

May 25, 2021

Mayor and Honorable City Council Members,

The Park and Recreation Commission is writing in support of the proposed new \$10 entry fee for the Junior Museum and Zoo (JMZ). We are glad to see the Finance Committee has recommended to reduce admission from \$18 per entry to the \$10, and we support the associated lower annual pass rates ranging from \$110 to \$245. We recognize the serious financial challenges faced by our City as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic to a “new normal”.

We also request that the entrance fee schedule be reviewed on a periodic basis. When the local economy recovers, we encourage reducing fees to a level that is more affordable for all families and individuals.

We appreciate and commend the partnership between the Friends of the JMZ, City staff and private donors that has transformed this extraordinary facility. We want to ensure the JMZ continues to serve the broader community engaging and delighting children’s curiosity for science and nature.

Thank you for your consideration.

Parks and Recreation Commission