



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COTA and Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Announce Free Bus Rides and Free Zoo Admission for Zoo Bus Riders on May 6 & 7

COLUMBUS, OH—The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium and the Central Transit Authority (COTA) are offering COTA's Zoo Bus riders free COTA fares and free Zoo admission on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7.

This special promotion kicks off COTA's 2017 Zoo Bus service, which begins weekend service on Saturday, May 6.

"At the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, engaging our community is one of our top priorities as we work to connect people with wildlife," said Columbus Zoo and Aquarium President and CEO Tom Staf. "We are proud to collaborate with COTA so that more people are able to use public transportation—also a greener way to travel—to access the Zoo and all of the fun and educational experiences it offers."

"COTA is excited to start the Zoo Bus season with a great deal for riders – free bus service and free admission to the Zoo," said COTA President/CEO W. Curtis Stitt. "We're proud to continue our decades-long partnership that provides greater access to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium for all members of our community."

Zoo Bus riders will receive a ticket for free admission from the bus operator. The ticket will only be valid for the day of the ride.

About the Zoo Bus

Zoo Bus riders can board at the Statehouse Downtown stop (located on High Street between State Street and Broad Street) or leave their cars at the Griggs Dam Park & Ride (located at Riverside Drive & Nottingham Road) to avoid paying for parking Downtown.

Savings for Zoo Bus riders will continue throughout the summer season. Riders will receive Columbus Zoo admission for \$3 and Zoombezi Bay admission for \$10 per person. Zoo Bus fares are \$2 each way.

Weekend and Holiday Zoo Bus service runs Saturday, May 6 - Monday, September 4, 2017. The Zoo Bus operates Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. Weekday service runs Tuesday, May 30 - Friday, September 1.

For more information about COTA Zoo Bus service, visit COTA.com/ZooBus or call (614) 228-1776. For Columbus Zoo and Zoombezi Bay hours, visit columbuszoo.org.

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About the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Home to more than 10,000 animals representing over 600 species from around the globe, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium leads and inspires by connecting people and wildlife. The Zoo complex is a recreational and education destination that includes the 22-acre Zoombezi Bay water park and 18-hole Safari Golf Course. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium also operates The Wilds, a 10,000-acre conservation center and safari park located in southeastern Ohio. The Zoo is a regional attraction with global impact; annually contributing more than \$4 million of privately raised funds to support conservation projects worldwide. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Columbus Zoo has earned Charity Navigator's prestigious 4-star rating.

About COTA

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) is the regional public transit provider for Greater Columbus and central Ohio. With a service area of 1.2 million residents, COTA provides more than 18 million passenger trips per year, and employs more than 1,000 people. COTA operates throughout Franklin County, and parts of Delaware, Fairfield, Licking and Union counties. For more information about COTA, visit COTA.com or call (614) 228-1776.