

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 11/08/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0928

LOG NAME: 20NCF 2022 LAND CONSERVATION GRANT

## **SUBJECT**

(CD 8) Ratify Application for and, if Awarded, Acceptance of a Grant from the North Texas Community Foundation Under the 2022 Land Conservation Grant in an Amount Up to \$150,000.00 for Habitat Restoration and Enhancing the Utilization of Conserved Lands, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreements, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify application for and, if awarded, acceptance of a grant from the North Texas Community Foundation under the 2022 Land Conservation Grant in an amount up to \$150,000.00 to be used for habitat restoration and enhancing the utilization of conserved lands;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all applicable grant contracts including renewals and amendments; and
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Capital Project Other Fund, subject to receipt of the grant, in the amount of \$150,000.00 for the purpose of funding habitat restoration and enhancing the utilization of conserved lands.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The North Texas Community Foundation (NCF) invited the City to apply for an invitation-only Land Conservation Grant for the preservation of North Texas area ranch land and open-space land utilized for agricultural purposes, wildlife, or botanical resources. Grant funding can be used for land conservation (land acquisition, habitat restoration, etc.) and/or enhancing the utilization of the conserved land (trails, signage, etc.).

The NCF grant will be used to fund habitat restoration and accessibility projects at the Broadcast Hill Natural Area, Tandy Hills Nature Area, and Stratford Nature Area. These projects will include the extension of the trail system to provide a connection between the Broadcast Hill Natural Area, Tandy Hills Nature Area, and Stratford Nature Area, the design and installation of signage, and the control of invasive privet through forestry mulching and herbicide application. NCF funds will also be used to establish a Natural Resource Management Internship Program and fund three positions through a temporary employment agency at the sites in the summer of 2023.

The estimated cost to accomplish these projects is \$150,000.00, which includes the following expenditures:

<b>Estimated Expenditures</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Trail development	\$52,000.00
Privet mulching & herbicide application	\$68,000.00
Signage design & installation	\$10,000.00
Internship program	\$20,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>

Approval of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) will ratify the application for the North Texas Community Foundation 2022 Land Conservation Grant. Additionally, approval will authorize acceptance of the grant funding, if awarded, and the execution of any necessary grant agreements. The Open Space Conservation Program, under the Stormwater Management Division of the Transportation & Public Works Department, and the Park & Recreation Department will be responsible for the oversight and management of this grant project.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds

will be available in the current capital budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Capital Project Other. The Transportation and Public Works – Stormwater Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Transportation and Public Works – Stormwater Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is an advance grant.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** Dana Burghdoff 8018

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