

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-043**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF COLORADO, REGARDING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOWN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LOST CANYON RANCH**

**WHEREAS**, the Lost Canyon Ranch is an approximately 681.07-acre parcel of land owned by Lost Canyon, LLC (the “Owner”), and located at 6581 Lost Canyon Ranch Road (the “Property”) in unincorporated Douglas County (the “County”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Property, located on the southeastern border of the Town of Castle Rock (the “Town”) and adjacent to Castlewood Canyon State Park, is one of the last, large-acreage properties near the Town yet to be developed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property is characterized by its outstanding and unparalleled scenic and cultural resources, which include a variety of habitats (canyon, riparian, ponderosa forest and open grasslands), cliff outcroppings, Willow Creek, and the Franktown Cave – a culturally-significant prehistoric archaeological site which dates back over 8,000 years; and

**WHEREAS**, with the primary goal of protecting and preserving these important resources and providing local residents with additional passive recreational opportunities, the Town is partnering with The Conservation Fund, a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation of this country’s most critical lands and waters (“TCF”), to acquire the Property; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the conveyance of the Property to the Town, TCF will place a conservation easement on the Property in favor of the Douglas Land Conservancy, thereby ensuring the preservation of the Property as open space for the use and enjoyment of the public (the “Conservation Easement”); and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of the Property as public open space in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement will benefit the existing and future residents of both the Town and the County for the foreseeable future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has requested County assistance in funding the acquisition of the Property; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the public purpose to be served by the preservation of open space, the County is willing to commit an additional \$5,500,000.00 in funding towards the acquisition of the Property.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds and determines that it is in the best interests of the Town and its residents to authorize the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County for this purpose.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Approval.** The Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Castle Rock and the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Douglas, State of Colorado, regarding a financial contribution for the acquisition of Lost Canyon Ranch is hereby approved in substantially the same form as presented at tonight’s meeting, with such technical changes, additions, modifications, deletions, or amendments as the Town Manager may approve upon consultation with the Town Attorney. The Mayor and other proper Town officials are hereby authorized to execute the Agreement and any technical amendments thereto by and on behalf of the Town.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024, by the Town Council of the Town of Castle Rock, Colorado, on first and final reading by a vote of \_\_\_\_ for and \_\_\_\_ against.

**ATTEST:**

**TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Anderson, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Gray, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Approved as to content:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Hyman, Town Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Brauer, Director of Parks and Recreation