



**Land Acquisition
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 32
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/30/2004
PAGE: 1 of 1

SUBJECT: Approve a resolution authorizing the negotiation and execution of all documents necessary to purchase a conservation easement interest in approximately 2,288 acres located in Hays County at 2501 Gatlin Creek Road off of FM 12 from the Lynn Storm Family et al through the Hill Country Conservancy (HCC) in an amount not to exceed \$1,497,283 from the November 7, 2000 Proposition 2 Open Space bond proceeds; the final closing is subject to a current appraisal.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Amended Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

FISCAL NOTE: A fiscal note is attached.

REQUESTING Public Works **DIRECTOR'S**
DEPARTMENT: for Parks and Recreation; **AUTHORIZATION:** Sondra Creighton

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Junie Plummer, 974-7085; Laura Bohl, 974-7064

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

The City of Austin will purchase a conservation easement on approximately 2,288 acres from the Lynn Storm Family et al through Hill Country Conservancy ("HCC"). This conservation easement will be acquired using part of the November 7, 2000 Bond Proposition #2 proceeds (Open Space).

The 2,288 acre Conservation Easement tract is located in Hays County and is part of a 5,685 acre tract known as the Storm Ranch. This tract is one of the three largest ranches in the Barton Spring Edwards Aquifer region. Approximately 1,000 acres of the whole ranch drain to Cypress Creek and the Guadalupe/Blanco basins.

The City's funds are being leveraged by matching funds for a \$3,981,833 million first phase acquisition. The other additional matching funds are being provided by United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) and the Houston Endowment Fund. Additional funding will be needed to acquire a conservation easement on the remaining acreage.

The City's contribution of \$1,497,283 to the conservation easement purchase price is subject to the current fair market value as determined by an independent appraiser prior to closing, being equal to or greater than the agreed upon purchase price for the first phase acquisition.

RESOLUTION NO. 04

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council approves negotiation and execution of all necessary documents to purchase a conservation easement interest in approximately 2,288 acres located in Hays County at 2501 Gatlin Creek Road off of FM 12 from the Lynn Storm Family et al through the Hill Country Conservancy (HCC) in an amount not to exceed \$1,497,283 from the November 7, 2000 Proposition 2 Open Space bond proceeds; the final closing is subject to a current appraisal.

ADOPTED: _____, 2004

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk

E BLANCO COUNTY MAP
HAYES BLANCO AND 2

BLANCO COUNTY
HAYS COUNTY



Proposed Conservation Easement
Storm Ranch

