mus Noise, Sounds, generated at the Zoo - construction noise and operations noise.

Construction Noise

Sounds and Noise

Construction noise comes from construction equipment used to build the Zoo. This noise would be generated during daytime hours (7 am to 7 pm) Monday through Friday or Saturday. Night work is not currently anticipated. Construction noise will mostly affect the existing homes abutting Lotz Parkway. However, the existing masonry wall will provide some buffer.

To further address the potential effect of construction noise on nearby residences, the City is exploring contractor requirements for:

- locating equipment as far away from receivers as possible;
- requiring the proper use of available noise-reduction equipment, including alternatively powered equipment, exhaust mufflers, engine shrouds, and equipment enclosures; and
- requiring designation of a disturbance coordinator for any construction noise complaints.

Operation Noise

Zoo operation noise will come from human and animal activities on the site. Human noise will come from people on the site, as well as amplified sound from special events or night programing. Animal sounds are those generated by the animals, including bird calls, lion roars, and other vocal communication.

The City has collected noise data from the existing Sacramento Zoo to understand these potential sound levels. This information has informed the overall site plan. For example, the areas with the highest potential for human sounds have been placed in the middle or west side of the site (e.g., the events area at the Giraffe Lodge).

Animal sounds are variable, based upon the time of day, species, and other factors. Based upon sound measurements collected at the Sacramento Zoo, most of the animal sounds will fade into the background and would not exceed the City's noise standards.

Smells and Odors

Some people may associate zoos with unpleasant odors or smells. This can come from perception, unfamiliar smells, or, rightfully so, the waste from the animals. The frequency of collection and the temperature on a particular day can affect just how potent the individual finds the odor to be.

Animal waste will be collected daily (or more frequently) from each habitat area and stored in dedicated collection bins distributed around the site. These bins have been stationed on the site plan to limit their proximity to neighboring residences where possible. Waste from these stations would be collected every one to two days.

As with noise, existing odors at the Sacramento Zoo were indexed to understand the distance the odors would travel. The current collection point for animal waste is at the back of the Zoo, directly adjacent to Holy Spirit School. Odors were not detected at the boundary between the Zoo and the school. There is also no identified history of odor complaints filed with the current Zoo, the City of Sacramento, or the Sacramento Air Quality Management District for the current site.