



## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Jason Simpson, City Manager

**Prepared by:** Candice Alvarez, MMC, City Clerk

**Date:** July 23, 2024

**Subject:** Purchase of Vacant Real Property for Open Space/Habitat Preservation Purposes (APN 371-100-015) for \$206,041.76 Plus Closing Costs

### **Recommendation**

Approve the purchase of approximately 8.91 acres of vacant property (APN 371-100-015) for \$206,041.76, plus closing costs, for open space/habitat preservation purposes consistent with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement and Escrow Instructions for the Purchase and Sale of Real Property and such other ancillary documents as may be necessary to complete the purchase, in such final form as approved by the City Attorney.

### **Background**

The property consists of approximately 8.91 acres of unimproved vacant land along the southern border of Planning Area 5 of the East Lake Specific Plan in the Back Basin area of the City of Lake Elsinore.

### **Discussion**

Acquisition of the property furthers the objectives and is consistent with the joint efforts of the City and the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) to complete the assembly of the 770 acres of habitat conservation as outlined in the 2003 East Lake Specific Plan MSHCP Consistency Analysis. The property acquisition is also consistent with the revised mitigation obligations established by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) in connection with the Cottages at Mission Trail and the Mission Trail Apartments projects.

**Fiscal Impact**

The \$206,041.76 purchase price plus closing costs will be advanced by the City's General Fund subject to reimbursement upon release by CFDW of the developer's Letter of Credit securing the mitigation obligations of the Mission Trail Apartments project.

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 - Vicinity Map  
Attachment 2 - Arial Map  
Attachment 3 - Purchase Agreement

Offi