

CONSENT AGENDA  
ITEM NO. 17

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Malcolm Matthews, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Christopher J. Brady; Finance; Management and Budget; Legal; File

**SUBJECT:** Plant Conservation Program and Research Program at the San Antonio Botanical Garden

**DATE:** May 13, 2004

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes staff to accept donations for the plant conservation program and the plant research program at the San Antonio Botanical Garden and establishes two grant-funded part-time positions to continue these programs.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Since 1985, the San Antonio Botanical Garden has been a Participant Institution of the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC). The CPC is a national organization established to coordinate a permanent, comprehensive, systematic and accessible living collection of rare and endangered plants native to the United States. With this collection, the CPC, through its participating institutions, promotes botanical research, public education and distribution of plant material.

Participation in the CPC program was originally approved through Ordinance 60946, passed and approved on June 26, 1985, and for the past eighteen years, the San Antonio Botanical Garden has operated as a Participant Institution in this prestigious organization. The work of the Botanical Garden staff has resulted in the identification and study of numerous plants and their natural habitat. Propagation of some species has been accomplished at the Botanical Garden, thereby assuring that the endangered plants will not be lost. The CPC has provided grant funds for personnel and supply costs for the program and these have been supplemented over the years from other interested societies or persons who desire to promote plant conservation.

A temporary employee has been hired over the past several years to assist with collection, propagation and education tasks associated with the program. With the City's revised policy on temporary employees that limits the number of hours worked to 960, it is necessary to establish a

part-time Gardener I position so that a qualified individual may continue the work. As outlined in the ordinance that approved participation in the grant, CPC funding will continue as long as the Center for Plant Conservation continues the program.

In addition to the conservation support, other grant agencies and individuals who are interested in plant research have donated funds to the Botanical Garden. In the past, these funds have been combined with the conservation monies, but this ordinance will establish separate accounting codes for these research activities. Most recently, the Flohr Family Foundation has contributed \$1,000.00 and the Mountain States Wholesale Nursery has given \$5,000.00. These funds will be utilized to establish a grant-funded part-time Gardener I position to continue plant research activities.

If the grant or donations are discontinued or reduced, then the positions will not be filled or hours worked will be reduced accordingly.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

The CPC program was originally approved through Ordinance 60946, passed and approved on June 26, 1985. Continuation of this program and acceptance of donation monies conforms to the long-standing policy of the City to utilize grant funds to provide services and programs that benefit the residents of our community. The two new part-time positions require City Council approval.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The CPC program provides \$250.00 annually per endangered plant species maintained. The annual amount donated to the Botanical Garden is \$3,250.00 for the thirteen species currently maintained. The Flohr Family Foundation has donated funding of \$1,000.00 and the Mountain States Wholesale Nursery has donated \$5,000.00 which will be utilized for plant research. These funds will be expended for part-time salary costs and associated program expenses that include annual CPC membership, official travel and car allowance.


These programs do not require a cash or in-kind match and will place no demands on the City's General Fund.

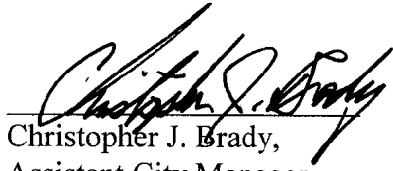
### **COORDINATION**

This project was coordinated with the Finance Department, Office of Management and Budget, and Human Resources Department.

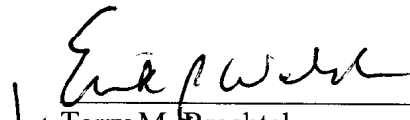
**SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

An Ethics Ordinance Disclosure Statement is not required.

  
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Malcolm Matthews,  
Director of Parks and Recreation

  
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Christopher J. Brady,  
Assistant City Manager

Approved:

  
Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager

Center for Plant Conservation  
62-014014  
62-269013

**BUDGET**

<u>Index Code:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Current Budget:</u>	<u>Revisions:</u>	<u>Revised Budget:</u>
REVENUES:				
	Prior Balance	\$22,138.00	\$0.00	\$22,138.00
FY03/04 Deposits:				
046102	Center for Plant Conservation Donation	\$3,250.00	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
046102	HH Philips Jr.	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
046102	John C. Kerr	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
046102	Zoological Society of Cincinnati	\$315.00	\$0.00	\$315.00
046102	Flohr Family Foundation	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)	\$0.00
046102	Mountain States Wholesale Nursery	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>(\$5,000.00)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Total:	\$32,053.00	(\$6,000.00)	\$26,053.00

EXPENDITURES:

new	Employee Salaries - CPC project	\$0.00	\$10,400.00	\$10,400.00
new	Social Security - CPC project	\$0.00	\$796.00	\$796.00
461103	Fees to Professional Contractors	\$2,231.25	\$1,243.75	\$3,475.00
461038	Travel - Official	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
464230	Food	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$40.00</u>	<u>\$40.00</u>
	Total:	\$2,231.25	\$12,679.75	\$14,911.00

**PERSONNEL COMPLEMENT**

CLASS NO.	TITLE	# OF POSITIONS	
0410	Gardener I Part-Time Position	1	NEW

Botanical Garden Plant Research  
62-014014  
62-2690\_\_

**BUDGET**

<u>Index Code:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Current Budget:</u>	<u>Revisions:</u>	<u>Revised Budget:</u>
REVENUES:				
new	Flohr Family Foundation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
new	Mountain States Wholesale Nursery	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	Total:	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00

EXPENDITURES:

new	Employee Salaries - Plant Research	\$0.00	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
new	Social Security - Plant Research	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
new	Travel - Plant Research	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
	Total:	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00

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