STATE OF LOUISIANA

CITY OF WEST MONROE

ORDINANCE NO	MOTION BY:
	SECONDED BY:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND THE ROAD HOME CORPORATION, A LOUISIANA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION DOING BUSINESS AS LOUISIANA LAND TRUST, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A VOLUNTARY BUYOUT AND HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM; TO APPROVE THE RECEIPT, MAINTENANCE, DISPOSITION, AND RESTRICTION OF THE PROPERTIES TO BE ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF WEST MONROE IN COMPLIANCE WITH PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS; TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, OR HER DESIGNEE WHEN APPROPRIATE, TO EXECUTE ACTS OF TRANSFER BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST MONROE AND LOUISIANA LAND TRUST, AND TO APPROVE LOUISIANA LAND TRUST'S EXECUTION OF ACTS OF TRANSFER WITH OTHER APPROVED POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS, LAND TRUSTS OR SIMILAR NON-PROFIT AS OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IN APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES, SUBJECT TO OPEN SPACE DEED RESTRICTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of West Monroe; the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development (OCD); and the Road Home Corporation, a Louisiana non-profit corporation, doing business as Louisiana Land Trust (LLT), endeavor to facilitate the implementation of a voluntary buyout and housing incentive program;

WHEREAS, such a program, initiated by OCD, will enable LLT to acquire eligible properties, clear the properties of any structures prohibited by the program, and thereafter transfer the property to the City of West Monroe or its approved entity, subject to open space deed restrictions in accordance with program requirements;

WHEREAS, this program will benefit the City of West Monroe by reducing areas subject to flood damage and expanding areas to assist in flood control and mitigation;

WHEREAS, the designated area for the program is certain portions of the Mt. Gillead Addition, of JF Heard's First Addition, and of Unit 2 of Parkwood Addition subdivisions, all located within the City of West Monroe which are in close proximity to the Black Bayou drainage canal, and are the highest flood risk areas prioritized for Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation Funding;

WHEREAS, the goal of the program is to mitigate future risks and damages resulting from flooding and other impacts from disasters by buying out high-risk properties and returning these properties to open and/or green space; and

WHEREAS, the actions of the City of West Monroe, OCD, and LLT will result in a public benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE,

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the City of West Monroe does hereby approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of West Monroe, OCD, and LLT for the Louisiana Watershed Initiative Buyout Program.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the City of West Monroe agrees to receive, maintain, dispose, and restrict use of the properties acquired through the program in compliance with program requirements.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that in order to receive those properties as provided above, Staci Albritton Mitchell, as Mayor of the City of West Monroe, or her designee, when appropriate, is authorized to execute Acts of Transfer between the City of West Monroe and LLT, and all other documents related thereto.

SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that in order to receive those properties as provided above, Staci Albritton Mitchell, as Mayor of the City of West Monroe, or her designee, when appropriate, is authorized to approve LLT's execution of Acts of Transfer with another approved political subdivision, land trust, or similar non-profit as owner of the property or properties, subject to the open space deed restrictions included in the open space conservation servitude required by the program.

SECTION 5. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The above Ordinance was read and considered by sections at a public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular and legal session convened, voted on by yea and nay vote, this 7th day of May, 2024, the final vote being as follows:

YEA:	
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NAY:	
NOT VOTING:	
ABSENT:	
ATTEST:	APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 2024
CINDY EMORY, CITY CLERK CITY OF WEST MONROE STATE OF LOUISIANA	THOM HAMILTON, MAYOR PRO TEM CITY OF WEST MONROE STATE OF LOUISIANA