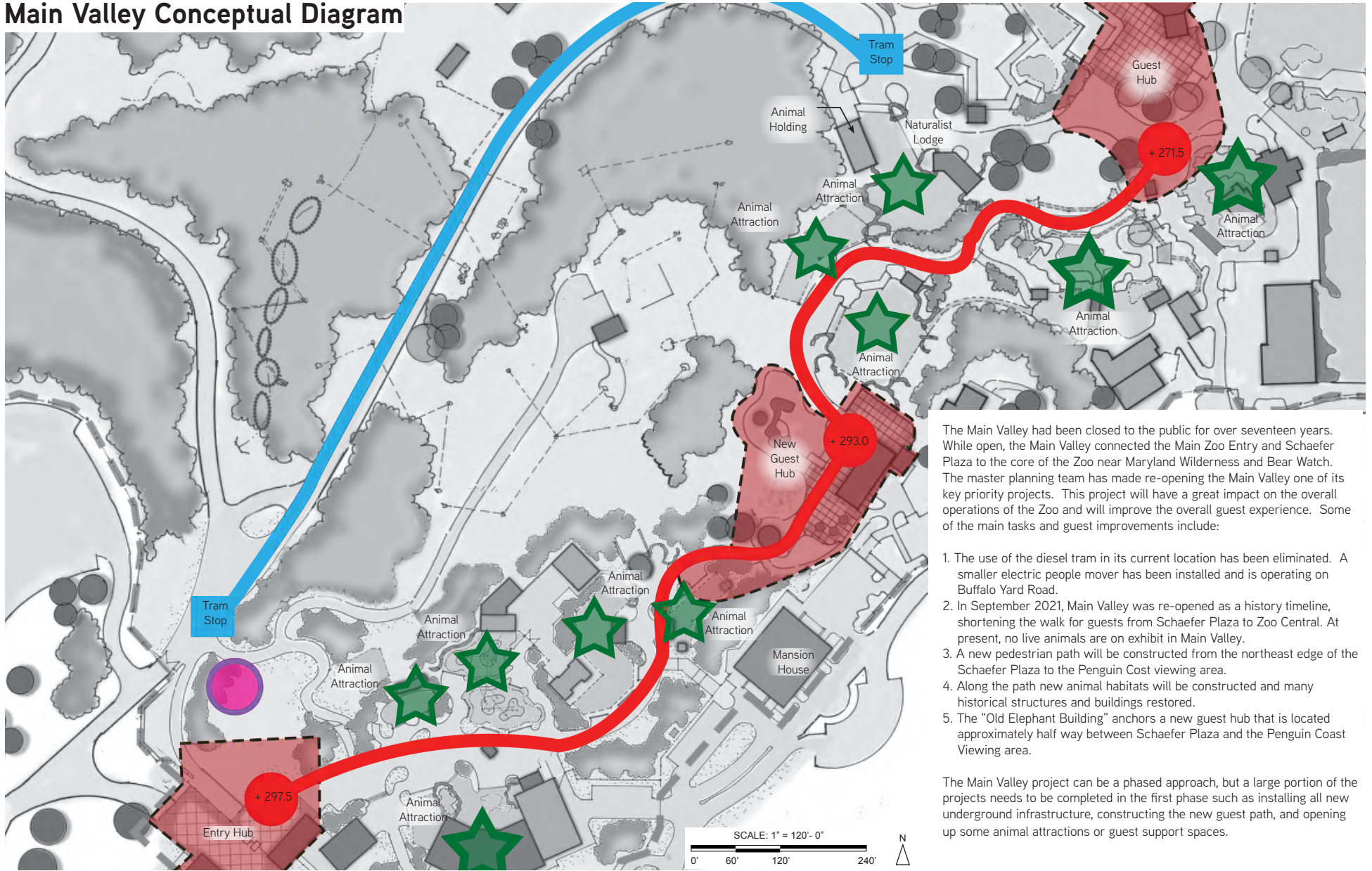


Master Plan Projects

Master Plan Priority Projects



Main Valley Conceptual Diagram



The Main Valley had been closed to the public for over seventeen years. While open, the Main Valley connected the Main Zoo Entry and Schaefer Plaza to the core of the Zoo near Maryland Wilderness and Bear Watch. The master planning team has made re-opening the Main Valley one of its key priority projects. This project will have a great impact on the overall operations of the Zoo and will improve the overall guest experience. Some of the main tasks and guest improvements include:

1. The use of the diesel tram in its current location has been eliminated. A smaller electric people mover has been installed and is operating on Buffalo Yard Road.
2. In September 2021, Main Valley was re-opened as a history timeline, shortening the walk for guests from Schaefer Plaza to Zoo Central. At present, no live animals are on exhibit in Main Valley.
3. A new pedestrian path will be constructed from the northeast edge of the Schaefer Plaza to the Penguin Coast viewing area.
4. Along the path new animal habitats will be constructed and many historical structures and buildings restored.
5. The "Old Elephant Building" anchors a new guest hub that is located approximately half way between Schaefer Plaza and the Penguin Coast Viewing area.

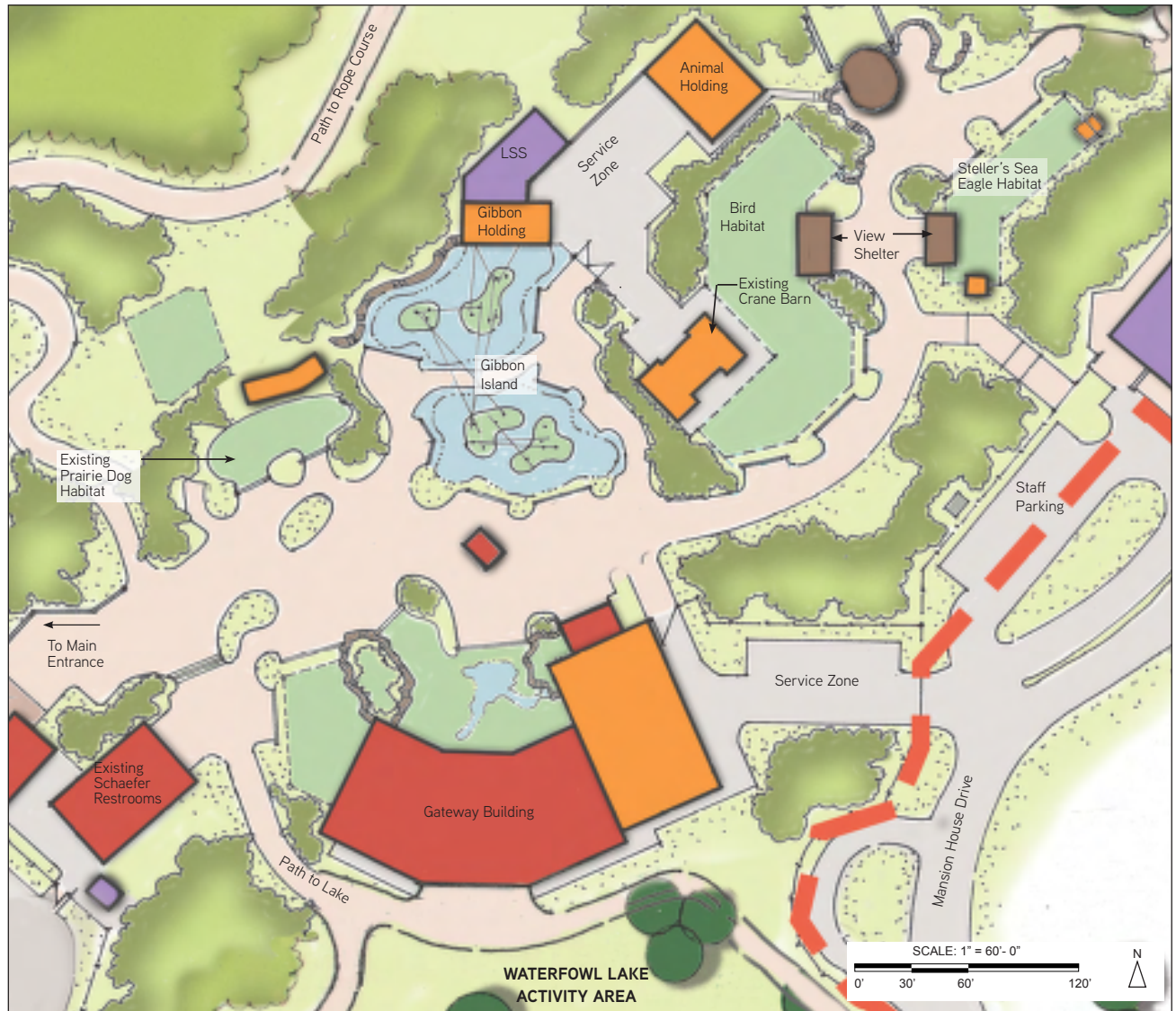
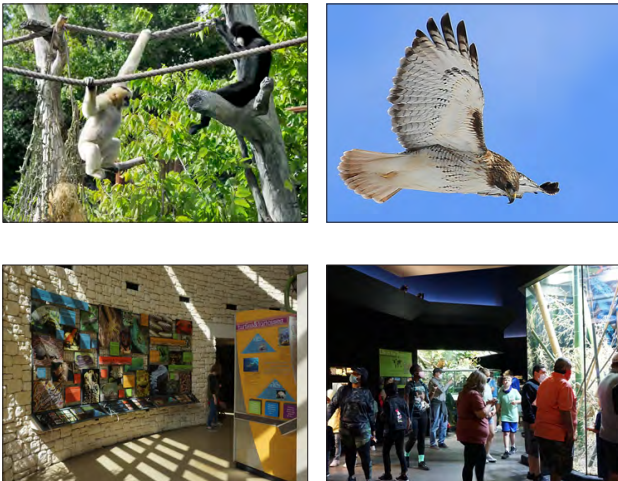
The Main Valley project can be a phased approach, but a large portion of the projects needs to be completed in the first phase such as installing all new underground infrastructure, constructing the new guest path, and opening up some animal attractions or guest support spaces.

Front Entry Zone & Gateway Building

The Front Entry Zone will welcome guests into the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore with a wide open promenade with new activities and animal habitats. No longer will the guests need to take the tram or walk the Buffalo Yard Road to the center of the Zoo.

Guests will first encounter two or more exterior animal habitats connected to the new Gateway Building. The Gateway Building will have numerous functions in addition to housing a collection of smaller animals such as amphibians and reptiles. The Gateway Building is also intended to be a year-round rental facility with an industrial-size kitchen to service events at Waterfowl Lake. The building can have spaces for kids to stay overnight as part of Zoo's educational programs and camps.

Along the north edge of the promenade, a Gibbon Habitat is planned. The Gibbons will have access to four islands and will have to cross a secondary guest walkway to get to the second animal zone. Following the new guest path that curves around the east edge of the historic Crane Barn, the guests will be able to view into a large open Bird Habitat. Prior to arriving at the guest hub, anchored by the Old Elephant House and the Round Stand, a Steller's Sea Eagle Habitat is located along the right side of the path. The Steller's Sea Eagles can be viewed from a View Shelter or through the mesh barrier.



Gibbon Habitat & Entry Gateway Building

After passing through the Schaefer Plaza, guests will see the new Gateway Building on the right and the Gibbon Habitat on the left.

The Gibbon Habitat is intended to provide a habitat where animals can travel overhead from an island to an island and guests can view them from the main path and a smaller bypass path.

The Gateway Building and surroundings have exterior and interior animal habitats, staff space and classroom functions. The location of the building makes it ideal for renting out to large and small groups.

