

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA
ITEM NO. 29

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Malcolm Matthews, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Ordinance Authorizing Acquisition of 72 acre tract

DATE: December 9, 2004

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the purchase of a 72 acre tract located on Jett Road and the Medina River in City Council District 4 from Verde Supply Corporation for the amount of \$240,000.00 with the cost to be divided between the City and the San Antonio Parks Foundation, appropriates \$90,000.00 in 2003-2007 Park Bond Funds and encumbers funds for land acquisition.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The 2003 Bond Issue approved \$1,450,000.00 in funding for land acquisition and improvements for open space and development of a hike and bike trail system in the Mitchell Lake/Land Heritage Institute area along the Medina River. The San Antonio Parks Foundation has negotiated a sales agreement for purchase of a 72 +/- acre tract which expands the Medina River Park. The San Antonio Parks Foundation has been instrumental in other land transactions associated with development of the park.

The Mitchell Lake/Land Heritage Institute Project will link Medina River Park to the South Port development, the Land Heritage Institute site, the Toyota site, the Mitchell Lake Wetlands area and the proposed Texas A & M campus by means of a hike and bike trail. The acquisition of this property will help to meet planning goals for the vicinity, including linkage to the Medina River Park.

The Verde Supply Corporation, represented by B.F. Pitman III, President, has agreed to sell the property for the price of \$240,000.00. This amount will be divided between the Parks Foundation (\$150,000.00) and the City (\$90,000.00). The sale will be made to the Parks Foundation, which will then assign the sales contract to the City of San Antonio as public parkland. The Parks Foundation will also pay for closing costs, estimated to be about \$3,000.00.

In regard to the future development phase of this 2003 Bond project, the Consultant Selection Committee has selected a consultant team (led by Halff Associates, Inc.) and staff has met with the consultant to review the project, discuss the scope of work and review the project limits (from Medina River Park to a connection with the proposed Texas A & M site). The consultant will submit a proposal that will be taken before City Council in January to award a contract and appropriate funds. The consultant will look at various routes, options for acquisition and other

design criteria in a pre-design phase which should take a few months. Staff and others will evaluate the best route given various parameters. Once a plan of action is approved, the consultant will move into design phases of the project, concurrently with any additional land acquisition that may need to occur. Design of the improvements is estimated to take six months from time of notice to proceed. This would place design end in Fall 2005, with construction starting in early 2006.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This action is consistent with the approved 2003 Bond Issue. The San Antonio Parks Foundation has endorsed the property acquisition. This acquisition is consistent with the Medina River Park Project previously approved by the Planning Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT

The amount of \$1,450,000.00 in 2003-2007 Park Bond Funds has been identified for property acquisition and trail development in the Mitchell Lake/Land Heritage Institute area. This ordinance will appropriate \$90,000.00 for land acquisition. The total sales price is \$240,000.00 and the Parks Foundation has committed \$150,000.00 plus closing costs of about \$3,000.00.

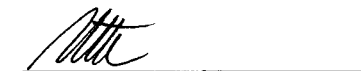
The new park property will require some maintenance and security expenses from the Department's General Fund budget, estimated at approximately \$33,080.00 per year. This amount will be requested during the FY05/06 budget cycle.

COORDINATION

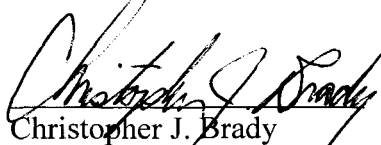
This acquisition has been coordinated with the San Antonio Parks Foundation, City Attorney's Office and Finance Department.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

A Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.



Malcolm Matthews,
Director of Parks and Recreation



Christopher J. Brady
Assistant City Manager



J. Rolando Bono
Interim City Manager

Site Map

Park Acquisition



City of San Antonio
Parks and Recreation Department

Site Map Park Acquisition

