RESOLUTION NO. 7605

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmember John Alcala relating to the Topeka Zoological Park.

WHEREAS, Topeka citizens have expressed their concerns regarding the recent deaths of three lions which have occurred within a very short time span at the Topeka Zoological Park; and

WHEREAS, although it is not unusual for the life expectancy of a lion in captivity to attain the age of 25 years or more, the three lions that recently died at the Topeka Zoological Park were between the ages of 15 ½ and 19 years. The City should take a closer look at the animal care and maintenance procedures the Zoo has in place at this time to ensure that the best possible care is being provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Topeka, Kansas that the Council hereby appoints a Citizen Panel to study, review and make written recommendations to the City Council as more specifically described hereinafter. Members of the Citizen Panel shall be residents of the City shall possess a special knowledge of zoos, animal care, or fiscal administrative policy and shall be appointed as follows: one (1) member shall be appointed by each of the City Councilmembers. Each Councilmember shall submit the name of his/her appointee to the Citizen Panel on or before May 1, 2005. The Citizen Panel shall elect one member to serve as Chair of the Panel.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TOPEKA, KANSAS that the Citizen Panel is directed to study, review and make
recommendations to the City Council on or before June 1, 2005, regarding the
following:

- The adequacy of the care and safety procedures in place at the
  Topeka Zoo.
- Administrative and fiscal management.
- Any other issues the Citizen Panel elects to review pertaining to
  health and well being of the Topeka Zoological Park animals.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council MAR 2 2 2005.

James A. McClinton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 2/23/05 BY 33C