




LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581

P: 402.476.2729 • F: 402.476.6454 | www.lpsnrd.org

Memorandum

Date: April 11, 2025
To: Urban Subcommittee
From: Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator 
Subject: Urban Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – April 2025

The Urban Subcommittee met on April 9, 2025, at the NRD Office, at 5:30 pm. Subcommittee members participating included Dave Landis- committee chair, Gary Aldridge, Chuck Hassebrook, Stephanie Matejka, Luke Peterson, Larry Ruth, Susan Seacrest, and John Yoakum. Others participating included Director Bob Andersen, NRD staff Mike Sousek and Drew Ratkovec. Tim Zach, Superintendent of Stormwater from the City of Lincoln, was also in attendance. Director Landis called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. There was one (1) item the Subcommittee took action on. A quorum was present for the meeting.

A. Consideration of the Annual Work Plan for the City of Lincoln and LPSNRD Interlocal Agreement on Stormwater Management [ACTION]–

Background information was presented on the annual work plan that is updated each year by the City of Lincoln and LPSNRD. The work plan establishes the framework and responsibilities for addressing stormwater quality and quantity in the City and authorizes the use of appropriate monies within the upcoming year. The City of Lincoln plans to bring the Annual Work Plan for the Stormwater Interlocal Agreement to the City Council in May.

The City of Lincoln and NRD staff discussed and answered questions the Directors had on the work plan. A brief history and update of the Deadmans Run Flood Reduction project was mentioned. The discussion ended with questions about the NRD budget and how it lines up with the work plan. The meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm. Many activities are similar to past work plans, below is a list of highlights from the updated work plan:

- Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan Implementation— Design and Construction for Haines Branch Stream Stability Project #1 & #2 (\$450,000 each), Middle Creek Stream Stability Project #5 (\$450,000 each), and repair project for Beal Slough Stream Stability at 70th and Pine Lake (\$10,000 each).
- Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project from Cornhusker Highway to 48th Street updated costs.
- Other Projects not included in the Master Plan— Design and Construction of 56th & Fletcher Stream Stability Project (\$300,000 each).
- Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency— (\$250,000 each).
- Little Salt Creek Watershed WFPO Plan Projects---- Eight projects in the Little Salt WFPO Plan are also in the Lincoln Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan.

It was moved by Yoakum, seconded by Seacrest, and approved (7 yes and 1 Present) by the Urban Subcommittee to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Work Plan for the Interlocal Agreement on Stormwater Management with the City of Lincoln.

cc: Bob Andersen, Corey Wasserburger

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 Work Plan
For the City of Lincoln & Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
Interlocal Agreement on Stormwater Management
April 2025

- 1. NPDES Administration:** The City of Lincoln (City) and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD) will continue to explore enhancements to provide comprehensive, effective and consistent review, inspection, implementation and enforcement of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) items, especially related to erosion and sediment control and Post Construction standards (i.e., water quality Best Management Practices). City is the lead agency.

 - Cost share from NRD is \$30,000
 - Cost share from City for current Erosion and Sediment Control staff is \$150,000
- 2. Regional Storage Facilities:** City and NRD will explore alternatives to study significant flood reduction projects where feasible with the cooperation of landowners and developers and to cooperate where practical and feasible with other entities to design and construct storage facilities. Once a funding mechanism is developed and facilities are built the NRD may operate and maintain the facilities in cooperation with City.
- 3. Ordinance and Standards Updating:** City and NRD will continue to examine the need to update the floodplain and stormwater standards and propose revisions as necessary.
- 4. Legislative Issues and Grant Writing:** City and NRD will work with other agencies, communities, citizens and legislators to coordinate on state legislative and funding issues related to floodplain and stormwater.
- 5. Floodplain and Stormwater Education:** City and NRD will jointly work on public education and involvement programs to educate city staff, contractors, developers, engineers, and the public regarding floodplains, stormwater and the Salt Creek Levee system. The City will continue to provide floodplain information at public events, to potential home buyers and on City websites. Floodplain information will also be provided at public meetings or open houses for projects involving the floodplain for both City and NRD. Both City and NRD will continue to provide erosion and sediment control and Post Construction standards information to developers, builders, engineers and contractors during builder training and safety workshops. Training to city staff will continue to be provided during inspections and training workshops. Information regarding erosion and sediment control, general stormwater items, stormwater quality and Post Construction standards will continue to be available to the general public on our websites. NRD will continue to provide information to the public regarding Salt Creek Levee risk and awareness.

 - The cost share from NRD is \$5,000;
 - The cost share from City is \$15,000 (City lead).

- 6. Water Quality Monitoring:** City will continue water quality monitoring and other stormwater monitoring as required. It is planned for City to do both wet weather and dry weather monitoring for 2024, which is the first year of the NPDES permit cycle starting.
- The cost share is \$10,000 each (City lead).

- 7. Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan Implementation:** City and NRD will contribute toward improvement projects listed in the Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan. These improvement projects are anticipated to include such projects as stream bed and bank stability measures, stormwater storage facilities, wetlands, floodplain preservation, engineering, easements and land acquisition as generally identified in and consistent with the goals in the Comprehensive Watershed Master approved by City and NRD. City and NRD will continue to develop a plan and schedule for design, right-of-way and implementation of projects.

Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan Implementation projects are anticipated to include some or all the projects and project areas listed below and may include additional or revised projects to be developed jointly by City and NRD during the Work Plan period. City funds are from stormwater bond funds.

- a. Haines Branch Stream Stability Projects #1 and #2 near S. Folsom St. (NRD lead). \$450,000 each.
- b. Middle Creek Stream Stability Project #5 near SW 56th St. (NRD lead). \$450,000 each.
- c. Southeast Upper Salt Creek Stream Stability Project #3 near S. 27th St. (City lead). \$200,000 City.
- d. Southeast Upper Salt Creek Stream Stability Projects #4, & #5 near S. 40th St. (City lead). \$300,000 City.
- e. Beal Slough stream stability project 70th to Pine Lake at Gapp Park. Construction completion Fall 2024 (NRD lead), \$10,000 each.
- f. Other Master Plan projects as identified before or during this interlocal agreement, with the lead agency decided on a case-by-case basis, \$50,000 each
- g. Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Project from Cornhusker Hwy to 48th St. The total estimated cost for this project is \$26M. Projected expenditures for FY 2025-2026 include the following with City and NRD sharing equally:
 1. \$1,200,000 for design engineering (NRD lead);
 2. \$100,000 for railroad engineering review of proposed improvements (City coordinating with BNSF and RTSD);
 3. \$400,000 for utility relocation engineering (City lead);
 4. \$1,000,000 for utility relocation construction (City lead);
 5. \$500,000 for ROW appraisals and acquisitions (shared City/NRD responsibility);
 6. \$50,000 for Federal Railroad Administration grant application (City lead);
 7. \$4,000,000 for construction (NRD lead);
 8. \$13,000 for the Deadmans Run stream gage at 38th Street (NRD lead);

Total for Deadman's Run Flood Reduction project for this fiscal year is \$7,256,500 or \$3,628,250 each.

- 8. Other Projects:** City and NRD will contribute toward improvement projects that are not included in an approved Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan. These projects could include stream stability, water quality, water quantity and/or floodplain projects. City funds are from stormwater bond funds.
 - a. 56th and Fletcher (City lead): Design and construction of additional stream stability and bank repair measures, \$300,000 each;
 - b. Others as identified before or during this interlocal, with cost shares and lead agency decided on a case-by-case basis.

- 9. Watershed Master Planning:** City and NRD have finalized work on the drainage Master Plan studies for all creeks draining through Lincoln.
 - Upper Salt Creek Study (City lead), \$100,000 each.

- 10. Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency:** City and NRD will continue to coordinate and consider opportunities to make City more resilient to the risks of flooding along Salt Creek. This includes both nonstructural and structural measures for flood control and preservation.
 - a. Conduct a cost/benefit analysis of implementing structural measures to address updated precipitation data (NOAA Atlas 14) and related updated flooding frequencies. Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) from FEMA with local cost share currently estimated at \$200,000 each (City lead);
 - b. Review updated modeling of stormwater runoff based on updated precipitation data (NOAA Atlas 14), as recommended in City's Climate Action Plan, and update Lincoln floodplain maps based on federal standards. Year one through three of updating floodplain maps as a part of FEMA's Coordinating Technical Partnership (CTP) program (City lead): Cost is \$2,250,000 and is 100% FEMA funded;
 - c. Evaluate other measures or practices that may improve Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency, \$50,000 each.

- 11. Floodplain/Floodprone Easements and Projects:** City and NRD will consider purchase of easements or fee title on floodplain/floodprone areas and other structural and nonstructural measures for flood control and preservation.
 - Any projects to be identified before or during this interlocal, with cost shares and the lead agency decided on a case-by-case basis.

- 12. Flood Warning System:** NRD will cooperate with City and Lancaster County to operate and enhance the Salt Creek Flood Warning System, which includes stream gages on Oak Creek at Air Park Rd, Middle Creek at SW 63rd St., Hains Branch at SW 56th St., Salt Creek at 27th St., Salt Creek at Pioneers Blvd., and Salt Creek at Roca.
 - The cost share from NRD is \$39,000 (NRD lead);
 - The cost share from City is \$29,000.

- 13. Watershed Best Management Practice Rehabilitation:** City and NRD will continue to coordinate and provide services to rehabilitate public Best Management Practices and selected completed Master Plan Projects. Best Management Practices and selected completed Master Plan Projects for rehabilitation will be mutually coordinated between the City and NRD.
- Any projects to be identified before or during this interlocal, with cost shares and the lead agency decided on a case-by-case basis.
- 14. Stormwater BMP Demonstration Projects:** City and NRD will consider opportunities for demonstration projects of stormwater best management practices on a case-by-case basis with developers, non-profits, businesses or similar entities and Rainscaping with individual owners.
- a. Rainscaping Lincoln Sustainable Landscapes Cost Share Program, \$15,000 each (City lead);
 - b. Any projects to be identified before or during this interlocal, with cost shares and the lead agency decided on a case-by-case basis.
- 15. Watershed Master Plan Project Inspection, Operation & Maintenance:** It is planned that City and NRD will periodically inspect, operate, and maintain all completed Watershed Master Plan Projects, Best Management Practices and conservation easements. City will provide funds to rehabilitate selected Best Management Practices and NRD will provide funds and services to keep selected Best Management Practices maintained over the course of the fiscal year.
- Cost share is \$25,000 each.
- 16. City of Lincoln Wetland Bank Annual Maintenance by NRD:** Additional responsibilities for maintenance activities will include mowing, noxious weed control, controlling woody vegetation, and maintaining stop logs will be included in an annual work plan (NRD Lead). Improvements to the wetland bank outlet structure (City Lead).
- Cost share from NRD is \$ 6,000 (maintenance activities);
 - Cost share from City is \$40,000 (outlet structure).
- 17. Little Salt Creek Watershed WFPO Plan Projects:** NRD is partnering with USDA/NRCS and will work jointly with City to incorporate identified and eligible projects and components of the Little Salt Creek Watershed Plan that are consistent with the City/NRD Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan. This will allow for any of the projects in the plan to be eligible for federal USDA/NRCS Watershed & Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) funding.
- Cost is \$1,000,000, and is 75% WFPO reimbursable (\$125,000 each for percent of local match; NRD lead).

COST SUMMARY: The total cost to City and NRD according to this work plan in FY 2025-2026 is estimated to be \$11,647,000.

- The cost share from City for FY 2025-2026 is estimated to be \$6,160,500 and is subject to City approval of the general budget for FY 2025-26. The City fiscal year starts September 1, 2025).
- The cost share from NRD for FY 2025-2026 is estimated to be \$5,486,500 and is subject to NRD Board approval of the proposed NRD FY 2025-2026 Budget (NRD Fiscal year starts July 1, 2025).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, City and NRD have caused these presents to be executed by their duly authorized officials as of the dates below indicated.

CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA,

DATED: _____

BY: _____
Leirion Gaylor Baird, Mayor

**LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL
RESOURCES DISTRICT**

DATED: _____

BY: _____
Mike Sousek, General Manager

FY2025-2026 City/NRD Annual Work Plan

Workplan Item Description	Total Cost	Workplan SPLITS:		Other
		City	NRD	
1. NPDES Administration	\$180,000	\$150,000	\$30,000	
2. Regional Storage Facilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	
3. Ordinance and Standards Updating	\$0	\$0	\$0	
4. Legislative Issues and Grant Writing	\$0	\$0	\$0	
5. Floodplain and Stormwater Education	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$5,000	
6. Water Quality Monitoring	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
7. Comprehensive Watershed Master Plan Implementation				
7.a. Haines Branch Stability Project #1 & 2	\$900,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	
7.b. Middle Creek Stability Project #5	\$900,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	
7.c. Southeast Upper Salt Creek Stability Project #3	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	
7.d. Southeast Upper Salt Creek Stability Project #4 & 5	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	
7.e. Beal Slouth Stability Project, 70th to Pine Lake at Gapp Park	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
7.f. Other Master Plan projects	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
7.g. Deadmans Run	\$7,263,000	\$3,631,500	\$3,631,500	
7.g.1. Design engineering	\$1,200,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	
7.g.2. Railroad engineering review	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
7.g.3. Utility relocation engineering	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	
7.g.4. Utility relocation construction	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	
7.g.5. ROW appraisals and acquisitions	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	
7.g.6. FRA grant application	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	
7.g.7. Construction	\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	
7g.8. Deadmans Run stream gage at 38th St	\$13,000	\$6,500	\$6,500	
8. Other Projects				
8.a. 56th & Fletcher	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	
8.b. Other projects as identified	\$0	\$0	\$0	
9. Watershed Master Planning	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	
10. Salt Creek Floodplain Resiliency				
10.a. Salt Creek Flood Reduction Feasibility Study	\$650,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$250,000
10.b. Flood Map Update	\$2,250,000			\$2,250,000
10.c. Other measures	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
11. Floodplain/Floodprone Easements and Projects	\$0	\$0	\$0	
12. Flood Warning System	\$68,000	\$39,000	\$29,000	
13. Watershed Best Management Practice Rehabilitation	\$0	\$0	\$0	
14. Stormwater BMP Demonstration Projects	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	
15. Watershed Master Plan Project Inspection, O&M	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	
16. City of Lincoln Wetland Bank Annual Maintenance				
16.a. Wetland Bank Annual Maintenance by the NRD	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	
16.b. Other improvements	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	
17. Little Salt Creek Watershed WFPO Plan	\$1,000,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$750,000

Total (City & NRD): \$11,647,000 \$6,166,500 \$5,480,500 \$3,250,000
(CITY) (NRD) (Other)

TOTAL: \$14,897,000