

**THIS IS A PROPOSED DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL,  
SIGNED ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.**

**ORDINANCE**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$854,247.64 FROM PROPOSITION 1 OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER PROTECTION SALES TAX FUND INCLUDED IN THE FY 2023 - FY 2028 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, TO MISSION TITLE COMPANY AS ESCROW AGENT FOR TITLE ON A CONSERVATION EASEMENT, DUE DILIGENCE AND CLOSING COSTS ON A 399.13-ACRE TRACT OF LAND KNOWN AS THE MORROW RANCH LOCATED IN UVALDE COUNTY, TEXAS.**

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**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program is to obtain property rights by fee simple purchase, conservation easements or donations of land over the sensitive zones of the Edwards Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed purchase of the conservation easement on the Morrow Ranch is located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone and consists of 399.13 acres in Uvalde County, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow Ranch is located within the Brushy Creek watershed which feeds the Frio River and contributes to significant recharge of the Edwards Aquifer. The Edwards Aquifer Authority issued a geological assessment of the property confirming that preservation would provide high water quantity benefit and very high water quality benefit for the City of San Antonio; and

**WHEREAS**, acquisition of this property is consistent with the policy for implementation of the Proposition 1 Edwards Aquifer Protection Venue Project as approved by voters and will increase the total protected lands under the City's aquifer protection program by 399.13 acres; the current protected acreage is 177,635 acres. The City Council-appointed Conservation Advisory Board has reviewed and recommended this acquisition; **NOW THEREFORE:**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:**

**SECTION 1.** The City Manager or designee is authorized to acquire an aquifer-protection conservation easement on approximately 399.13 acres of land known as the Morrow Ranch as depicted on the map in **ATTACHMENT I**, being more particularly described by metes and bounds in **ATTACHMENT II**, and substantially in the form attached as **ATTACHMENT III**.

**SECTION 2.** The City Manager or designee is authorized to consummate the transaction contemplated in the described easements. The City Manager or designee should take all other

SW/MK  
6/1/2023  
Item No. 14

actions necessary or convenient to effectuate the transaction, including agreeing to the form of and executing all necessary or convenient instruments and agreements.

**SECTION 3.** Acquisition of a conservation easement is authorized on 399.13 acres of land known as the Morrow Ranch in Uvalde County.

**SECTION 4.** This ordinance authorizes payment in the amount of \$854,247.64 to Mission Title Company as escrow agent for title on a conservation easement, due diligence and closing costs on a 399.13-acre tract of land known as the Morrow Ranch located in Uvalde County, Texas. Acquisition cost for this easement is consistent with the appraised value of the property.

**SECTION 5.** The financial allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, City of San Antonio. The Deputy Chief Financial Officer may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific Fund Numbers, Project Definitions, WBS Elements, Internal Orders, Fund Centers, Cost Centers, Functional Areas, Funds Reservation Document Numbers, and GL Accounts as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 6.** This ordinance becomes effective 10 days after passage, unless it receives the eight votes requisite to immediate effectiveness under San Antonio Municipal Code § 1-15, in which case it becomes effective immediately.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 1st day of June, 2023.

**M A Y O R**  
Ron Nirenberg

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

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Andrew Segovia, City Attorney