

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF 64.033 ACRES, AS AN ADDITION TO THE BLODGETT OPEN SPACE THROUGH THE TRAILS, OPEN SPACE AND PARKS (TOPS) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs ("City") Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, through its Trails, Open Space and Parks Program ("TOPS"), has identified three parcels of land adjacent to the Blodgett Open Space as important properties for acquisition and future recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Springs Park System Master Plan identifies these parcels as within an Open Space Candidate Area; and

WHEREAS, this acquisition will protect the City's mountain backdrop and will secure property adjacent to the existing Blodgett Open Space property which might otherwise be developed; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has negotiated the acquisition of the three parcels (the "Property"), identified as Tax Schedule Numbers 73000 00 481, 73000 00 483 and 73000 00 484, legally described on Exhibit 1 and map depicted on Exhibit 2, which are currently owned by T Slattery, LLC (the "Seller"); and

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2018, the TOPS Working Committee, through the City's TOPS program, voted unanimously to support the acquisition of the Property and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board received a presentation at its July 12, 2018 meeting and unanimously voted to recommend this acquisition at its August 9, 2018 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the three parcels include unique natural and recreational resources including panoramic views of the City, mountain terrain, and additional trail connections; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of this property is in the public interest, because it provides additional open space on the City of Colorado Springs' western boundary which protects the City's beautiful mountain backdrop; and

WHEREAS, the City has obtained an appraisal for the Property that supports the purchase price of \$768,500 and funding will be required from the Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) Open Space category as authorized by the City Code of the City of Colorado Springs, § 4.6.101, *et. seq.* and § 4.6.201, *et. seq.* to complete the real estate transaction, and secure the property.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. City Council finds the acquisition of the Property for open space purposes to be in the best interest of the citizens of Colorado Springs.

Section 2. Pursuant to the City of Colorado Springs Procedural Manual for the Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property Interests ("Real Estate Manual"), Section 4.1, City Council hereby authorizes the acquisition of the Property for a purchase price of \$768,500 which represents the fair market value of the property.

Section 3. The City of Colorado Springs Real Estate Manager and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the acquisition, in accord and compliance with the Real Estate Manual.

Section 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

DATED at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Exhibit 1:Legal Description
El Paso County Tax Schedule Numbers
73000 00 481, 73000 00 483 and 73000 00 484

Exhibit 2: Parcel Map