



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 10, 2026

To: Lower Platte South Natural Resources District Board of Directors

From: Will Inselman, Resources Coordinator *WI*

Subject: Minutes for MoPac East – Lied Connector Subcommittee Meeting

On Thursday, July 9th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., the MoPac East – Lied Connector subcommittee met in the Large Conference Room. Subcommittee members present: Melissa Baker-Chair, Luke Peterson, David Hibler, and Deborah Eagan (Directors Mealer, Green, Lamberty, and Schutz not present). Director Andersen was also present. LPSNRD staff were David Potter, Jeremy Gehle, Eric Zach, and Will Inselman. Andrea Gebhart from JEO Consulting (JEO) was in attendance. There were two items for discussion.

The first item for discussion was the review of the Feasibility Assessment of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) Properties. JEO Consulting Group provided the subcommittee with the initial draft of the feasibility assessment for trail development from the Lied Platte River Bridge through Nebraska Game and Parks properties. The report identified potential connections to the Lied Platte River Bridge, connecting through Platte River State Park and Louisville State Recreation Area, and the City of Louisville. This report will help guide future investments for connecting these key properties and communities while closing the MoPac gap. The report also includes preliminary “planning level” estimates for engineering, permitting, and construction. Subcommittee members asked questions and provided guidance on continuing to make safety the number one priority. The subcommittee was asked to provide comments or edits by July 14th so that staff and JEO can work to finalize the draft. The goal is that the final draft is completed and published by the end of July.

The second item on the agenda was a discussion regarding the next steps for the JEO team. Staff discussed options for next steps to assign to JEO under their existing contract. Staff recommended that at the conclusion of the feasibility report discussed above, it would be beneficial to have JEO begin conceptual design for the most preferred segments and advance discussions with neighboring landowners and the railroad. The existing contract with JEO would cover any of the work discussed, so there will not be any contract modifications required. The subcommittee provided formal guidance to staff on the next steps. *A motion was made by Hibler, seconded by Peterson, and unanimously approved to recommend that District staff instruct JEO to begin the conceptual design on a trail connection from the Lied-Platte River Bridge through Platte River State Park.*

Lastly, staff provided photos and comments on the progress of construction for the 2.25 miles of trail extending east from Wabash.

Lastly, staff provided updates on the status of the 2.25 miles east of Wabash.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

PC: MoPac East – Lied Connector subcommittee file