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For immediate release

### **Community Help Needed to Bring Reid Park Zoo Expansion Closer to Reality**

Tucson, AZ (Jan. 12, 2010) – Expedition Tanzania, the largest expansion in the 40 year history of Tucson’s Reid Park Zoo, is reaching out to the community to raise the final dollars needed to begin construction.

Since 2006, the Reid Park Zoological Society, the private non-profit organization that supports the zoo, has been working in partnership with the City of Tucson to raise the \$8.5 million needed to build Expedition Tanzania.

“We are now very close to our total fundraising goal. We are hoping that if each visitor to the zoo donates at least one dollar, we can begin construction in 2010,” said Nancy Schlegel, Executive Director of the Reid Park Zoological Society.

Donations can be made at the zoo and online at [tucsonzoo.org](http://tucsonzoo.org).

The seven acre expansion will feature an Elephant Care Center and an Education Galley which is supported by the Foundations directed by the Lohse Family. The Zoo has received major contributions from the Kresge Foundation, Bernadine Shirley, Tucson Electric Power, the John M. Simpson Foundation and numerous private donations.

Expedition Tanzania is a seven acre expansion of the zoo, which includes a three-acre habitat for the zoo’s elephants. The planned new elephant area includes pools and streams, mud wallows and space for additional elephants in the future.

Tucson’s Reid Park Zoo is located at 1100 S. Randolph Way. More information can be found at [www.tucsonzoo.org](http://www.tucsonzoo.org).

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