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Next Century Plan Fact Sheet

- Brookfield Zoo Chicago will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2034.
- The Next Century Plan will transform 113 of the Zoo's 235 acres (nearly half of the Zoo property).
- \$500 Million Investment: \$400 million for capital improvements; \$100 million to bolster endowment and support maintenance.
 - Fundraising to date: Nearly \$200 million has been raised.
- Every aspect of the Zoo visit is being reimagined for comfort, convenience and enrichment.
- The 15-year plan will unfold in four phases, with continued improvements over the next 30 years.
 - Phase 1 projects already completed include enhancements to the Seven Seas dolphin habitat, Roosevelt Fountain, and Hamill Family Nature Plaza. It will culminate with the \$66 million expansion of the Tropic World habitat. Tropical Forests is targeted for completion in 2025.
 - Phase 2 projects include Australia, Gateway to Africa, North Gate, and Pacific Coasts of the Americas.
- The Zoo will be organized into four key zones: the Historical Core (13.57 acres), Immersive Ecoregions (85.15 acres), Wildlife Discovery (24.13 acres), and the Conservation Campus (7.15 acres).
 - The Historical Core will preserve the North and South Gates, Carousel and Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fountain.
 - Immersive Ecoregions will represent 14 global areas. They will be immersive experiences that mimic natural environments.
 - A highlight of Immersive Ecoregions is Gateway to Africa, a 35-acre, multi-species habitat with a half-mile-long Savannah Passage that will allow flexible movement for species, including lions and rhinos.
 - 12.5 acres of Gateway to Africa will be dedicated to elephants, making it more than 20 times larger than the Zoo's former elephant habitat.
 - The Wildlife Discovery area will include expanded attractions and a permanent butterfly house.
 - The Conservation Campus will have cutting-edge facilities and serve as a hub for research and conservation.
- Enhanced guest experiences will include streamlined ticketing and eco-friendly innovations such as solar-powered lighting and native landscaping.
- The plan prioritizes biodiversity and tackles climate change with strategic conservation initiatives locally and around the globe that support the protection and care of habitats and threatened species.
- The Zoo plans to integrate eco-friendly practices and climate resiliency into its operations to minimize its environmental footprint.
- The plan is a collaborative effort involving architectural teams, the Zoo's Board of Trustees, staff and community stakeholders.

