



City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

File Number: 2024-189

Agenda Date: March 7, 2024

Department: Public Works

Title: 2024-189 Purchase of Real Property for Urban Forest Conservation (B)

Department: Public Works

Description: Request for the City Commission to approve a Contract for Purchase and Sale of Real Property with Modern Trends Development, LLC for the purpose of Urban Forest conservation efforts.

Fiscal Note: The Tree Mitigation Fund revenue is collected according to the City of Gainesville Code of Ordinances Chapter 30, Article 8, Division 2, Section 30-8.7. Funding for the purchase of this parcel is available in the Tree Mitigation Fund.

Explanation: This request is for the purchase of real property in Alachua County, Tax Parcel #07960-047-000, utilizing the Tree Mitigation Fund for the sole purpose of conservation. This property is 9.65 acres located in the 1600 Block of NW 39th Avenue. An "As Is" Basis appraisal was done by Emerson Appraisal Company, Inc. and the property was determined to have an estimated market value of \$275,000.00; the property was listed for sale at \$300,000.00.

The City Arborist conducted a ground assessment of the property and reports a 98% canopy coverage. Majority tree species on site include heritage-size loblolly pines, high-quality southern magnolia, sweetgum, boxelder, laurel oak, red maple, sugarberry, youpon holly, and eastern hophornbeam trees. Invasive species will be planned for removal and the property will be managed as conservation.

Strategic Connection:

- ☐ Goal 1: Equitable Community
- ☒ Goal 2: More Sustainable Community
- ☒ Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience
- ☐ Goal 4: Resilient Local Economy
- ☐ Goal 5: "Best in Class" Neighbor Services

Recommendation: The City Commission authorize the City Manager or designee to execute a Contract for Purchase and Sale of Real Property (including all documents to

effectuate a closing) with Modern Trends Development LLC, for the purchase of Tax Parcel 07960-047-000, in the amount of \$275,000 plus any associated closing costs, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.