

RESOLUTION 2022-081
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT WITH LARIMER COUNTY FOR THE NORTHERN BIG GAME CRITICAL
WINTER RANGE RESTORATION PROJECT AT
COYOTE RIDGE AND BOBCAT RIDGE NATURAL AREAS

WHEREAS, Larimer County (“County”), in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the City’s Natural Areas Department, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, and Jefferson County Open Space applied for and received a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (“NFWF”) RESTORE program to restore winter range habitat needed for mule deer and elk in Larimer, Boulder, and Jefferson counties (the “Grant”); and

WHEREAS, the Grant will fund treatments to control and eradicate invasive annual grasses with indaziflam (Rejuvra), a scientifically proven and widely accepted herbicide, across seven front range foothills open space properties, totaling more than 4,300 acres; and

WHEREAS, the City owns properties south and southwest of Fort Collins known as Coyote Ridge Natural Areas and Bobcat Ridge Natural Area (the “Natural Areas”); and

WHEREAS, annual invasive grasses have taken hold on both the Natural Areas, outcompeting native vegetation food sources for elk and mule deer and creating fine fuel loads that increase wildfire risk; and

WHEREAS, the City’s estimated portion of the Grant allocation is \$58,500, with a required in-kind or cash match of \$32,437, and the Natural Areas Department wishes to use these funds to treat invasive grasses on 230 acres at Coyote Ridge and 550 acres at Bobcat Ridge; and

WHEREAS, the funds for the City’s match are already appropriated and available for expenditure in the Natural Areas Fund; and

WHEREAS, as the primary applicant on the Grant, the County is responsible for managing the Grant, including executing any necessary grant agreements with the NFWF and coordinating reimbursements, and the County has asked the City to enter into an agreement, in substantially the form of the draft attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference, to document the City’s and County’s obligations with respect to the Grant (the “IGA”); and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16 of the City Charter empowers the City Council, by ordinance or resolution, to enter into contracts with governmental bodies to furnish governmental services and make charges for such services, or enter into cooperative or joint activities with other governmental bodies; and

WHEREAS, Section 29-1-203 of the Colorado Revised Statutes provides that governments may cooperate or contract with one another to provide certain services or facilities when such cooperation or contracts are authorized by each party thereto with the approval of its legislative body or other authority having the power to so approve; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that entering into the IGA with the County is in the best interests of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute the IGA, pursuant to which the County will reimburse the City for costs related to treating invasive grasses on Bobcat Ridge and Coyote Ridge Natural Areas, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit "A," together with such modifications and additions as the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, determines are necessary or appropriate to protect the interests of the City or further the purposes of this Resolution, as set forth above.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 16th day of August, A.D. 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk