

BY AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE NO. _____
SERIES OF 2026

COUNCIL BILL NO. CB-0422
Park, Art and Culture

A BILL

For an Ordinance approving a proposed donation of surplus American Bison from the City and County of Denver to American Indian Tribes and American Indian Non-Profit Organizations.

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver owns herds of American Bison which graze on lands operated by the Parks and Recreation Department and are part of a conservation program to ensure a strong protected line of bison; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver historically auctions surplus American Bison in order to maintain the health of the herds and in consideration of the carrying capacity of the land; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver in recognition of the significance of the American Bison to American Indian people desires to donate surplus American Bison to American Indian Tribes and American Indian Non-Profit organizations as an integral component of cultural and spiritual preservation, and

WHEREAS, Denver City Council adopted a Land Acknowledgement in 2020 to their weekly City Council meeting where they recognize the original stewards of the land and the obligation to work to dismantle legacies of oppression and inequity and this effort is a significant contribution to that charge;

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation and the Executive Director of General Services shall regularly designate the donation of surplus American Bison, and in doing so may at their discretion consult with American Indian Tribes or American Indian Non-Profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed donation of surplus American Bison from the City and County of Denver to American Indian Tribes and American Indian Non-Profit organizations cannot be made until approval by the Council of the City in accordance with subsection 2.9.3 (c), Part 9, of Article II of the Charter of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of General Services has determined that American Bison have been surplus in the past and are likely to be surplus in the future and these donations are in the best interests of the City; and

