

BY AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE NO. _____
SERIES OF 2021

COUNCIL BILL NO. CB21- 0351
DIRECT FILE - TORRES

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 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 Yellowstone 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 Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes located in Oklahoma operate and maintain herds of American Bison on historical grass land for the benefit of their community; and

WHEREAS, City and County of Denver in recognition of the significance of the American Bison to American Indian people desires in 2021 to donate surplus American Bison to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and additional Tribes in future years 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, in consultation with the Denver American Indian Commission, the Tall Bull Memorial Council and the InterTribal Buffalo Council, American Indian Tribes or American Indian Non-Profit organizations, the donation of surplus American Bison through the year 2030; 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

1 best interests of the City; and

2 **WHEREAS** the Mayor has duly reviewed and approved the proposed donation.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF**
4 **DENVER:**

5 **Section 1.** Subject to availability, the proposed donation of surplus American Bison to the
6 Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in 2021, and to select American Indian Tribes and American Indian
7 Non-Profit organizations by the City through the year 2030 is hereby approved.

8 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: N/A

9 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: N/A

10 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: April 12, 2021

11 *David Filmon* - PRESIDENT

12 APPROVED: _____ - MAYOR _____

13 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
14 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
15 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

16 NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL: _____ ; _____

17 PREPARED BY: Steven J. Hahn, Assistant City Attorney DATE: March 25, 2021

18 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of the
19 City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed
20 ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to §
21 3.2.6 of the Charter.

22
23 Kristin M. Bronson, Denver City Attorney

24
25 BY: *Jonathan Griffin*, Assistant City Attorney DATE: Mar 31, 2021