

Memorandum

To: Finance, Executive and Legislative Subcommittee

Re: Heron Haven Funding Transfer

Date: December 1, 2010 **Updated:** December 3, 2010

From: Jim Becic

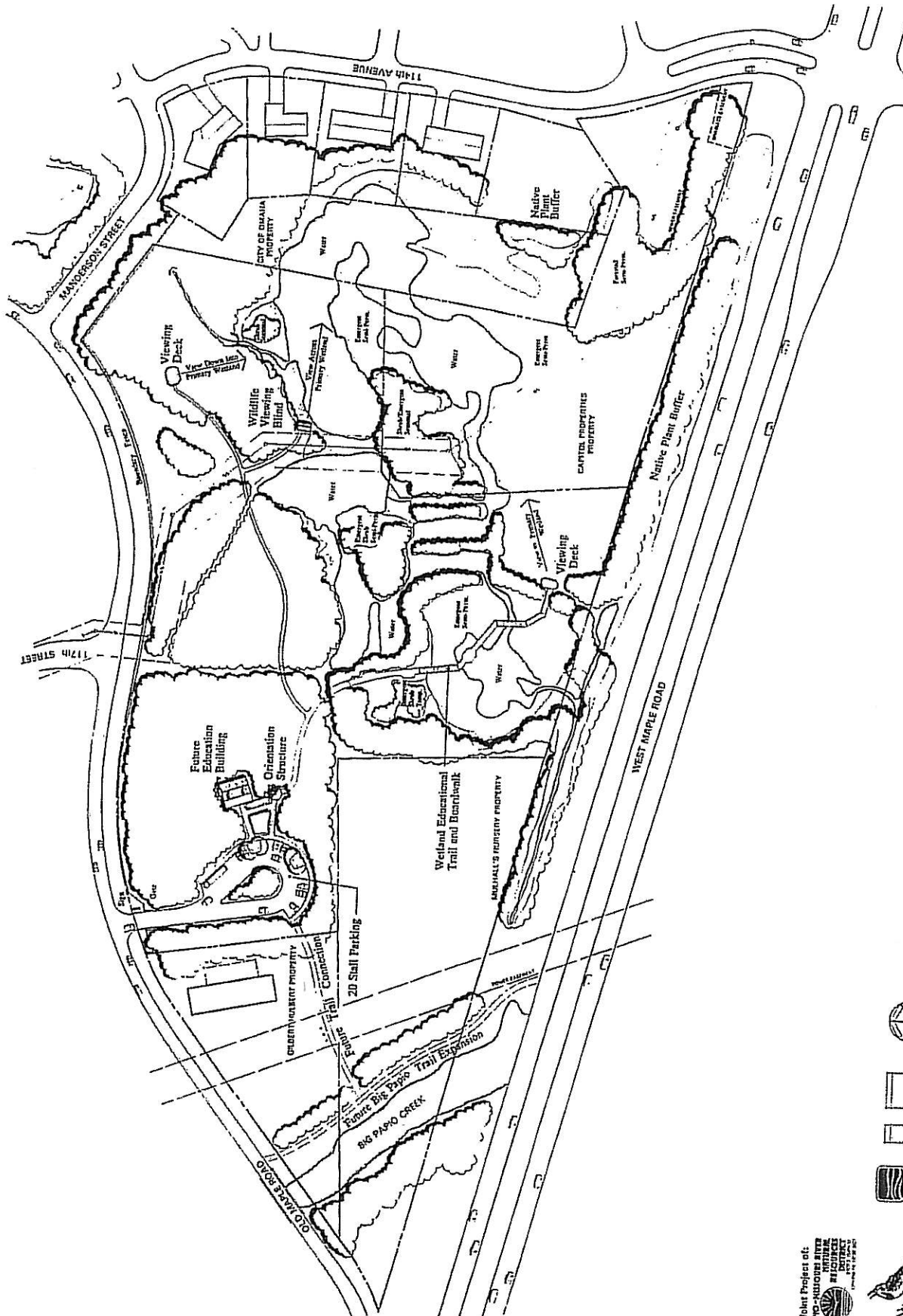
The Heron Haven site, located immediately north of 114th – 118th and West Maple Road is a naturally occurring oxbow wetland within the Papillion Creek watershed adjacent to the Big Papio Creek. The site was acquired and a Master Plan developed approximately 18 years ago by the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (NRD) and is managed and operated by the non-profit, Friends of Heron Haven as an environmental and education site.

The approximately 10 acre area is bordered by residential and commercial land and has historically experienced drainage, sedimentation and concrete fill over the years prior to the NRD's acquisition. Naturally occurring springs keep the wetlands supplied with a plentiful water supply but the historic concrete fill and sedimentation has degraded the wetlands with cattails and reed canary grass dominating the site. The restoration project planned for Heron Haven is designed to address these and other problems and reestablish a quality and viable wetland for many decades into the future.

The Corps of Engineers (COE) has informed the District that they recently received federal funds for the Design and Implementation of the Heron Haven Section 206 Wetland Restoration project (enclosed 16 November, 2010 correspondence). The NRD is the local sponsor of this federal project and has executed a project agreement with the COE. This federal funding support notification was an unexpected yet welcome surprise. As specified in the COE correspondence, the total project cost is estimated at \$1,594,535 with an NRD contribution (35% Cost Share) of \$558,087. To keep on schedule for a construction start in FY 2011 (federal fiscal year), the NRD needs to send the COE \$155,902.00 as our initial cash contribution by January 1, 2011.

Funding for this project was not included in the NRD's FY- 2010 budget since the likelihood of securing federal funding appeared to be minimal for the Section 206 program nationwide and there was little chance that the NRD's request would receive support. These initial cost share funds of \$155,902 are proposed to be transferred from the NRD's MoPac trail – Construction Costs budget line item and moved to Heron Haven. The remaining \$304,325 construction funds would be budgeted in FY-2012 and sent to the COE by their 25 July, 2011 time-line.

It is Management's recommendation that the Finance, Executive and Legislative Subcommittee recommend to the Board that \$155,902 be transferred from the MoPac Trail - Construction Costs (Hwy 50 to Lied Bridge) to the Heron Haven Project and that a \$155,902 payment be sent by January 1, 2011 to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District for design and implementation of the Heron Haven 206 Wetland Restoration Project.

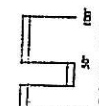


Heron Haven Wetland Site

Master Plan

April 2, 1971

A Joint Project of:
PAPPO-NILSON RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES
DISTRICT
AND
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
ILLINOIS



SCALE 1" = 50'-0"





REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
1616 CAPITOL AVENUE
OMAHA NE 68102-4901

November 16, 2010

Planning Branch

Mr. John Winkler, General Manager
Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
8901 S. 154th Street, Suite A
Omaha, NE 68138

Dear Mr. Winkler:

As you know, we have executed the Project Partnership Agreement with the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District and moved into the Design and Implementation Phase of the Heron Haven Wetland Restoration Project. Total project costs are \$1,594,535 and cost-sharing for the project is 65 percent Federal and 35 percent non-Federal. The total cost of the Feasibility Phase was \$507,000 and the estimated Federal share of the Design and Implementation Phase of this project is \$529,448, bringing the total Federal funding share for this project to \$1,036,448 (65% of \$1,594,535).

The non-Federal share for this project is \$558,087 (35% of \$1,594,535). Of that, the estimated real estate value to the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District for the project is \$97,860. The remaining amount of \$460,227 is needed in cash to finalize the Design and Implementation Phase and close out the project.

Members of your staff, the City of Omaha, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project team met on October 29th to discuss a realistic schedule for design and implementation. Our goal is to award a contract before the end of Fiscal Year 2011. In order to achieve this goal we need \$155,902 from the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District to begin design. These funds are needed by January 1st, 2011. In order to award a contract for construction of this project before the end of Fiscal Year 2011 we need the remaining \$304,325 by July 25th, 2011.

We are requesting that you please provide a check in the amount of \$155,902.50 payable to "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District" with a note on the check "for deposit to the Heron Haven Section 206 Project" to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
Attention: CENWO-PM-P (Nancy Pfeffer)
1616 Capitol Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jeff Greenwald at (402) 995-2698 or via e-mail to Jeffrey.R.Greenwald@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Erik T. Blechinger
Deputy District Engineer