

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

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager
FROM: Malcolm Matthews, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
SUBJECT: Woodland Hills Nature Preserve: U.S. Geological Survey
DATE: June 1, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes an agreement with the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct environmental surveys required by the federal Endangered Species Act for the Woodland Hills Nature Preserve; and authorizes payment to the USGS of \$30,000.00 from Proposition 3 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program funds.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Woodland Hills property is a 326 acre addition to the existing Emily and Albert Friedrich Wilderness Park in City Council District 8. Prior to development of this additional acreage for public use, the City must comply with the Federal Endangered Species Act, which requires survey for and protection of the nine federally listed karst invertebrates. To comply with the Act, this ordinance will authorize the City to enter into an interlocal agreement with the USGS to complete a karst invertebrates survey of the Woodland Hills property. The survey will identify any sensitive karst and recharge features, and determine the presence of federally listed endangered karst invertebrates. Survey results will be used to delineate areas that require protection. The survey is expected to commence on June 15, 2006, with an anticipated completion date of September 30, 2006.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This action is consistent with the approved Proposition 3 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program, which funded the Woodland Hills acquisition and is in accordance with Ordinance No. 97052 ("Land Use and Management Planning Guidelines for Natural Areas"). This action continues the City's adherence to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requirements and completion of necessary surveys for identified federally listed endangered species when the presence of species is known or probable. The USGS a partner in the Edwards Aquifer Conservation and Protection Program as a member of both the Scientific Evaluation Team and the Conservation Advisory Board. As such, the USGS has unique insight into the

goals and guidelines of this program. The USGS has previously entered into interlocal agreements with the City and has produced quality results in their surveys and reports.

FISCAL IMPACT

Payment of \$30,000.00 to the USGS is required and will come from Proposition 3 Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone Conservation and Protection Program funds.

COORDINATION

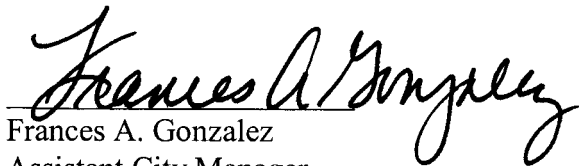
This item has been coordinated with the USGS, the Finance Department, and the Office of Management and Budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

A Discretionary Contract Disclosure statement is not required.

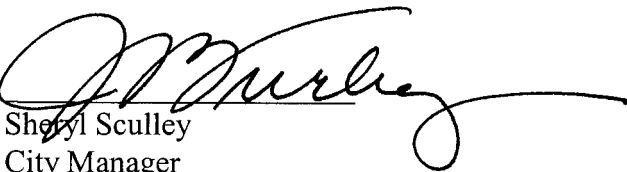


Malcolm Matthews
Director of Parks and Recreation



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:



Sheryl Sculley
City Manager