Limestone **County Commission**

Chairman Collin Daly

Administrator Ellen Morell



Commissioners: Daryl Sammet Danny Barksdale Jason Black LaDon Townsend

September 2, 2021

Ethan Woodruff, Executive Director North Alabama Zoological Society 4100 Market St. SW, Suite 100 Huntsville, Alabama 35808

> North Alabama Zoological Society – Association of Zoos and Aquariums Re:

Dear Mr. Woodruff:

On behalf of the Limestone County Commission, I am writing to express our excitement about the North Alabama Zoological Society's ("NALZS") plans to locate an Association of Zoos and Aquariums ("AZA") accredited combination zoo and aquarium in Limestone County.

This project will not only bring a new quality of life component to our county and all our visitors, but we also see the following benefits:

- AZA zoos and aquariums have been shown to provide mental and emotional benefits to their visitors. NALZS will work with our communities to help lift those that are in need.
- This project will provide a unique, immersive life sciences STEAM component for the students in our region through nature camps and school visits.
- This project will be an economic and tourism generator for our area, which will make them an important partner in our future growth, by providing additional revenue and jobs.
- Agriculture has always been a large part of Limestone County's history. NALZS is already very involved in research regarding sustainable farming. This research will not only help provide high quality food for the animals at the zoo, but it will also benefit our local farmers with environmentally sustainable and higher yielding crops.

The County Commission is looking forward to welcoming this unique project to our county and looks forward to being a part of its future success.

Sincerely,

Collin Daly Chairman