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

TO:

Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

FROM:

Malcolm Matthews, Director of Parks and Recreation

**SUBJECT:** 

Appropriation of Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation

and Protection Program Funds

DATE:

May 4, 2006

### **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes the appropriation of \$100,000.00 from Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program funds for creation of a Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial model to be used in identifying potential land for acquisition and protection under the Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In May 2005 voters approved Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program, a 1/8<sup>th</sup> cent sales tax increase for the protection of the Edwards Aquifer sensitivity zones. Through the sales tax increase, the City would collect \$90 million to acquire and preserve land or land interests in the aquifer's recharge and contributing zones inside and outside Bexar County.

Land to be acquired under this program will be identified using a GIS-spatial model, comparable to the model utilized for the City's first Edwards Aquifer protection program, Proposition 3. The model created for Proposition 3 was exclusively for Bexar County. The model to be created for Proposition 1 will extend into Medina and Uvalde counties. Creation of this spatial model will be accomplished through professional service agreements with several GIS specialists. The model's development will occur in two phases; phase one occurring over four months, will focus on the creation of the model's data layers, phase two occurring over two months, will focus on the property priorities identified by the model. Once the spatial model is complete, it will be used by the Conservation Advisory Board to target land appropriate for acquisition.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

This action is consistent with the City's Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program for the acquisition of properties in the Edwards Aquifer Sensitivity zones as presented in the 1/8<sup>th</sup> cent sales tax municipal election passed and approved by the voters on May 7, 2005.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

A total \$100,000.00 is available from Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program funds. This ordinance will appropriate these funds for use in the creation of a GIS spatial model to be used in identifying land for acquisition under Proposition 1. This action will place no demands on the City's General Fund.

## **COORDINATION**

This item has been coordinated with the Finance Department and the Office of Management and Budget

Malcolm Matthews

Director of Parks and Recreation

Frances A. Gonzalez

Assistant City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:

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Sheryl Sculley

City Manager