

FACTSHEET

TITLE: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT NO.
05003, by the Director of Planning at the request of the Director of Parks & Recreation and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, to update and amend the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map in the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan to reflect the location of the Dead Man's Run trail from N. 33rd to N. 48th on the south side of Huntington/Leighton, and to update the map to show completed trail and grade separations.

SPONSOR: Planning Department

BOARD/COMMITTEE: Planning Commission
Public Hearing: 05/18/05
Administrative Action: 05/18/05

RECOMMENDATION: **Approval** (6-0: Carlson, Sunderman, Krieser, Larson, Carroll and Bills-Strand voting 'yes'; Taylor and Pearson absent).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. The staff recommendation to **approve** this amendment is based upon the "Status/Description" and "Comprehensive Plan Implications" as set forth on p.2-3, concluding that the change in the alignment to the planned trail from 33rd to 48th Streets along Dead Man's Run within the East Campus to run along the street right-of-way of Huntington and Leighton Avenues within a 30 foot wide easement on the East Campus property is in concurrence with the adopted Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan indicates a planned trail facility in the general area of the Dead Man's Run drainage corridor within the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus property. This proposed change does not deviate from this plan to develop this much needed trail connection within the community's multi-use trail system. Regular updates to the Comprehensive Plan to indicate completed trail projects is an important effort that ensures the public is aware of the completed trail facilities in the community. Such updates also provide an opportunity for the City to show how the trails plan is being implemented and completed according to Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives.
2. The minutes of the Planning Commission public hearing and action are found on p.5.
3. There was no testimony in opposition.
4. On May 18, 2005, the Planning Commission agreed with the staff recommendation and voted 6-0 to recommend **approval**.

FACTSHEET PREPARED BY: Jean L. Walker

DATE: June 6, 2005

REVIEWED BY: _____

DATE: June 6, 2005

REFERENCE NUMBER: FS\CC\2004\CPA.05003

2005 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANNUAL REVIEW

Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 05003

Trail Location Change and Completed Trail Segment Update

Applicant	Location	Proposal
Parks and Recreation Department, Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee	Huntington Ave. and Leighton Ave. from N. 33 rd Street to N. 48 th Street and N. 48 th Street from Dead Man’s Run to Leighton Ave.; Rock Island Trail from Old Cheney Rd. through Densmore Park then south along S. 14 th Street to Pine Lake Rd.	Amend the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map to show updated future trails locations and a completed trail and grade separation in the Bicycle and Trails element.
Recommendation: Approval		

Status/Description

The Parks and Recreation Department along with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee support and have requested a planned trail relocation amendment and a trail completion amendment to the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map in the Bicycle and Trails element of the Comprehensive Plan. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, with cooperation and coordination with the City of Lincoln and the Department of Natural Resources, has received federal funding to complete a trail segment that runs along the street right-of-way on the south side of Huntington Avenue and Leighton Avenue from North 33rd Street to North 48th Street within a 30 foot wide easement on University East Campus property. The current planned location of this trail segment as shown in the Comprehensive Plan runs through the University’s property on East Campus along Dead Man’s Run and thus needs to be changed. Also, a segment of the Rock Island Trail has been constructed, including a grade separation over South 14th Street, and therefore needs to be indicated as such in the Comprehensive Plan.

The planned trail alignment at UNL’s East Campus as currently shown in the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map runs through the East Campus along the Dead Man’s Run drainage way. This current alignment runs from North 33rd Street to North 48th Street. The location of this planned trail will need to be removed from the map in lieu of the new alignment along the Huntington/Leighton right-of-way. As part of this new alignment, a future planned trail along North 48th Street will need to be extended from Dead Man’s Run north to the new trail location at Leighton Avenue.

Federal Enhancement funds in the amount of \$400,000 have been awarded to the University to complete the segment of trail from 33rd Street to 48th Street. As part of this project, Department of Natural Resources funding in the amount of \$430,000 will also be used to build 2 pedestrian/bicycle bridges along this new alignment. In addition, \$150,000 in federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds, \$20,000 in

Lincoln Cares funding, and \$100,000 in University funding will be used to fund the project. The City of Lincoln through the Parks and Recreation Department has committed to planting 100 trees along the trail once it is constructed.

The current Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map shows the stretch of the Rock Island Trail running from south of Old Cheney Road, through Densmore Park, and then south along South 14th Street to Pine Lake Road as a future planned trail. This stretch of trail has now been completed and should be shown as a current completed trail segment. Also, the planned grade separation for the Rock Island Trail over South 14th Street has also been completed and should be shown as such in the Plan.

Comprehensive Plan Implications

These proposed amendments were guided by the primary Comprehensive Plan goal of having a pedestrian/bicycle trail system that is within one mile of all residences in the city and to provide a safer, more efficient pedestrian and trails system that may encourage more people to consider walking or cycling as viable transportation modes. These proposed changes will update the Trails Master Plan. The Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, support this amendment.

Map changes to the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map on page F 95 from the Bicycle and Trails element of the Comprehensive Plan are required for this amendment. A map is attached to this report to indicate the map changes necessary.

Staff Comments

- ! The relocating of this trail from the Dead Man's Run corridor to run along Huntington/Leighton Avenue between 33rd and 48th Street is a positive adjustment to the Trail Plan. This takes advantage of a trail easement along the south side of Huntington/Leighton provided by the University of Nebraska and routes the trail around the UNL East Campus. This alignment will also allow the trail to be connected sooner and take advantage of the traffic signal at the intersection of 48th Street and Leighton Avenue. Public Works and Utilities Department is in support of this trail map amendment. (See comments by Mike Brienzo, Public Works and Utilities)

Conclusion

The change in the alignment to the planned trail from 33rd to 48th Streets along Dead Man's Run within the East Campus to run along the street right-of-way of Huntington and Leighton Avenues within a 30 foot wide easement on the East Campus property is in concurrence with the adopted Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan indicates a planned trail facility in the general area of the Dead Man's Run drainage corridor within the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus property. This proposed change does not deviate from this plan to develop this much needed trail connection within the community's multi-use trail system.

Regular updates to the Comprehensive Plan to indicate completed trail projects is an important effort that ensures the public is aware of the completed trail facilities in the community. Such updates also provide an opportunity for the City to show how the trails plan is being implemented and completed according to Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives.

Amend the Trails & Bicycle Facilities Plan map figure on page F 95 to indicate:

1. A planned trail location on the south side of Huntington and Leighton Avenues from North 33rd Street to North 48th Street, and along North 48th Street from Leighton Avenue to Dead Man's Run.
2. Removal of the planned trail along Dead Man's Run from North 33rd Street to North 48th Street.
3. Completed trail segment along the Rock Island Trail from south of Old Cheney Road, into Densmore Park, and then south along South 14th Street to Pine Lake Road.
4. Completed grade separation along the Rock Island Trail over South 14th Street.

Prepared By:

David Cary, 441-6364

dcary@lincoln.ne.gov

April 18, 2005

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 05003

PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE PLANNING COMMISSION:

May 18, 2005

Members present: Carlson, Sunderman, Krieser, Larson, Carroll, and Bills-Strand (Taylor and Pearson absent).

Staff recommendation: Approval.

Ex Parte Communications: None.

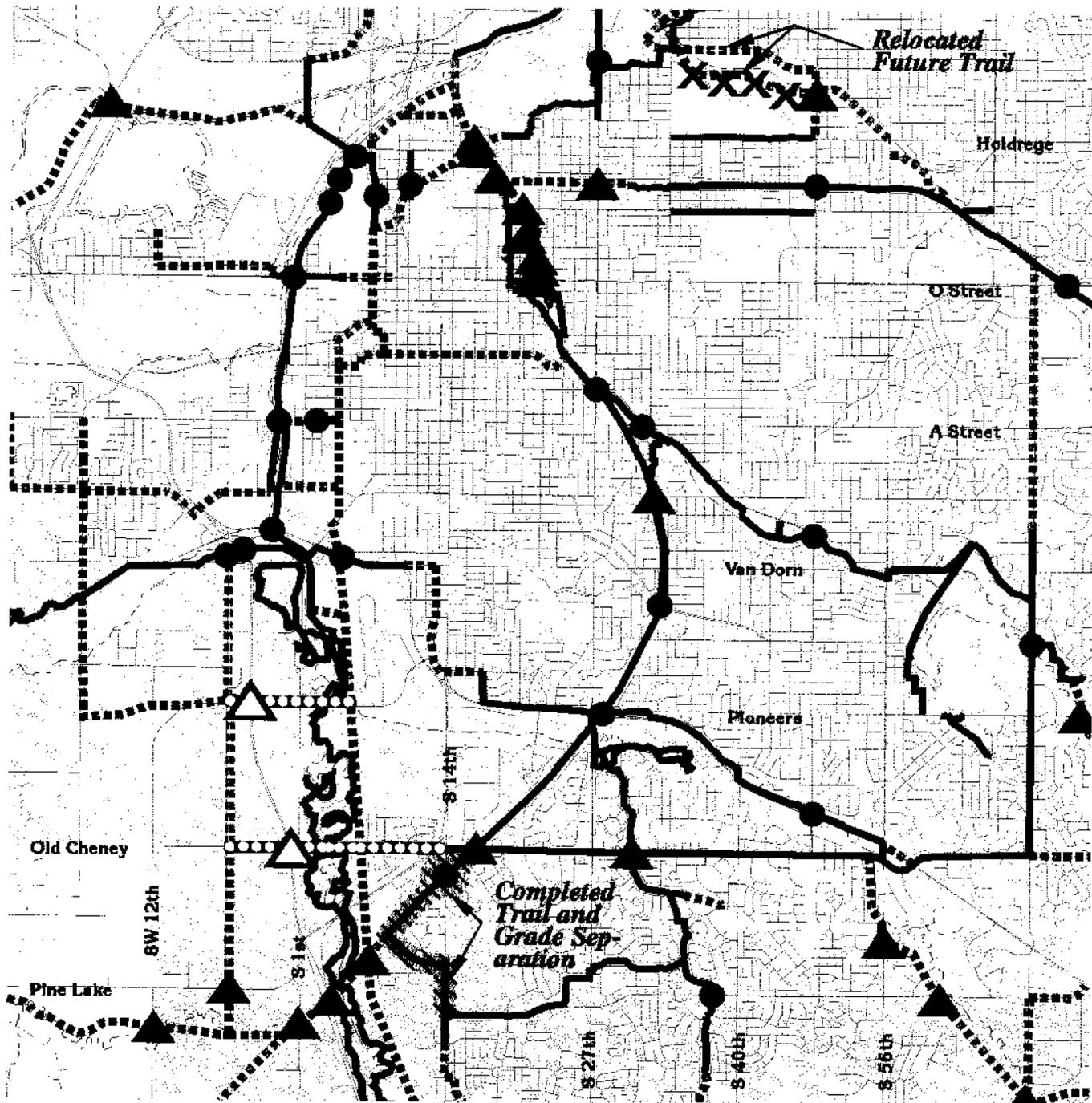
1. **David Cary** of Planning staff presented the proposal on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department, which is also supported by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee. It is a clean-up type amendment to show a slight change in location of the Dead Man's Run trail, which is currently shown running through the UNL East Campus. There is an ongoing project which has now gained funding to move the trail location to the Huntington/Leighton alignment on the south side, and an amendment to update the map to show the completed Rock Island trail.

There was no testimony in opposition.

ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION:

May 18, 2005

Carlson moved approval, seconded by Carroll and carried 6-0: Carlson, Sunderman, Krieser, Larson, Carroll and Bills-Strand voting 'yes'; Taylor and Pearson absent. This is a recommendation to the City County and Lancaster County Board.



Current & Future Trails

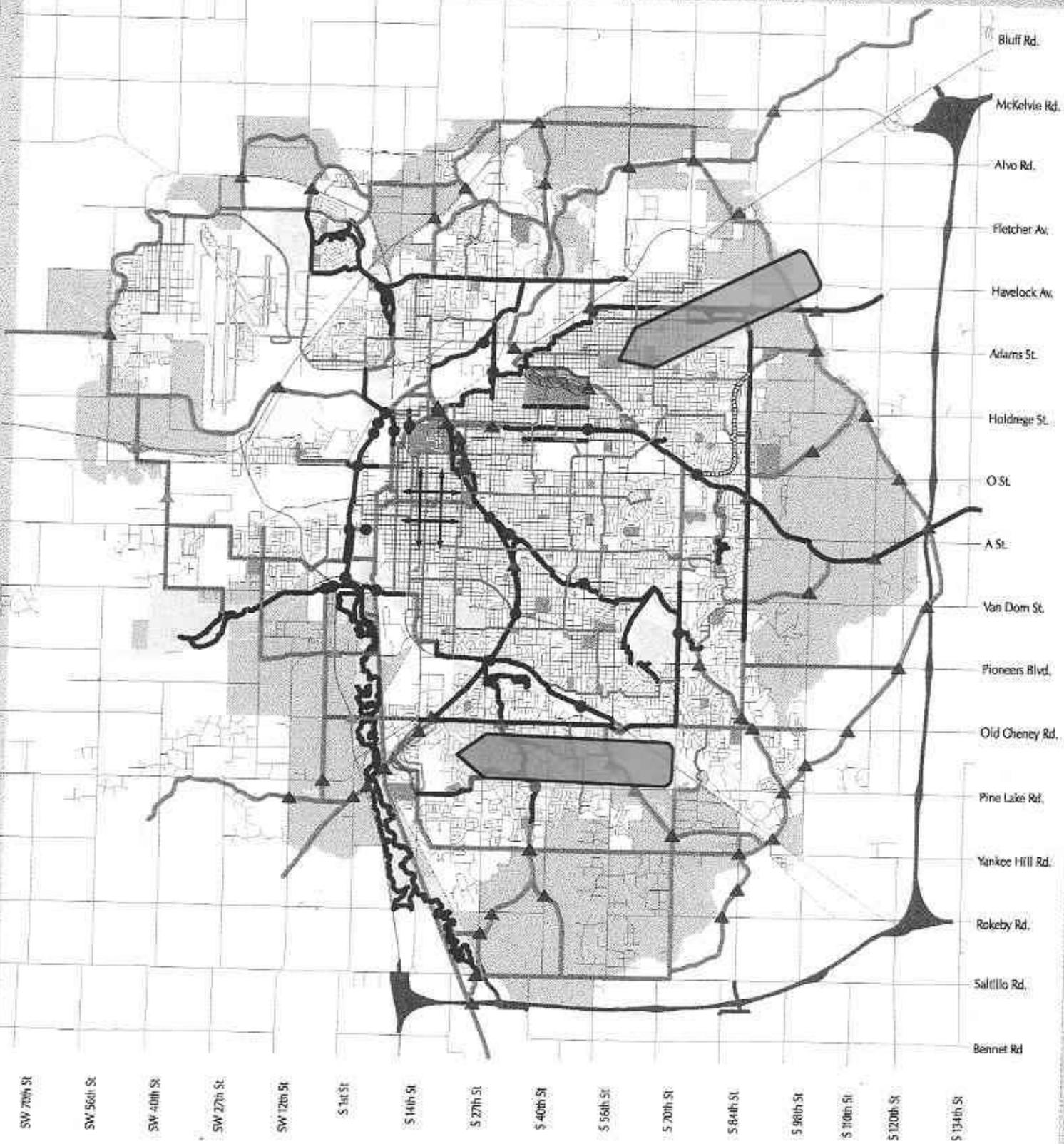
Proposed Amendment 05003

-  Future Service Limit
-  Current Trails
-  Future Trails
-  On-Street Routes
-  Trail Location or Bike Route to be Determined
-  Completed Grade Separation
-  Existing Grade Separation
-  Potential Grade Separation
-  Completed Trail Segment



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LINCOLN AREA CURRENT AND FUTURE TRAILS NETWORK



LEGEND

- Current Trails
- Future Trails
- Existing On Street Routes
- Beltway Corridor
- Existing Grade Separation
- Proposed Grade Separation
- Bike Lanes
- Trail Location or Bike Route to be Determined
- Preserve Trail ROW
- Lincoln Corporate Limits
- Future Service Limit
- Schools & Colleges
- Parks

