



Legislation Text

File #: 15-1140, Version: 1

Resolution Approving Cooperative Agreement between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor for the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) and to Accept Grant Funds in the Amount of \$381,220.00

Attached for your review and action is a resolution to approve an a Cooperative Agreement between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor for the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) grant funds for the Greenbelt applications detailed below.

On March 2, 2015 (R-15-063), the City Council approved grant applications to the ACEP Program for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on two properties owned by Lloyd and Betty Guenther in Lodi Township.

The City recently received notice that NRCS - ACEP Program has awarded the City of Ann Arbor \$381,220.00 towards the purchase of the development rights on abovementioned properties.

Prepared by: Ginny Trocchio, The Conservation Fund  
Reviewed by: Sumedh Bahl, Community Services Area Administrator  
Approved by: Steven D. Powers, City Administrator

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor and the United States have mutual interests in preventing the conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses;

Whereas, On March 2, 2015, City Council approved an application (R-15-063), to the USDA Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) for the purchase of development rights on properties owned by Lloyd and Betty Guenther in Lodi Township;

Whereas, The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program acting by and through the Commodity Credit Corporation, is awarding the City of Ann Arbor \$381,220.00 in match dollars to fund the purchase of development rights;

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Cost Share</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Guenther (east)	\$259,700.00	Lodi Twp	175
Guenther (west)	\$121,520.00	Lodi Twp	75
Total	\$381,220.00		250

Whereas, Under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement, the NRCS will provide technical services in the development of an appropriate conservation plan and funding and the City will acquire and monitor the conservation easement; and

Whereas, In evidence of the City of Ann Arbor's willingness to agree to combine its resources with the United States to purchase agricultural conservation easements from the landowners for the protection of the identified acreage from conversion to nonagricultural uses, the City is required to

approve and execute a Cooperative Agreement for the FY 2015;

RESOLVED, That City Council approve a Cooperative Agreement between the United State of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor for the FY2015 Agriculture Conservation Easement Program match funds for the acquisition of developments rights by conservation easement of the property identified in this Resolution; and

RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Cooperative Agreement after approval as to substance by the City Administrator and as to form by the City Attorney.