



Our view: Zoo project will benefit the region

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EXPANSION AND REPAIRS at the Alexandria Zoological Park, founded in 1926, will move ahead as part of a citywide program to repair and replace infrastructure. The city has contracted with Torre Design Consortium Ltd., an architecture firm in New Orleans that has done zoo planning and design in Florida, Oregon and elsewhere. The work at the 33-acre zoo will cost the city between \$2.5 million and \$3 million and will be completed in 2011.

WE THINK: Taxpayers recognize the value of the Alexandria Zoo, a regional asset that draws visitors from Central Louisiana and beyond. The project will improve the oldest third of the facility, with work focusing on utility upgrades and removal of structures. The project will provide a better experience for all visitors and, more important, it will make conditions better for the more than 500 animals kept there.