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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

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ROBERT P. THOMAS
DIRECTOR

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

January 18, 1988

DIVISIONS:

Budget and Finance Committee
Sacramento, California

CROCKER ART MUSEUM
GOLF
METROPOLITAN ARTS
MUSEUM & HISTORY
PARKS
RECREATION
ZOO

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Zoo Division - Institute of Museum Services 1988 Conservation
Project Grant Application

SUMMARY

This report requests authorization to submit a grant application to the Institute of Museum Services (IMS) under the 1988 Conservation Project Grant program. The purpose of this grant project is to develop a draft Thick-billed Parrot long-term, captive propagation program in conjunction with the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) Species Survival Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Thick-billed Parrot is a rare and endangered species from the mountains of southern Arizona and northern Mexico. Commercial logging of the mountains of northwestern Mexico commenced early in the 20th century leaving few remaining areas for these birds to survive. This species apparently disappeared from the United States some time during the 1930's, however, in the Fall of 1986 about two dozen Thick-billed Parrots were released into Arizona's Chiricahuas Mountains. This release program is being conducted jointly by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Nongame Branch of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Federally confiscated birds as well as zoo raised birds from the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, the Brownsville Zoo, the San Diego Zoo and the Sacramento Zoo have been involved in this project. The Thick-billed Parrot is listed in Appendix I of the 1973 Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Although protected by law in Mexico, it is unenforceable in practice due to the remoteness of the areas where birds still occur.

The Sacramento Zoo has had more success with the breeding of Thick-billed Parrots than any other zoo in the world despite the extreme difficulty in raising them in captivity. The only other institution breeding this species is the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust. Thus, the Thick-billed Parrot is the most significant bird conservation program at the Sacramento Zoo. The zoo is currently publishing a Regional Studbook for the

Thick-billed Parrot (due in March, 1988) and then plans to apply to the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums for acceptance in the Species Survival Program.

Funds from the proposed IMS Conservation Grant will allow Sacramento Zoo staff to develop a draft Thick-billed Parrot long-term, captive propagation program compatible with the recent Fish and Wildlife release program in southern Arizona. This program will take available data on existing captive Thick-billed parrots and formulate a breeding strategy and husbandry manual which will be published and made available to all participating institutions. This project meets a significant goal of the Sacramento Zoo, that of animal conservation. This project will make the zoo the leading authority on this important species and responsible for considerable data necessary to maintain both captive and wild populations of the Thick-billed Parrot.

FINANCIAL DATA

The total Thick-billed Parrot propagation program and husbandry manual publication project cost is estimated at \$13,758. IMS Conservation Grant funds will be utilized to fund the entire project.

No City funds are requested.

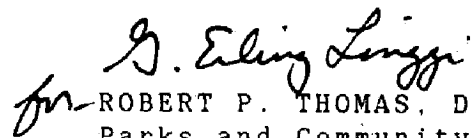
RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Budget and Finance Committee

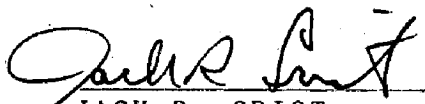
Approve this report and refer it to the full City Council for action. Further,

It is recommended that the City Council, by resolution, authorize the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Institute of Museum Services - 1988 Conservation Project Grant.

Respectfully submitted,

for 
ROBERT P. THOMAS, Director
Parks and Community Services

Recommendation Approved:


JACK R. CRIST
Deputy City Manager

February 2, 1988
All Districts

RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL ON DATE OF

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICES FUNDS FOR
CONSERVATION PROJECT TO THE
SACRAMENTO ZOO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

The the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit a grant application to the Institute of Museum Services Conservation Project Grant program for \$13,758 for the development of a draft Thick-billed Parrot long-term captive propagation program and publication of a breeding strategy and husbandry manual.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK