Property Acquisition in the Albuquerque Area

January 14, 2016

Background

In September 2015, the Commission authorized the Department to initiate the process of acquiring property in Albuquerque for the development of an Area Office.

As part of the motion that passed, the Commission authorized the Chairman and the Director to negotiate a purchase agreement.

Since then, a suitable property has been identified and as directed, the Department has entered into a purchase agreement to acquire this property.

Suitable Property Identified

- The property consists of approximately 15 acres located on the west side of Albuquerque, south of Paseo del Norte Blvd.
- Original asking price of \$3.5M, but appraised at \$2.8M.
- Seller has agreed to accept the price as appraised.
- Pending Commission approval, the Department is prepared to move forward with the due-diligence phase of this purchase to ensure all legal requirements are met prior to its finalization.

Property Description

- The property represents one of the largest undeveloped parcels of land fronting the Rio Grande River in this area.
- Provides prime access to the river and Albuquerque's cottonwood bosque.
- Supports multiple species of migratory waterfowl including many duck species, Canada Geese and Sandhill Cranes.
- Nearby property to the north and the south is managed by the Albuquerque Open Space and provides additional habitat for migratory bird populations.

Aerial View – Albuquerque Property



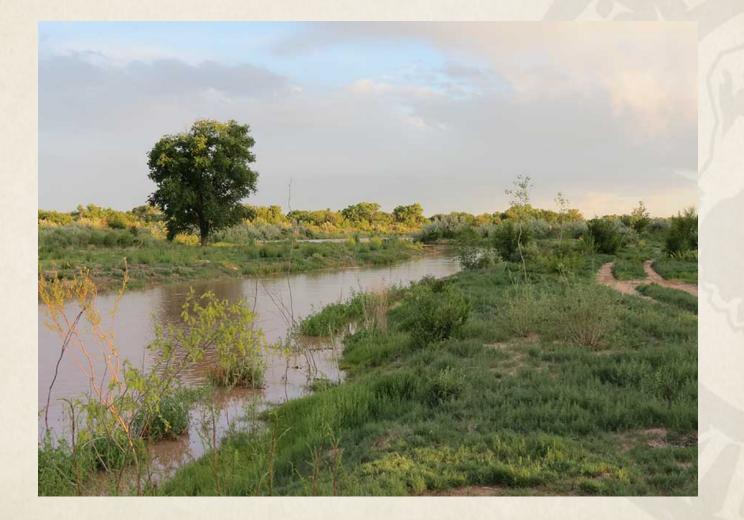
View of Sandia Mountains



Suitable for Cultivation



Cottonwood Bosque



Next Step

- Pending Commission approval, the Department will continue pursuing this acquisition. The next step requires the Department to participate in the due diligence process.
- This requires the Department to investigate any potential:
 - Environmental hazard issues;
 - □ Water delivery issues;
 - □ Survey issues;
 - □ Title issues;
 - And any other issues associated with the use of the property for this purpose.

Public Comment on Properties