

**PRE-COUNCIL MEETING
ANTELOPE VALLEY PROJECT UPDATE**

January 28, 2008 - 4:45 p.m.

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Jon Camp, Doug Emery, Robin Eschliman, Dan Marvin, John Spatz and Ken Svoboda.

Other Staff Present: Lynn Johnson and JJ Yost, Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department; Wayne Teton, Public Works and Wynn Hjermsstad, Urban Development Dept.

Councilperson Dan Marvin called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Wayne Teton referred to a map of AV that highlighted progress being made on the Antelope Valley project. Completed to date are the roadway (Big T), Y Street Bridge, Vine Street roadway and bridge, "P" and "Q" Street bridges, trail work and Fleming Fields. Currently under construction is the east leg to the Big 'T', the channel work between "Y" and "S" Streets, retaining wall between the roadway and the channel (west of the channel), and the "O" Street Bridge. The east leg is scheduled to be done in 2010, the channel from "Y" to "S" should be done in June and the "O" Street Bridge will be done by August 29th.

Beginning in 2008 the roadway from "Y" to Vine is being advertised for bids, with bid opening on January 30th and will go to the City Council as a resolution for multi-year funding on February 4, 2008. Bids for the Lewis Field parking lot project will also be opened on January 30th. The channel from "S" to "J" Street will be bid by the COE in mid April. This channel work will also include grading for the new downtown park, and the concrete pier encasements for "P", "Q" and "O" Street bridge. This phase will begin this summer and be complete in the fall of 2009.

One final project to be bid in late April is the "J" Street bridge which needs to be completed to go along with the channel. This should be completed in October, 2008. When all the under construction and 2008 projects are completed, approximately 85% of the AV project will be complete.

Projects that will be bid out in 2009 will be the north-south roadway from "Q" to Vine and the north-south roadway from "K" to "Q". One other project that does not impact the floodplain and COE project will be the South Street Bridge which will be bid out in 2010. The "J" Street Bridge, which will be a wider and longer structure, should be complete this summer (2008). There will also be a new trail going under the new "J" Street Bridge.

JJ Yost, Parks & Recreation, briefed the City Council on the following park projects portion of Antelope Valley:

Trago Park improvements: These include channel construction from Vine Street south along the western edge of Trago Park - the original park playground was removed and a new one is being created. Construction of a new playground/sprayground began late last summer and will resume this spring, weather permitting. Most of the playground equipment has arrived and the final touches are being added to the design of the sprayground with installation taking place this spring and have it in use this summer.

Lewis Field Ballpark: When the Corp of Engineers builds the channel between "N" and "J" Streets and the diversion structure that goes south of "N" Street, they will displace the Lewis Field Ballpark parking lot. As part of the project, a new parking lot will be constructed that will be accessible off of Capital Parkway and will replace the spaces lost at the north end of the ballfield as well as 40 stalls located off of "J" Street. This project is out for bid and bids will be opened on January 30th and construction should begin very soon, and will need to be completed by the end of July 2008. This new parking lot will be completed before the Corp of Engineers begin work on the parking lot on the north end of Lewis Field. The existing "J" Street parking lot will go out of service when the "J" Street Bridge construction begins in early summer of '08. Because of this construction project Lewis Field will have four fields rather than the five they currently have. The Corps of Engineers will also replace the 123 trees that they remove with a 2-1 ratio.

Lincoln's Central Park fund-raising and construction: Lynn Johnson said this new Antelope Valley park, currently referred to as 'Lincoln's Central Park' will be located between "O" and "R" Streets, 21st to 22nd Street. The intent is that this will be a very high amenity, urban park area and a new community gathering place. Along with the Corps of Engineers, the City will be funding a portion of this new park. The City will also be funding the upgrades to the channel liner making it look like a natural stream through this park and also fund the retaining wall. Sometime next month there will be a resolution before the City Council to authorize the issuance of short term debt that will be repaid with Keno funds. In the 2015 Vision, the University of Nebraska Foundation and Lincoln Parks Foundation partnered to do fund raising for the amenities (fountains, amphitheater, overlook area, and the plaza area.) The NU Foundation has been out fund raising in advance and have a significant \$1.5 million lead donor for this project and in March the Lincoln Parks Foundation will be announcing the community portion of the campaign to raise the remainder of funding for both capitol construction as well as funds to care for the park into the future. A perpetual care fund will be set up to help with the on-going operation expenses of this area of Antelope Valley.

Johnson and Yost responded to questions from Council members regarding their presentations.

Redevelopment Master Plan: Wynn Hjermsstad, Urban Development Dept., updated the Council on the redevelopment master plan. A display showed the corridor known as the research and development corridor bordered on the south by "K" Street (out to State Fair Park), 17th Street on the west edge and the east edge zig-zags a little but the furthest it goes is to 22nd Street. This corridor was identified in the 2015 Vision as one of the ten pillars. Since that time they have been in partnership with JAVA and the City for review of this master plan for the R&D corridor. The firm of Crandall-Arambula (who did the downtown master plan) has been hired for this master plan. There was one public meeting last fall to introduce this plan and there will be another large public meeting the end of February. There are three components of this process:

Research and Development Master Plan, Design Guidelines and Design Standards (which may have some controversy associated with them). The City is in the process of finalizing all three components and after the large public meeting the end of February it will take approximately two months to complete. Meanwhile the City is meeting with various business groups, developers, neighborhood groups, etc. to get their input. It will then go through the approval process with the Planning Commission and City Council probably in the May-June time frame.

Meeting adjourned 5:20 p.m.