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DINOLFO ANNOUNCES OPENING OF TROPICS ADVENTURE ZONE PLAY AREA AT SENECA PARK ZOO

Nature playground inspired by future tropics complex building to be built on this site

Monroe County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo** and officials from Seneca Park Zoo held a ribbon-cutting ceremony today to open the Tropics Adventure Zone, a nature-based play space located just inside the Zoo's front gate. This area was previously occupied by the antiquated Main Zoo Building, which was demolished in 2018. The Tropics Adventure Zone is an expansive play area inspired by the planned Tropics Complex building, which is scheduled to break-ground during the fall of 2020.

"We are so excited about our Master Plan improvements and the planned Tropics Complex building, which will soon transform this area of the Zoo," said **Dinolfo**. "In the meantime, what a fantastic new opportunity for kids and families to play during their visits over the next two years. I invite families to come out to the Zoo and check out our new nature playground as we all get excited for more big changes – and animals – coming soon!"

The Tropics Adventure Zone encourages guests to engage in behaviors that animals in the future Tropics Complex will display. The Tropics Complex will feature animals from Borneo, Congo and Madagascar, including orangutans, gorillas and lemurs.

"Swing Like An Orangutan", "Grip Like A Gorilla" and "Leap Like A Lemur" are just a few examples of the activities in the space. There is also a Tropics Adventure Zone Gazebo, where ambassador animal experiences will be held at 12:30 p.m. every day through Labor Day.

This immense play space, occupying over one acre, was designed and created entirely by Monroe County Parks Department's Forestry and Horticultural Staff. It is the third and largest nature playground in the Monroe County Parks System.

The future "Tropics Complex" building is a key component of the master plan improvements transforming Seneca Park Zoo, with a planned opening in 2022.

Seneca Park Zoo is open 10:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. with last entry at 4:00 p.m.

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