

## **BILL/ RESOLUTION REQUEST**

1. **Title:** Approves a Grant Agreement with Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for up to \$1,000,000.00 for land acquisition in the River North area of Denver for use as a park (GC00035).

2.

3. **Requesting Agency:** Parks and Recreation

4. **Contact Person *with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance***

**Name:** Devon Buckels

**Phone:** 720-913-0616

**Email:** devon.buckels@ci.denver.co.us

5. **Contact Person *with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance who will present the item at Mayor Council and who will be available for first and second reading, if necessary***

**Name:** Devon Buckels

**Phone:** 720-913-0616

**Email:** devon.buckels@ci.denver.co.us

6. **Describe the proposed ordinance, including what the proposed ordinance is intended to accomplish, who's involved**

**a. Scope of Work**

Denver Parks & Recreation has applied for and received a grant award for the purpose of acquiring land for a new park in the River North area of Denver. This new park would implement the River North Greenway Master Plan. The 2.1 acre site is located along the South Platte River corridor. The property is located in an area that was targeted for residential and commercial development prior to the real estate market downturn, and we expect the fast pace of private development to resume in the area as the economy recovers. This property acquisition will ensure public access to the river and future recreational opportunities. We are glad to have this rare opportunity made possible by this grant from GOCO and our partnership with the Trust for Public Land (TPL), to purchase this property and convert it into a public park.

The exact purchase price is not known at this time – the transaction has not occurred. The GOCO grant award that is the subject of this Ordinance Request is for up to \$1,000,000.00. Denver Parks and Recreation is planning to pay the remaining costs of the purchase at closing. The Trust for Public Land is facilitating this transaction and has provided negotiation services.

A companion Ordinance Request is being submitted for the Disposition Agreement which will be used to transfer the property to the City and County of Denver.

**b. Duration**

DPR expects to complete the acquisition process by May, 2011.

**c. Location**

Property to be acquired is located at 3400 Arkins. This property is between 31st and 35th Avenue on the east side of Arkins Court in the South Platte River Corridor.

**d. Affected Council District**

9

**e. Benefits**

See General Description

**f. Costs**

Final purchase price unknown, but the anticipated purchase price is approx \$2.4 million, of which this GOCO grant would cover \$1 million, leaving Parks & Recreation to cover the balance of approx \$1.4 million.

The DPR funding source is 2010 and 2011 CIP funding.

**6. Is there any controversy surrounding this ordinance, groups or individuals who may have concerns about it? Please explain.**

No controversy known. Feedback on the property acquisition has been very supportive. This project implements the River North Greenway Master Plan, which went through a public process that had excellent attendance and participation.

**Bill Request Number: <BRNumber>**

**Date: <SubmitDate>**