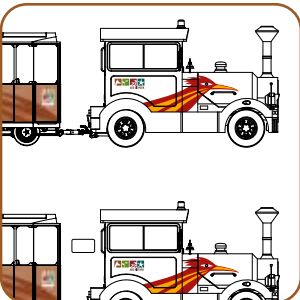
To make way for the BioPark's new electric tram, a playground was relocated at the Zoo, traffic patterns were engineered at the Aquarium and Botanic Garden, and rails were removed at Tingley Beach. Electric charging stations will power the new eco-friendly tram.

Small Africa Aviary – \$300,000

Indoor habitat improvements include caging, HVAC, food prep stations and more to support small songbirds from across the African continent.

New Roofs for Aquarium, Rhinos and Elephants – \$350,000

New roofs give new life to older buildings and reduce energy waste. Rhinos, elephants and Aquarium animals all have a new roof over their heads.



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PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Master Plan Update

The BioPark will reevaluate capital improvement priorities based on needs of the community and the plants and animals at the Zoo, Aquarium, Botanic Garden and Tingley Beach. The plan will focus on the next ten years of construction and will adjust financial projections for today's economy.

Australia Phase 1 - \$10M

BioPark guests will soon see little blue penguins and other seabirds in the new Australian Shores exhibit. They'll also experience the antics of colorful lorikeets in a new walk-thru aviary. Opening in 2023.

Asia Phase 2 - \$25.5M

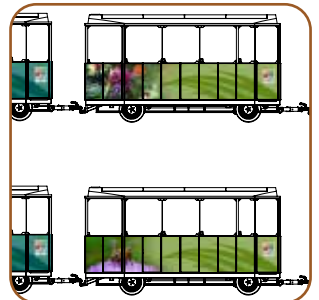
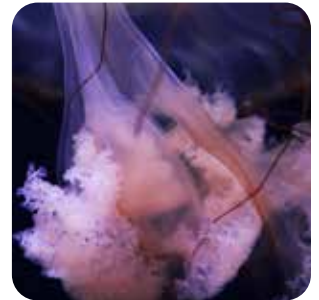
Guests will explore the wonders of Asia, from tropical jungles to high mountain forests, and learn how to protect its unique animals. Phase Two includes innovative new homes for orangutans, tigers, snow leopards and Steller's sea eagles surrounded by interactive opportunities for guests. Opening in 2023.

Tram - \$1.7M

A fun new all-electric tram will make it easier for guests to explore the wonders of nature at the Zoo, Aquarium, Botanic Garden and Tingley Beach, all in one day!

Heritage Farm Train - \$600,000

Choo-choo! A new train will be chugging through the Botanic Garden, circling the Heritage Farm and delighting guests of all ages.





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UPCOMING PROJECTS

Hippo Pool Construction - estimated \$90,000

A new heated pool will provide a private behind-the-scenes space for hippos to rest and quarantine space where new hippos can acclimate to the BioPark.



Zoo Entrance Re-Design - estimated \$150,000

The iconic Zoo pyramid entrance will get a modern makeover to roll out the welcome mat in grand style. Artful shade structures, reconfigured ticket booths and new ticketing technology will greet the Zoo's guests.



Giraffe Habitat Modifications - estimated \$200,000

Indoor and outdoor improvements will provide much-needed training spaces where giraffes and zookeepers can work together safely. These improvements give giraffes more choices in how they participate in their own healthcare.

Heritage Farm Design and Construction - estimated \$8M

Heritage Farm design and construction plans will be based on new prioritizations for animal welfare, maintenance needs and recommendations from the Master Plan update.



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FINANCIALS

	Projects Completed	Repairs and Renovations	Total Expended
FY17	\$2,854,482.57	\$537,061.29	\$3,391,543.86
FY18	\$11,123,961.83	\$1,103,250.16	\$12,227,211.99
FY19	\$4,552,990.44	\$996,147.03	\$5,549,137.47
FY20	\$7,023,136.18	\$3,462,832.05	\$10,785,968.23
FY21	\$6,459,052.23	\$1,196,106.30	\$7,655,158.53
FY22 As of March 8th	\$9,609,290.82	\$1,728,601.46	\$11,337,892.28
Total Expenses	\$41,622,914.07	\$9,323,998.29	\$50,946,912.36
Expenses with Encumbrances	\$75,035,921.96	\$10,218,524.12	\$50,946,912.36



