



Legislation Text

File #: 051115., Version: 1

Contract with Alachua Conservation Trust (B)

This item involves the City contracting with Alachua Conservation Trust to provide land acquisition services for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project.

The State of Florida's Florida Communities Trust Program (FCT) application cycle opened on February 24, 2006. During that cycle, approximately \$66,000,000 in grants was available for local governments to acquire conservation and outdoor recreation land.

On February 27, 2006 the City Commission authorized the City Manager to contract with Alachua Conservation Trust (ACT) to prepare a Florida Communities Trust Grant Application for the acquisition of the Hartman-Mackay Property (Hogtown Creek Headwaters).

On May 8, 2006 the City Commission approved the grant application to FCT and authorized the City Manager to execute it and other grant-related documents, if awarded.

On October 25, 2006 the City of Gainesville was notified that FCT approved the funding for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project and provided the Grant Contract and Confidentiality Agreement for execution by the City Manager.

The City of Gainesville proposes to further contract with ACT to negotiate the terms of the Grant Award Agreement with FCT on behalf of the City of Gainesville and provide land acquisition services for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project such as order, receive and review a title and encumbrance report; order and review a Phase 1 and possibly a Phase 2 environmental audit; negotiate any out-parcel sales; order and review two appraisals; negotiate an option for the purchase of the property; create a preliminary site plan, and coordinate other facets of the acquisition process.

\$100,000 has been allocated in the 2007 General Fund for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project (Hartman-Mackay property). ACT's costs for land acquisition services would be \$70,000.

The City Commission authorize the City Manager to contract with ACT for the land acquisition services for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project. This contract is subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Alternative Recommendation A): The City Commission decline the contract with ACT for the Hogtown Creek Headwaters project and direct staff to negotiate the terms of the FCT Grant Award Agreement and land acquisition.