



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2494, **Agenda Item #:** 36.

7/29/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of all documents and instruments necessary or desirable to accept 215.148 acres out of the T.J. Chambers Survey, Abstract No. 7 and the Albert Sillsbe, Abstract No. 744, in Travis County, Texas, known as the Bright Leaf Preserve, located at 4113 Old Bull Creek Road, from Austin Community Foundation.

Lead Department

Office of Real Estate Services

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Bright Leaf Preserve ("Preserve") is a Texas non-profit corporation. Austin Community Foundation currently operates and manages the Preserve.

The Preserve owns approximately 215.148 acres of real property and all improvements thereon known as Bright Leaf Preserve ("Bright Leaf"). Bright Leaf was gifted pursuant to the terms of the will of Georgia B. Lucas dated August 19, 1994. The will allows Bright Leaf to be used only as a park and nature preserve and subject to certain terms and conditions. The will grants the preserve director housing at the preserve for his life and existing housing allows him to continue managing the preserve to the extent he chooses to, as a service for the City and for the legacy of the preserve. The Bright Leaf Preserve has historically contained at least two target species for protection under the 1996 Balcones Canyonland Conservation Plan permit that the City committed to protect, Golden-cheeked Warblers (*Stetophaga chrysoparia*) and a rare plant, the Bracted Twistflower (*Stephanthus bracteatus*). The preserve is also about a mile upstream of City water-supply intake at Davis Water Treatment Plant. The preserve has not been open for general public access, just volunteer efforts and guided tours. The Bright Leaf Foundation generates an annual endowment of about \$20,000 per year that will continue to maintain the preserve. Boundary fencing and shaded fuel break wildfire protection are being installed with funding from the endowment.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.