



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1494, **Agenda Item #:** 41.

3/25/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of all documents and instruments necessary or desirable to acquire in fee simple approximately 0.1779 acres, (7,749 sq. ft.), of land described as the South 45 feet of Lot 7, Chernosky Subdivision No.6, Recorded in Volume 720, Page 1 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, Conveyed to Santos Alejo by Quitclaim Deed filed for Record on June 23, 1993, Recorded in volume 11963, Page 478 of the Real Property Records of Travis County Texas, located at 1141 ½ Poquito Street, Austin, Texas from Santos Alejo a/k/a Jose Santos Alejo, for a total amount not to exceed \$378,400 including closing costs.

Lead Department

Office of Real Estate Services.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$378,400 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

For More Information:

Megan Herron, Office of Real Estate Services, 512-974-5649; Alex Gale, Office of Real Estate Services, 512-974-1416; Randy Scott, Park and Recreation Department, 512-974-9484.

Additional Backup Information:

The Parks and Recreation Department is funding this proposed greenbelt acquisition through the 2018 bond, proposition C. The parcel is .1779 acres located at 1141 ½ Poquito Street, adjacent to Poquito Creek. While 2/3 of the western portion of the lot is unencumbered by floodplain impacts, the centerline of Poquito Creek runs through the northeastern portion of the lot resulting in 1/3 of the lot being within the 100-year floodplain.

This acquisition will safely connect Rosewood Courts and surrounding community via an 8-10' trail to amenities along the Boggy Creek Greenbelt, including Rosewood Neighborhood Park, DeWitty Job Training and Employment Center, and the 5-mile East Link Trail. Users and visitors of the greenbelt will in turn be able to safely access the culturally significant Rosewood Courts, as well the George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center. Rosewood Courts is the first federal housing project in the nation built for African Americans and a portion of it will soon be redeveloped (supported unanimously by Council in 2018).

An aspect of the Rosewood Courts redevelopment will be the re-creation of Emancipation Park. Emancipation Park was purchased by the Emancipation Celebration Association in 1905, and the first Juneteenth or Emancipation Day celebration in Austin took place here in 1906. The park was located at the present-day site of Rosewood Courts. In 1938, the City of Austin acquired the Emancipation Park property to build Rosewood Courts.

An independent, third-party appraisal was procured to establish the fair-market valuation of the proposed acquisition. The appraisal supports the purchase price of \$375,000. The amount of the purchase price plus closing costs is not to exceed \$378,400.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.