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SANTA ANA ZOO: NEW HOME FOR UC IRVINE'S PETER THE ANTEATER

\$150,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant

Awarded for "Tierra de las Pampas" Zoo Exhibit

The City of Santa Ana, UC Irvine Alumni Association (Santa Ana Chapter), and the Friends of Santa Ana Zoo have partnered to build a multi-species Zoo exhibit that will bring the first Giant Anteater to Orange County. Along with a real live UC Irvine mascot Peter the Anteater, the exhibit will also be the home for Rheas and Guanacos.



One third of the funds needed to build this two-area exhibit called "Tierra de las Pampas" (Grasslands) was recently secured through a \$150,000 grant awarded to the

City by the State's Land and Water Conservation Fund. Only 16 cities across the state received awards, with Santa Ana receiving the highest amount.



Councilmember Jose Solorio (UCI Alumnus, class of 1992) remarked,

"This marks the first step toward bringing a live anteater to the Santa Ana Zoo. It's very exciting."

Councilmember Mike Garcia (UCI Alumnus, class of 1993) added,

"It is not every day that lovers of the natural world join forces with supporters of a major research university to help build a vision of fun, conservation, and regional pride."

The Santa Ana Chapter of the UCI Alumni Association and the Friends of Santa Ana Zoo will work to raise the remaining \$350,000 to complete this project.

The Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park is 20 acres and opened in 1952 with a mission to instill passion for the natural world through education, conservation and recreation. It is known for its Central and South American animal collection and its Children's Zoo. The Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on the Zoo, visit: www.santaanazoo.org.