

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL SESSION**

The City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. on September 12, 2011 in the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Braig, Connors, Jones, Lynch, Resnick, Sutton, City Manager Van Milligen

Absent: City Attorney Lindahl

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council to conduct a work session on Upper Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

**WORK SESSION  
UPPER BEE BRANCH CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT**

Civil Engineer Deron Muerhing provided historical information on the Bee Branch Creek and current project and presented a video production related to area flooding. Muerhing introduced representatives from Strand Associates, Mike Bridwell, and IIW Engineers, Mike Jansen and Ken Saiki who assisted with the presentation. Highlights included:

- Creation of the Drainage Basin Master Plan
- North Fork Catfish Creek Watershed  
NW Arterial Detention Basin
- Bee Branch Creek Watershed
  - Carter Road Detention Basin
  - West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Detention Basin
  - Open Waterway 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Bee Branch Creek Alignment Study
- Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project
  - Primary purpose: flood protection
  - Secondary purpose: community asset  
Public meetings and input (commercial district, Lincoln to Railroad, 22<sup>nd</sup> to Lincoln, 24<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets)
  - Separated into Phases I (lower) & II (upper)
    - Lower Phase I projects and suggested design elements (plazas and overlooks)
    - Upper Phase II projects and suggested design elements (railroad property acquisition, bike tunnel, level control facility and operation, Heritage Trail connection, bike/walking paths, activity “nodes” with pedestrian amenities, biofields runoff treatment, boardwalks, bridges, amphitheater, water feature, orchard/community garden space, parking, information kiosks, sediment collection, embankment slide, fish habitat, overlooks, safety piers, pervious

allies for adjacent property owners, headwaters structure, possible pet amenities,

Construction will take place from downstream to upstream with the 24<sup>th</sup> Street headwater area constructed last.

Ground restoration is expected to include bluegrass; prairie grasses; low-maintenance, low-mow Fescue grass, and a low-volume drip irrigation system.

Current site plan includes: a trail system, drinking fountains, lighting, banners, planters, flags, interpretive project signs, security kiosks and cameras

Outside funding sources: IJOBS, State Revolving Fund, Environmental Protection Agency, Vision Iowa, Federal Highways Trail, America's River, and ongoing funding searches.

Schedule/timeline for engineering, design permitting, parcel acquisition, and construction underway with functionality for Phase II by spring 2013.

Questions and comments from Council included what style of pavement and fixtures are to be used; concerns about water level control and rate, path width, shade, reservation of amphitheater and overlooks for private/public events; benefits to the Northend neighborhood and greater community; and incorporation with Kaufmann Avenue storm sewer. Van Milligen reiterated that the City Council has designated the area a Conservation District to preserve the character of the neighborhood and the project.

There being no further business upon motion the City Council adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Kevin S. Firnstahl  
City Clerk

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