

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-13**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, IN SUPPORT OF OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION EFFORTS ON THE BERGSMA PROPERTIES.

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WHEREAS, Issaquah in many ways is defined by the forested hillsides and the natural environment surrounding and within the City; and

WHEREAS, open space preservation has been and is currently a priority of the City, demonstrated by decades of land acquisitions through collaborative work by the City and other public agencies; and

WHEREAS, open space preservation is a priority affirmed throughout the City Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2017, which calls for protection of our remaining forested hillsides and for the City to “continue to provide high quality, safe and accessible recreational facilities; link City property and park areas with greenbelt, greenway or parkway connections; and preserve the community’s natural resources, such as the creeks and forested hillsides”; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Parks Strategic Plan identifies two priority projects, the Talus to Tibbetts Valley Park Trail and Hillside Acquisitions, that would be supported through this potential acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the parcels known as the Bergsma properties are located generally at 1763 Newport Way NW on the northeast portion of Cougar Mountain, within the City boundary, and adjacent to Harvey Manning Park at Talus, Cougar Mountain Regional Wildlife Park, and fronting the right-of-way along Newport Way NW; and

WHEREAS, the Bergsma properties comprise approximately 46 acres of forested hillside, much of it steeply sloped with some inclines up to 80%, containing 6 wetlands, 3 streams, and associated buffers; and

WHEREAS, a current partnership with the Trust for Public Land provides the opportunity to explore acquisition options for all or a portion of the Bergsma properties; and

WHEREAS, the City has taken and continues to take all appropriate measures to separate the work regarding potential acquisition from the City's regulatory role as the development application on this property is reviewed and processed; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council supports the potential acquisition of all or a portion of the Bergsma Properties. Support is also given to the important role the City is playing in exploring this acquisition in partnering with the Trust for Public Lands, seeking other public agency partners, and researching funding strategies. The City Council expects that the outcome of this current exploratory work will provide the necessary details and specifics in scope for consideration and deliberation regarding an acquisition involving the Bergsma properties.

Section 2. The City Council supports exploration of various funding strategies associated with the acquisition of the Bergsma properties, and anticipates that any funding package will include City, regional, and other funding sources.

PASSED by the City Council this 6th day of August, 2018.

  
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TOLA MARTS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED by the Mayor this 6th day of August, 2018.



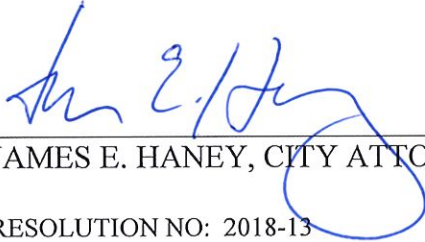
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MARY LOU PAULY, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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CHRISTINE L. EGGERS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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JAMES E. HANEY, CITY ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION NO: 2018-13  
AGENDA BILL NO: AB 7662