



Legislation Text

File #: 17-1423, **Version:** 1

Resolution Approving Cooperative Agreement Amendment 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 Additional Grant Funds of \$511,070.00 for Total Award Amount of \$1,033,410.00

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

On September 21, 2015, the City Council approved a Cooperative Agreement between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor and to accept grant funds in the amount of \$381,220.00 towards the purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on two properties owned by Lloyd and Betty Guenther in Lodi Township (Resolution No. R-15-314).

On September 6, 2016, the City Council approved a Cooperative Agreement Amendment between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor and to accept additional grant funds in the amount of \$141,120.00, for a Total Award Amount of \$522,340.00 towards the purchase of Development Rights on a property owned by the Donald H. Drake Trust in Lodi Township (Resolution No. R-16-346).

On November 10, 2016, the City Council approved a grant application for the ACEP Program for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on two properties in Lodi and Scio Townships (Resolution No. R-16-430).

On September 5, 2017, the City received notice that the ACEP Program has awarded the City of Ann Arbor \$511,070.00 towards the purchase of the development rights on the Rogers Farm in Lodi Township and the DeVine-Koselka Farm in Scio Township, increasing the total grant amount from the originally awarded \$522,340.00 to \$1,033,410.00.

Acceptance of the additional grant funds and approval of a Cooperative Agreement Amendment with the NRCS-ACEP Program for FY 2017 is recommended by staff.

Prepared by: Ruth Thornton, Greenbelt Program Manager, The Conservation Fund

Reviewed by: Derek Delacourt, Community Services Area Administrator

Approved by: Howard S. Lazarus, 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 September 21, 2015, the City Council approved a Cooperative Agreement between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor and acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$381,220.00 towards the purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on two properties owned by Lloyd and Betty Guenther in Lodi Township (Resolution No. R-15-314);

Whereas, On September 6, 2016, the City Council approved a Cooperative Agreement Amendment between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor and acceptance of additional grant funds in the amount of \$141,120.00, for a Total Award Amount of \$522,340.00 towards the purchase of Development Rights on a property owned by the Donald H. Drake Trust in Lodi Township (Resolution No. R-16-346);

Whereas, On November 10, 2016, the City Council approved a grant application for the ACEP Program for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on two properties in Lodi and Scio Townships (Resolution No. R-16-430);

Whereas, The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, acting by and through the Commodity Credit Corporation, is awarding the City of Ann Arbor \$511,070.00 in additional match dollars to fund the purchase of development rights on the Rogers and DeVine-Koselka properties;

<u>Award Year</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Cost Share</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2015	Lloyd and Betty Guenther	\$381,220.00	Lodi Twp	247
2016	Donald H. Drake Trust	\$141,120.00	Lodi Twp	72
2017	Rogers Revocable Trust	\$190,120.00	Lodi Twp	80
2017	Suzanne DeVine and <u>John Koselka</u>	<u>\$320,950.00</u>	<u>Scio Twp</u>	<u>95</u>
Total		\$1,033,410.00		494

Whereas, Under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement, NRCS will provide technical services in the development of an appropriate conservation plan and funding and the City will acquire and monitor the conservation easements; 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 Amendment for FY 2017;

RESOLVED, That City Council accept the additional grant fund award and approve a Cooperative Agreement Amendment between the United States of America Commodity Credit Corporation and the City of Ann Arbor for the FY 2017 Agriculture Conservation Easement Program match funds for the acquisition of development rights by conservation easement of the properties identified in this Resolution; and

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