

## DONATION ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT

THIS DONATION ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT is made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_, by and between the City of Merced, a California Charter Municipal Corporation ("City"), and University of California, Merced, ("Donor").

WHEREAS, the Donor has elected to donate \$20,000 to the City to be used in furtherance of the Donor's purposes as set forth in the Donation Acceptance Form attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, City has purposes that are consistent with the Donor's purposes and has an interest in using the donation to advance the Donor's purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto, in consideration of the mutual covenants hereinafter recited, agree as follows:

1. The Donor shall pay to the City the donation amount of \$20,000.
2. The City shall use the donation solely and exclusively for the acquisition, deliver and use of modifying the Bobcat Exhibit at Merced Applegate Zoo and extend the term of naming any bobcat in the exhibit "Boomer" for an additional 10 years after the University Mascot.
3. The donation is conditioned upon the City expending the donation for the purposes set forth herein and, where appropriate, crediting the Donor as the source of funds.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on the date first above written.

CITY OF MERCED  
A California Charter Municipal  
Corporation

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
D. Scott McBride  
City Manager

ATTEST:  
D. SCOTT MCBRIDE, CITY CLERK

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant/Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
CRAIG J. CORNWELL, CITY ATTORNEY

BY: Craig Cornwell 5-7-2026  
City Attorney Date

ACCOUNT DATA:  
M. VENUS RODRIGUEZ, FINANCE OFFICER

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Verified by Finance Officer

DONOR

BY: E. Edward Klotzbier Digitally signed by E. Edward Klotzbier  
Date: 2026.05.12 15:11:11 -0700  
(Signature)

E. Edward Klotzbier  
(Typed Name)

Its: Vice Chancellor of External Relations  
(Title)

**CITY OF MERCED  
DONATION ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Name of Donor: University of California, Merced

Address: 5200 Lake Road City: Merced State: CA Zip: 95343

Description of Donation: \$20,000 towards Bobcat Exhibit Upgrades and interpretation panel at Merced Applegate Zoo as part of the ARPA funded renovations

Donor Estimate of Current Value: \$20,000

Potential immediate or initial acquisition or installation cost, any on-going maintenance or replacement cost:  
Installation of materials to be used have an anticipated lifespan of 50 years (fencing and rockwork)

Intended Use: Funding will be attributed to exhibit work required to update the Bobcat exhibit.

Interpretation panel will acknowledge that the exhibit was paid for in part by UC Merced

Conditions of Acceptance or Donor Designation: City of Merced agrees to retain name of the "Boomer" for the Bobcat on site and consult UC Merced about additional naming opportunities if more cats are rescued at a later date.

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution will add to the quality of the experience by the rescued cats and also our visitors

Department Receiving Donation: Parks & Community Services

**APPROVED/ DISAPPROVED**

5/4/26  
Date

  
Department Head Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager Signature

Approval of City Council Required if Donation Exceeds \$5,000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Submitted to Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved by Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Signature

NOTE: The City of Merced cannot guarantee future funding for repair, maintenance, use or replacement of donated items.  
cc: City Council, Finance Department, City Clerk

CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA

DONATION AND GIFT POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have received and read the City of Merced Donation and Gift Policy and understand its provisions.

Christopher Jensen

Employee (PRINT Name)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher Jensen', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with loops and a small arrow-like flourish.

Employee Signature

5/4/26

Date



## MERCED

**Date:** January 8, 2026

**Proposal:** \$20,000 Renovation to Bobcat Exhibit at Merced Applegate Zoo

**Submitted by:** Christopher Jensen, Director, Parks & Community Services, City of Merced  
Phone: (209) 564-0150  
Email: [JensenC@cityofmerced.org](mailto:JensenC@cityofmerced.org)

**Introduction:** Merced Applegate Zoo is dedicated to fostering a love for wildlife and conservation among visitors, particularly children. To enhance our offerings and further our mission, we are requesting the donation of \$20,000 towards the development of a new Bobcat exhibit. This exhibit will not only provide an engaging and educational experience for children but will also serve as a platform to raise awareness about the bobcat's role in our regional ecosystems and highlight career pathways afforded through higher education at University of California Merced. As a show of our gratitude for the University of California Merced's consideration, we would like to offer UC Merced brand awareness and community relations opportunities at the Merced Applegate Zoo, for a period of ten years, beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 and concluding March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2036.

### Objectives:

- **Education:** Educate children and visitors about the natural habitat, behavior, and conservation status of bobcats through an entertaining and interactive exhibit that fosters curiosity and respect for wildlife.
- **Conservation Awareness:** Highlight the importance of preserving natural habitats and understanding the role of predators in maintaining ecological balance and raise awareness of the UC Merced Vernal Pools and Grassland Reserve.
- **Raise Awareness of local opportunities for Higher Education:** incorporating information about career paths and academic programs offered through higher education at the University of California Merced.

### Proposed Use of Funding:

- **Bobcat Exhibit Design, Construction, and Educational Signage (\$20,000):**
  1. Install nameplate for the Bobcat Exhibit, including acknowledgment of renovation being "Paid for in part by University of California Merced".
  2. Interpretation panel with engaging facts about Bobcat behaviors, diet, conservation challenges, as well as educational and field trip opportunities offered through UC Merced to support career pathways in Conservation, Parks, Recreation, or Natural Sciences.
  3. Creation of a naturalistic enclosure that mimics the bobcat's native habitat, including climbing structures, shaded areas, and vegetation.

4. Installation of secure viewing areas that allow children to observe the animals safely and comfortably with limited barriers to visibility.
5. Installation of interactive components that allow students to engage with the exhibit kinesthetically.

**Benefits of the New Bobcat Exhibit:**

- **Educational Impact:** Children will gain a deeper understanding of bobcats, their role in the ecosystem, and the importance of conservation efforts. Interactive elements will cater to various learning styles, ensuring accessibility for all.
- **Entertainment Value:** The exhibit will provide a dynamic and memorable experience for children and families, encouraging repeat visits to Merced Applegate Zoo and consideration of various career pathways and field trips offered through the University of California Merced.
- **Community Impact from UC Merced:** Partnering with Merced Applegate Zoo aligns the University of California Merced with impactful community projects such as the renovation underway this year. This boosts the institution's reputation as a leader in promoting conservation, sustainability, and education.

**Timeline to Project Completion:**

- The addition of a Bobcat Exhibit to the scope of work underway at Merced Applegate Zoo lifts the project to a new level. Currently the project includes new walkways, maintenance room, and a new American Black Bear and Tortoise Exhibit. The renovations at Merced Applegate Zoo are under design and in contract for completion by Spring 2026. With your donation we would be able to ensure a renovated Bobcat exhibit would be complete within the same timeframe.

**Conclusion:** Our mission is to educate, inspire, and entertain visitors while promoting wildlife conservation. This project will create an enriching experience for children, foster a deeper connection with nature, and underscore the importance of higher education and protecting our planet's biodiversity. We respectfully request your support to bring this vision to life through this funding opportunity. We look forward to the opportunity to make this impactful addition at Merced Applegate Zoo through the generosity of the University of California Merced.

Sincerely,

Christopher Jensen  
Director, Parks & Community Services  
City of Merced  
(209)564-1050  
[JensenC@cityofmerced.org](mailto:JensenC@cityofmerced.org)



**MERCED**  
**APPLEGATE ZOO**  
*Where every animal has a story!*