

**THIS IS A PROPOSED DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL, SIGNED ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.**

**AN ORDINANCE**

**AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT OVER THE EDWARDS AQUIFER RECHARGE ZONE ON AN APPROXIMATE 1,713 ACRE TRACT OF LAND KNOWN AS THE BLUDWORTH RANCH LOCATED IN UVALDE COUNTY, TEXAS FROM JESS CLARK WARD, III AND DEBORAH WARD AT A COST OF \$2,339,409.96.**

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**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program is to obtain property rights by fee simple purchase, conservation easements or donations of land over the sensitive zones of the Edwards Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed purchase of a conservation easement on the Bludworth Ranch is located over the Recharge Zone in Uvalde County; and

**WHEREAS**, this property initially was identified through use of the Scientific Evaluation Team's GIS Spatial Model and subsequent site visits identified previously undocumented faults and other favorable recharge features on the property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bludworth Ranch largely exists outside of the flood plain and is located entirely within the Sabinal River drainage basin which is an important recharge contributor to the Edwards Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately one mile of the Sabinal River runs through the western boundary of the ranch, and the property significantly contributes to surface water recharge due to the number of faults along the river; and

**WHEREAS**, the Edwards Aquifer Authority issued a geological assessment of the site confirming that preservation of the Bludworth Ranch would provide both high water quality and quantity benefits for the City of San Antonio; and

**WHEREAS**, this ranch is adjacent to other Edwards Aquifer protected properties and would result in the protection of over 4,100 acres of contiguous land within the Sabinal River; **NOW THEREFORE:**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:**

**SECTION 1.** The City Manager or her designee, or the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department or his designee, is authorized to execute a conservation easement over the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone on an approximate 1,713 acre tract of land known as the Bludworth Ranch

located in Uvalde County, Texas from Jess Clark Ward, III and Deborah Ward at a cost of \$2,339,409.96. A copy of the Conservation Easement, in substantially final form, is attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes as **Attachment I**.

**SECTION 2.** The City Manager or her designee, or the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department or his designee, is further authorized to execute any necessary documents to effectuate said acquisition.

**SECTION 3.** Payment in the amount not to exceed \$2,339,409.96 in SAP Fund 40005000, Park Improvements, SAP Project Definition 40-00271, Edward's Aquifer Land Acquisitions, is authorized to be encumbered and made payable to Chicago Title Insurance Company, for title on a conservation easement, due diligence and closing costs, on approximately 1,713-acre tract of land known as the Bludworth Ranch located in Uvalde County, Texas.

**SECTION 4.** The financial allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Director of Finance, City of San Antonio. The Director of Finance may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific SAP Fund Numbers, SAP Project Definitions, SAP WBS Elements, SAP Internal Orders, SAP Fund Centers, SAP Cost Centers, SAP Functional Areas, SAP Funds Reservation Document Numbers, and SAP GL Accounts as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 5.** This ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

**M A Y O R**  
Ivy R. Taylor

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

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Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney