



# Cheryl Dinolfo

## Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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### DINOLFO SPOTLIGHTS SMALL BUSINESSES WORKING ON ZOO EXPANSION PROJECT

*Zoo project, a \$13.5M investment, is supporting over 200 jobs during the construction period; More than two dozen local small businesses are working on the expansion*

Monroe County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo** was today joined by representatives from over 25 small businesses working on the Seneca Park Zoo Master Plan Expansion for an announcement spotlighting the contributions these employers are making to the project and our local economy. Held in observance of Small Business Week, today's event showcased how small businesses are helping Monroe County build one of our region's largest and most visible municipal projects.

*"Small Business Week is a great opportunity to celebrate the small employers that are supporting local jobs, driving our economy, and building major capital projects, like our exciting Seneca Park Zoo expansion," said **Dinolfo**. "From planning to design to construction and beyond, over two dozen small businesses are helping to build a next generation Zoo for our community – a project that will support over 200 jobs directly and many more indirectly throughout the expansion. Thanks to the contributions of these small businesses, local families will be able to visit red pandas, giraffes, zebras, and more at our beautiful new Cold Asia and African Savanna exhibits very soon."*

The Seneca Park Zoo Master Plan Expansion Project represents a \$13.5 million investment and will support more than 200 local jobs over the construction period. Local companies involved throughout the planning, construction, and marketing phases of the project include: Clark Paterson Lee, LeChase Construction, Crane Hogan, Crosby Brownlie, Schuler Hass, Partners & Napier, Canfield & Track, City Blue Imaging, and over 20 additional subcontractors with connections to both Monroe County and its surrounding communities.

Entering its final week of construction, the Zoo's new Cold Asia exhibit is nearly complete and will soon house the newest additions to the Zoo family, snow leopards and red pandas. The anticipated public opening for the Cold Asia exhibit is scheduled for late May. The Zoo's new African Savanna exhibit, "Animals of the Savanna", is also nearing the completion of the construction phase. An estimated six to seven weeks of construction on the exhibit remain, with an anticipated public opening scheduled for the late summer. New additions expected in the African Savanna exhibit include giraffes, rhinos, zebras and ostriches.

**Dinolfo** will continue to celebrate Small Business Week in Monroe County, which runs through May 5th. The week will include a full slate of special events hosted by Monroe County to recognize the over 17,000 small businesses that support more than 25,000 local jobs in our community.

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