

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 549-ACRE TRACT OF LAND KNOWN AS THE LAUREL CANYON RANCH LOCATED IN MEDINA COUNTY, TEXAS FROM LAUREL C. RANCH, L.P., AT A COST OF \$967,273.98.

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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 Laurel Canyon Ranch is located over the Recharge and Contributing Zones in Medina 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, limestone exposures, and other favorable recharge features on the property; and

WHEREAS, the Laurel Canyon Ranch is located entirely within the San Geronimo Creek watershed which is an important recharge contributor to the Edwards Aquifer; and

WHEREAS, approximately one and a half miles of the San Geronimo Creek runs through the center of the ranch, and the property significantly contributes to surface water runoff quality and quantity due to the current undeveloped state of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Edwards Aquifer Authority issued a geological assessment of the site confirming that preservation of the Laurel Canyon Ranch would provide both high water quality and quantity benefits for the City of San Antonio; **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 549-acre tract of land known as the Laurel Canyon Ranch located in Medina County, Texas from Laurel C Ranch, L.P., at a cost of \$967,273.98. 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 \$967,273.98 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 Texas Heritage Company, for title on a conservation easement, due diligence and closing costs, on approximately 549-acre tract of land known as the Laurel Canyon Ranch, located in Bexar 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:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney