



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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TO: Lower Platte South NRD Board of Directors

FROM: Will Inselman, Resources Coordinator

DATE: October 31, 2024

SUBJECT: Public Hearing – MoPac East Connector Trail

At 5:30 PM on October 30th, the District held a public hearing regarding the establishment of a new trail route to connect the MoPac East Trail with the Lied-Platte River Bridge Trail in Cass County, Nebraska.

There were six members of the MoPac East-Lied Connector Subcommittee present for the hearing; Ray Stevens, John Yoakum, Seth Hawkins, Melissa Baker, Luke Peterson, and Anthony Schutz. District staff began by providing a short presentation on the trail connector study and the current preferred alignment for the trail, Alignment D.

There were twelve members of the public present, and testimony was received from five individuals.

Support:

Marie Gregoire (letter on behalf of the MoPac Alliance)

Dale Arp

Gerry Oligmueller

Julie Harris (Bike Walk Nebraska)

- All parties in expressed support for Alignment D and getting the trail completed. There were multiple mentions of appreciation for the thorough job by the NRD and study team. All were appreciative of the effort put into the public engagement side of the project. Safety was also mentioned as something that should continue to be the most important factor to consider during the design phase of the trail. The letter from the MoPac Alliance is attached.

Opposition:

Brad and Theresa Johnson (Area Landowners)

- The Johnsons indicated that they live on Alignment D and that it would run right in front of their house. They asked that there be consideration of building the trail on the opposite side of the road instead of through their driveway.

They mentioned that other routes did use various sides of the road and since no one lives on the other side of the road there wouldn't be any impact to other driveways. They had liability concerns and expressed they did not see any economic benefit in having the trail. They are also concerned about dust from the roads creating a safety hazard for trail users.

The hearing was closed at 5:51 PM.

Attached are copies of the sign-in sheet and public notice that was published in the Lincoln Journal Star and Cassgram.



**Great Plains
Trails Network**



October 30, 2024

To the LPSNRD Directors of the MoPac East-Lied Connector Subcommittee

Re: [MoPac East Connector Trail Feasibility Study Report](#)

This letter is on behalf of the members of the MoPac Alliance, a coalition of trail advocates from Nebraska Trails Foundation, Great Plains Trails Network, and Bike Walk Nebraska.

We are grateful to the LPSNRD Board, the Cass County Commissioners and the Study Team for their work in completing the feasibility study. We appreciate the many opportunities provided for stakeholders from various perspectives to participate in the study, resulting in a conclusion that has support across the constituent base.

Our council has reviewed the October 2024 Final Report recommending "... Alignment D (Figure 22) as the route to complete the MoPac East Trail due to its feasibility across multiple evaluation criteria,"(p. 61). We accept and endorse this recommendation.

Thank you for recognizing our organizations in "Philanthropic Contributions & Private Fundraising: Trail Advocacy Groups" (p. 80). We remain ready to support all efforts to implement this recommendation.

Sincere Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Buss".

Jason Buss
President
Nebraska Trails Foundation
308-227-8703
bussjason@gmail.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Messerer".

Jordan Messerer
President
Great Plains Trails Network
402-309-9317
president@gpfn.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Harris".

Julie Harris
Executive Director
Bike Walk Nebraska
402-699-3037
julie@bikewalknebraska.org

Public Hearing
Connector trail from the MoPac East Trail to the Lied-Platte River Bridge
5:30 pm, Wednesday, October 30, 2024, Lower Platte South NRD Office
3125 Portia Street, Lincoln, NE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
andrea gethart	2000 Q st Lincoln NE	605-212-0523
Gerry Oligmuelter	2349 N 80 th St. Lincoln NE	402-207-3750
Dale Aip	426 Starke Ave ^{Lincoln} NE	402-840-2080
Robert C Cendansen	4941 Scull 73, Lincoln	402-483-5455
Jordan Messers	714 ELmwood ^{Lincoln} NE	402-309-9317
Marie Gregoire	30312 Alvo Rd Murdock NE 68407	402-429-3644
Julie Harris	108 N. 49 th St #206 Omaha 68132	402 6993037
Susan Rodenburg	3155 Tihen Circle ^{Lincoln 68522}	402 4403227
Ross Lawrence	592 County Rd 15 ^{Wahoo}	402-310-4258
David Landis	4810 So. 44	402 817 8129
Theresa Johnson	10916 334 th St Murdock	402-867-4067
Brad Johnson	10916 334 th St Murdock	402-616-0255

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, hereby gives notice pursuant to Section 25-2504 R.R.S. 1943, that it will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 30th, 2024 at 5:30 P.M., in the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District large conference room at 3125 Portia Street Place, in Lincoln, Nebraska regarding the establishment of a new trail route to connect the MoPac East Trail with the Lied-Platte River Bridge Trail in Cass County, Nebraska. The District shall hear and consider any testimony from any person.