



## Legislation Text

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### **U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Community Forest Program 2012 Grant Application (NB)**

**This item involves a request for the City to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, if awarded, to assist the City in the acquisition of 61.21 acres of forested property adjacent to Fred Cone Park.**

In February 2012, City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs staff was notified of a grant submittal announcement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, with a submittal deadline of May 15, 2012. Prior to the submittal deadline, staff prepared and submitted a grant application proposing the acquisition of 61.21 acres of forested land adjacent to the Fred Cone Park property. These parcels are on the Department's second priority tier of the priority land acquisition list. Acquisition of this forested community will provide necessary greenspace and water quality protection.

The total estimated acquisition amount is \$750,000. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service requires a 50% match. City funding in the amount of \$375,000 is currently available in Wild Spaces Public Places acquisition funds to contribute the required 50% match.

The City Commission: 1) approve the request to accept a grant, if awarded, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service for the acquisition of 61.21 acres adjacent to Fred Cone Park; and 2) if awarded, authorize the City Manager or designee to execute the grant award agreement and other grant-related documents, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.