



## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NEWS

January 25, 2016

### **CITY NEWS**

#### **City of Marion Announces Presidents' Day Schedule**

Marion City Hall will be closed to the public on Monday, Feb. 15. Doors will open at noon for payment drop-off. Other City departments, including Police, Fire, Public Services, Parks and Recreation and the Marion Public Library, will be open normal business hours. Garbage and recycling will be collected on Monday and according to the normal schedule for the remainder of the week. Utility payments will be accepted via either drop box located outside Marion City Hall. Drop boxes are located at the building entrance along 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and near the 12<sup>th</sup> Street driveway entrance.

#### **Marion Ranks among Iowa's Healthiest Housing Markets**

Marion placed 7th in Iowa in a recent study by financial technology company [SmartAsset](#), which ranked the healthiest housing markets in the US. The study measured cities by the average number of years residents spend in homes, home values, ease of sale, and the costs associated with ownership. Nationally, Marion ranked 292 out of approximately 2,000 cities included in the study.

This news concurs with the momentum and community growth Marion Mayor Nicolas AbouAsslay referred to in his recent State of the City address. Since 2000, census data shows that Marion has grown by more than 37 percent.

"We have a very special place here," said AbouAssaly. "Marion is known for its small town character, great schools, safe neighborhoods, historic Uptown district, beautiful parks and quality City services. People of all ages are moving here for a variety of reasons, creating the need for additional housing and commercial development."

In FY2015 alone, 243 new residential units were built in Marion. Two senior housing projects currently under construction on Blairs Ferry Road will add a combined 137 units of affordable rental housing for people 55 and older in Marion.

#### **Baseball/Softball Registration Days Set for February**

Marion Boys Baseball and Peg Pierce Marion Girls Softball will host onsite registration days on Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. – noon at the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center. To learn more, visit [www.cityofmarion.org](http://www.cityofmarion.org).

## 2016 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

*The complete Annual Engineering Work Program and Map, with estimated construction schedules, separated by project type, can be found at [www.cityofmarion.org](http://www.cityofmarion.org).*

- **2016 HMA Resurfacing Project - \$1,000,000**

This annual program, using Miscellaneous Street Repair funding, includes the asphalt overlay of streets evaluated to be both in the most need and to provide the greatest benefit to the most drivers. Staff annually evaluates the need for maintenance of local streets against those collector and arterial streets carrying the most traffic.

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved the recommended street locations as follows:

- 1) 5<sup>th</sup> Street from 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 300<sup>7</sup> North.
- 2) South 14<sup>th</sup> Street from A Avenue to G Avenue.
- 3) 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 13<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> Street.
- 4) A Avenue from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- 5) 22<sup>nd</sup> Street from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- 6) 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Maplecrest to Northview Drive.
- 7) 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Maplecrest to Northview Drive.
- 8) 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 25<sup>th</sup> Street to 30<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 9) 26<sup>th</sup> Street from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- 10) 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 27<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> Street.
- 11) 50<sup>th</sup> Street from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- 12) Southview Drive -Twixt Town Road to Ridge Drive.

On Feb. 4, 2016 City Council will consider approval of the Project Calendar directing staff to proceed with project letting.

The engineer's preliminary construction estimate for the 2016 HMA Resurfacing Project is \$960,950.

**Sealed bids will be received by the City of Marion on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2016.**

Work shall begin no later than July 18, 2016 and be completed within 55 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.

- **Lindale Crossing at Lindale Drive Project - Trey Electric Corporation, \$16,769**

This project, using Capital Improvement Project–Signal funding, includes improvements regarding the addition of signage and flashing beacons at the Lindale Trail Crossing at Lindale Drive.

Work shall commence no later than April 11, 2016 and be completed within 10 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$100 per day will be assessed for each day in excess of these schedules.

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved the contract and bond with Trey Electric Corporation and Change Order #1 regarding project modifications in the amount of \$8,737.

- **2016 Ramp Repair Project - Midwest Concrete Inc., \$78,090.50**

This annual program, using bonded funding, typically includes the reconstruction of approximately 5,200 sq. ft. of sidewalks, sidewalk ramps, and associated work.

On Dec. 29, 2015 five sealed bids were received. A low bid of \$78,090.50 was received from Midwest Concrete Inc. at 96.1% of engineer's estimate.

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council awarded a contract to Midwest Concrete Inc. in the amount of \$78,090.50

Work is specified to begin no later than May 2, 2016 and be completed within 50 working days. Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of these schedules.

On Jan. 21, 2016 City Council approved the contract and bond with Midwest Concrete Inc.

- **ImaginArt in the Alley Project** - Central States Concrete, LLC, \$343,468.15

This project includes infrastructure improvements to the alleys between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Project construction will include the installation of new paving surface, lighting, drainage systems, art, and aesthetic enhancements.

In 2014, Marion was awarded an ArtPlace America grant of \$350,000 to bring life, vitality, and art to Uptown Marion alleys. The remainder of the approved budget for the project construction and associated engineering services will be funded with the City of Marion Bond Funds.

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council awarded the contract to Central States Concrete, LLC in the amount of \$343,468.15.

On Jan. 21, 2016 City Council approved the contract and bond with Central States Concrete, LLC.

Work shall be completed no later than Oct. 23, 2016.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$1,500 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.

- **2016 Miscellaneous Sidewalk Assessment Project** - \$92,500

This annual program provides for the construction of sidewalks in areas where no sidewalk currently exists.

Locations are added to a comprehensive list, reviewed for need, and recommended to City Council by a committee.

The committee is made up of 7 voting members and 3 non-voting members. Voting members include 2 citizens of Marion, one member each from Linn Mar and Marion school districts, one from the Police Department, one from the City Council, and the Assistant City Engineer. The 3 non-voting members include the Assistant Planning and Development Director, the Public Services Director, and the Project Engineer.

The committee typically meets in January to discuss proposed locations and determine a recommended list.

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved the appointment of Will Brandt, Ward 3, to replace Cody Crawford, previous council member.

On Feb. 4, 2016 City Council will consider approval of the committee recommendation for the 2016 Miscellaneous Sidewalk Assessment Project as follows:

- 27<sup>th</sup> Street (West Side) From 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue [\$35,550]
- Grand Avenue (South Side) South 15<sup>th</sup> Street to 420' west [\$18,900]
- Barrington Parkway (North Side) west of 10<sup>th</sup> Street [\$665]
- East Post Road (West Side) Oakbrook Drive to 1040 Grand Avenue [\$42,000]

- **Fairview Drive Reconstruction** - \$350,000

This project, using Miscellaneous Street Repair funding, includes the reconstruction of Fairview Drive from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

The project includes the reconstruction of the existing pavement, driveways, storm sewer, subdrain, water main and other associated work.

On Feb. 4, 2016 City Council will consider approval of the Project Calendar directing staff to proceed with project letting.

The engineer's preliminary construction estimate for the 2016 Fairview Drive Reconstruction Project is \$537,400.

**Sealed bids will be received by the City of Marion on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2016.**

Work shall begin no later than May 31, 2016 and be completed within 70 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$500 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.

Complete closures of these blocks will occur to provide for storm sewer installation and complete pavement reconstruction.

- **Collins Road Improvement Project Phase -I**

The project will include the reconstruction of Collins Road by the City of Cedar Rapids which will need to acquire right-of-way and easements within the jurisdiction of Marion.

Engineering staff has received completed construction plans for review this week from Cedar Rapids from East of Northland Avenue NE to Twixt Town Road NE.

**Sealed bids will be received by the Iowa DOT on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.**

Project construction could begin in the spring of 2016. The project will likely require two construction seasons.



*Proposed Project Location and Scope*

- **2016 Winslow Road Reconstruction Project - \$770,000**

This project, using LOST funding, will include the reconstruction of Winslow Road from approximately Valentine Drive south to the northern Indian Creek Bridge. Staff will evaluate different project scopes and methods for reconstruction in the coming months.

The project includes the reconstruction of the existing pavement, driveways, storm sewer, subdrain, water main and other associated work.

Engineering staff has begun development and design of this project for an expected letting date in February.

Construction is expected to begin around April and require approximately 3-5 months to complete, with a period of complete street closure expected to provide for storm sewer installation and complete pavement reconstruction.

- **West 8th Avenue Reconstruction Project - \$800,000**

This project, using LOST funding, will include the widening of West 8th Avenue from approximately Lindale Drive to Indian Creek.

Engineering staff has begun development and design of this project for an expected letting date in January.

The completed project will include three lanes of pavement with street lights, trail crossing, and landscaping.

Construction is expected to begin around April and require approximately 5-6 months to complete, with several lane closures and restrictions to provide for storm sewer installation and complete pavement reconstruction.

- **2015 Alburnett Road Widening Project - Rathje Construction Co., \$189,587**

The project, using Miscellaneous Street Repair funding, includes the widening of Alburnett Road between 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue and East Robins Road to provide for the addition of a dedicated left turn lane north and south. Additional tapers north and south of the intersections/widening will allow traffic to transition into the widened areas.

Additional signage will be added to better alert drivers to the intersection hazards.

Work shall commence no later than April 11, 2016 and be completed within 50 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each day in excess of the specified completion date. Some lane closures and localized congestion are expected during construction.

- **35<sup>th</sup> Street / 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Mini Roundabout Project – Eastern Iowa Excavating, \$255,366**

The project, using LOST and Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) grant funding, includes the construction of a mini roundabout to replace the existing 2-way stop condition.

This project involves installing concrete pavement, sidewalks, curbs and street lighting to complete a mini roundabout at the intersection of 35<sup>th</sup> Street and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Work shall commence no later than April 11, 2016 and be completed within 45 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each day in excess of these schedules.

The project will be constructed in phases with some lane closures and one short term complete intersection closure while the island is constructed.

- **Central Corridor Complete Streets and Capacity Improvements (Roundabout at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave & 7<sup>th</sup> St) - Ricklefs Excavating, LTD, \$2,871,607**

The project, using bond funding and a grant from the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program, will include the reconstruction of the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection. The completed project will include a roundabout and connection to all entering street legs ultimately shifting commuting traffic to Sixth Avenue to improve efficiency and safety. Relocating traffic will also allow the Uptown to become more pedestrian friendly environment.

Utility reconstruction and relocation will occur over the winter in preparation for construction to start.

Please be aware of potential lane closures and construction near the travel lanes.

Work shall commence no later than April 11, 2016 and be completed within 120 working days.

The project will be broken into 6 stages.

Two lanes of through traffic, one in each direction, will be maintained at all times, along with access to the adjacent businesses.

- **Tower Terrace Road Project – Phase V – Mooney-Engle Land Company, \$1,517,642**

The joint public/private project includes the extension of Tower Terrace Road east from the 10<sup>th</sup>



Street intersection to the new location of Winslow Road, west of Indian Creek. The construction will extend the typical cross section of the divided street with grass median, decorative lights, and trees.

The project will also include the completion of the signalization of the 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Tower Terrace Road intersection.

The City has completed right-of-way acquisition of property east of the Linn-Mar property and continues to strive for completion of right-of-way acquisition from Linn-Mar Schools.

Construction activities are anticipated to have limited impact to traffic.



- **Central Corridor Project (26<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> Street) – Abode Construction**

The project will include the reconstruction of the Central Corridor Project from 26<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> Street including the roundabout near the old Marion Iron Site connecting 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The project, a public/private partnership, includes the partial construction of the Central Corridor Project between 13<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Streets by Abode Construction.

On May 10, 2014 a resolution approving a development agreement with Genesis Equities, LLC, including tax increment financing payments in an amount not to exceed \$8,400,000 plus interest, was approved by City Council providing for the construction funding by the developer.

The project will be constructed in 2 stages, including sanitary sewer in Stage 1, and paving with storm sewer in stage 2.

On Aug. 6, 2015 City Council approved a resolution regarding concurrence of a contract for the construction of the Central Corridor Project (26<sup>th</sup> St to 31<sup>st</sup> St – Stage I) by Genesis Equities, LCC, in the amount of \$369,232.30.

The contractor continues with the installation of sanitary sewer on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue east from 17<sup>th</sup> Street, however, some work is on hold due to delays associated with IDNR site access approval for the Marion Iron Site.

The project will be constructed in phases with some lane closures and localized congestion when building the roundabout.

Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer.



- **Winslow Road Relocation Project - Mooney-Engle Land Company, \$1,070,411**

The joint public/private project includes the relocation of Winslow Road from Settler Drive to Tower Terrace Road. The construction will extend the typical cross section for a collector street with trail on one side and sidewalk on the other.

On Sept. 17, 2015 City Council approved a Development Agreement with Mooney-Engle Land Company regarding the Winslow Road Relocation Project.

On Sept. 17, 2015 City Council also approved concurrence of a contract for the construction of the Winslow Road Relocation Project by Mooney-Engle Land Company in the amount of \$1,070,411.

Completion of the realignment will require the construction of a temporary connection to the old Winslow Road alignment to allow continued use until more of Tower Terrace Road is constructed.

The contractor has begun grading the site in preparation of construction.

Working days and completion date will be set and controlled by the developer.

- **2015 Storm Sewer Project** - Dave Schmitt Const. Co. Inc., \$153,757

The project, using Storm Water Utility funding, includes the construction of storm sewer and drain tile, as well as effected sidewalks, drives, and ramps at the following locations:

- Grand Avenue (North Side) 1800 Grand Avenue to South 22nd Street
- 1st Avenue (North Side) South 22nd Street to School Street
- 26th Avenue (South Side) East of Indian Creek Road to Lynn Drive
- Northview Drive (East Side) 25th Avenue to 27th Avenue
- 29th Avenue (South Side) 35th Street to Highland Drive
- Highland Drive (East Side) 28th Avenue to 29th Avenue
- 27th Street (West Side) 18th Avenue to McGowan Boulevard

Work shall commence no later than April 11, 2016 and be completed within 45 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each day in excess of the specified completion date.

The project will require localized temporary lane closures at several locations.

- **Boyson Road Culvert Extension Project** - \$100,000

This project, using Storm Water Utility funding, includes the extension of the existing Corrugated Metal Pipe (CMP) Storm Water crossing under Boyson Road near the west City Limits.

In 2011, staff in cooperation with adjacent development, widened and urbanized the south side of Boyson Road west of Alburnett Road. This required the extension of the existing culverts on the south side at that time.

In anticipation of similar widening occurring on the north side of Boyson Road staff is proposing a project to extend the same culverts to the north.

Construction is expected in 2016 and will require some short term lane closures.

- **Donnelly Park Boyson Trail Bridge Replacement Project** - Ricklefs Excavating, LTD, \$148,413

On Oct. 22, 2015 City Council awarded a contract to Ricklefs Excavating, Ltd. regarding the Donnelly Park Boyson Trail Bridge Replacement Project in the amount of \$148,413.

On Nov. 5, 2015 City Council approved the contract and bond with Ricklefs Excavating, Ltd. regarding the Donnelly Park Boyson Trail Bridge Replacement Project.

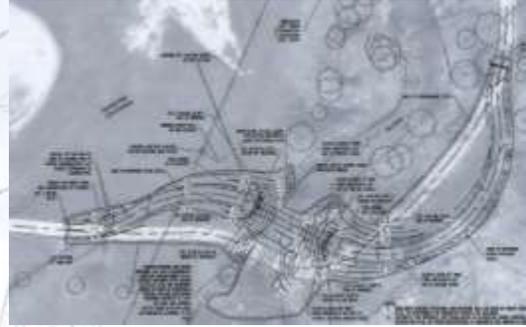
A 2014/2015 Local Option Sales Tax allocation for the Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$200,000 is for the design and construction of a trail bridge across Dry Creek in Donnelly Park.

The Engineering Department is providing administration and inspection services in coordination with Parks and Recreation for this project. Work shall begin no later than May 16, 2016 and be completed within 25 working days.

Liquidated damages in the amount of \$300 per day will be assessed for each calendar day in excess of this schedule.



*Similar bridge type*



*Project plan layout*

- **Waldo's Rock Park Parking Lot - \$150,000**

The Marion Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 from Resource Enhancement and Protection, commonly referred to as REAP, for the development of Waldo's Rock Park. The park will be located adjacent to the 184-acre Marion Enterprise Center in Marion.

REAP invests in projects that enhance and protect the Iowa's natural and cultural resources, helping cities establish natural areas that encourage outdoor recreation and resource management.

In June of this year, local developer Waldo Morris donated 7.4 acres of land near Partners Avenue and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street to the City of Marion for use as a city park. The park, which features a glacial erratic boulder formation, will provide unique learning and recreational opportunities for all ages.

The glacial erratic will serve as the nucleus of this park, with a loop trail and fishing pier constructed adjacent to it. A park road and parking lot will be built to provide access off of Partners Avenue. A trail head connection to the Grant Wood trail system, a timber frame pavilion, and the establishment of trees and prairie grass are also components of the project. The project is expected to begin in the spring of 2016 and be complete in 2017.



- **Low Park Parking Lot - \$500,000**

The completion of Irish Drive north from Tower Terrace Road has provided for an additional entrance to the center Low Park in northern Marion.

The development of the new entrance will include access road, several parking lots, a playground, and many recreational trails.

This project, using mostly LOST funding, is anticipated to be started in 2016 and completed over a couple of construction seasons.

Engineering staff is providing design and construction inspection for this Parks Department project.

- **Armar Drive Extension Project - \$400,000**

The project will extend Armar Drive from the existing south end (in Cedar Rapids) to Highway 100. The intersection at Highway 100 has already been constructed and signalized with ARRA Funds.

The City continues with the process for condemnation of right-of-way for this highly significant project. Per Section 354.4A of the Code of Iowa 7 day notice will be given to the property owner to allow for the surveying of the required acquisition. On Nov. 5, 2015 City Council approved a resolution establishing fair market value and just compensation for the acquisition of certain real property and an interest in real property owned by Phyllis M. Rausch, trustee of the William J. Rausch Family Trust, located N ½ of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 12, Township 83 North, Range 7, West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Linn County Iowa regarding the Armar Drive Extension Project. The City's attorney has sent a copy of the appraisal to the property owners which they will review and determine if they wish to have an independent appraisal prepared.



## **SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT**

Staff provides inspection for the development of all subdivisions within the city limits. This work begins with construction plan review and includes field quality control for storm and sanitary sewers, drintile, portland cement concrete maturity, grade, air content, slump (water content) and pavement thickness.

Current locations are as follows:

**Authors 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition** - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: East side 35<sup>th</sup> Street

Punch list items remain (small miscellaneous cleanup items).

**Bowman Meadows Unit 36** - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: Brookfield Drive and Hawks Ridge Lane extensions south of East Robins Road

Punch list items remain (small miscellaneous cleanup items).

**Bridge Creek 4<sup>th</sup> Addition** - Ricklefs Excavating, City Wide

Location: Winslow Road south of Rolling Glen Drive

Contractor mass grading site.

**The Commons at English Glen 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition** - Rathje Construction, E & F Paving

Location: Extensions of English Glen Ave and Sherwood Drive NE of 29<sup>th</sup> Ave and 35<sup>th</sup> Street

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved acceptance.

**Hunters Field 9<sup>th</sup> Addition** – Pirc Tobin Construction

Location: Extension of Elderton Drive

Punch list items remain (small miscellaneous cleanup items).

**Hunters Field 10<sup>th</sup> Addition** - Pirc Tobin Construction

Location: Extension of Foxborough

Punch list items remain (small miscellaneous cleanup items).

**Prairie Trail 1<sup>st</sup> Addition** - Rathje Construction, E & F

Location: West of Alburnett Road adjacent to Oak Park Circle

On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved acceptance.

**Squaw Creek Meadows 7<sup>th</sup> Addition** - Rathje Construction, E & F

Location: Alexis Lane extension south of Grand Avenue and west of 31<sup>st</sup> Street

Punch list items remain (small miscellaneous cleanup items).

## **TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

As the chairman of the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) it is my responsibility to coordinate citizen requests regarding traffic concerns and possible changes in signage or traffic regulations.

The TAC is comprised of the City Engineer, City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Planning Director, and the Public Services Director. The committee meets when necessary and able to evaluate the requests and make a recommendation to City Council whether the request warrants mitigation.

Requests are only accepted in written form (letter or email) and directed to the Mayor and City Council. The City Council then decides if the request is only for information or requires evaluation and referral to the TAC. If review is necessary Council will, by motion, receive and file the item and refer it to TAC.

The TAC evaluates the requests based on several criteria including the following:

- Traffic counts, speed, vehicle type, and overall volumes provided by staff and traffic data collectors,
- Vehicle and pedestrian accident rates provided by the Police Department,
- Site visibility and stopping distances based on engineering standards,
- Emergency vehicle, snow removal, and garbage pickup accessibility,
- General public use verses individual owner needs,
- Input by the requestor and the public.

TAC then uses the criteria to discuss, evaluate, and provide a recommendation to City Council at a regular Council Meeting. The requestor is notified of the date that the report recommendation will be presented and provided a time to address City Council regarding the request. Once Council has acted on the request notice is sent to the requestor and appropriate action is taken by staff.

- **On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved with no action a motion to receive and file correspondence regarding a request for review of the speed limit on 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Alburnett Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Street (Andrea Wheatley, 2990 Autumn Drive).**
- **On Jan. 7, 2016 City Council approved a motion to receive and file and refer to TAC a request for a stop sign at the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Ron Cook).**

## **OTHER COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

- **On Feb. 4, 2016 Council will consider a motion to receive and file correspondence regarding the prairie restoration south of the 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge Project (John Hanson, 2610 Northview Drive).**

City staff has prepared the following report:

In February 2009 the City of Marion acquired the parcels of land located south of Indian Creek Elementary (previously including a golf driving range owned by Indian Creek Investments) in association with the 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension Project. The area included the necessary right-of-way to construct the project and an additional approximate 41 acres by purchase and donation.

The property was initially acquired to act as a borrow pit to provide for the needed soil fill for the street approaches to the proposed 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge.

During construction of the project and the excavation of the borrow areas existing wetlands were removed. Per the Corp of Engineers (COE) Project Construction Permit the City re-established 0.50 acres of forested wetland buffer and 0.50 acres of restored wet meadow wetlands onsite to offset the adverse permanent impacts to existing wetlands.

Staff, from 2010 to 2015, then provided the required monitoring of the wetlands for the prescribed 5 years, including some mowing and invasive weed removal. The permit has now been released following all requirements being met.

During the development and construction of the project, and following frequent flooding events along Indian Creek during recent years, Council directed staff to only shape the excavated areas and allow the property and newly formed natural area basins to act as storm water storage during large rain events.

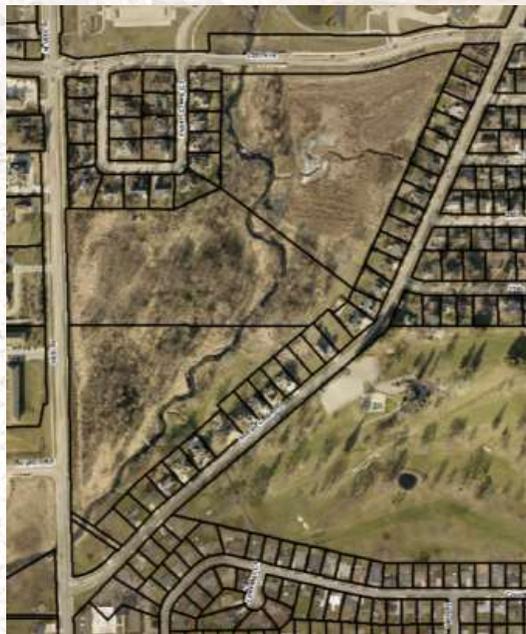
Staff is not aware of the area ever receiving a designation as a prairie and has proceeded with maintaining of the area as a Designated Natural Area for storm water retention.

On July 23, 2015, following a short presentation by Mr. Hanson and Mr. Eckley City Council directed staff to contact them regarding the project, but no formal or specific direction was given.

Possible future action would require a minimum of:

- 1) Action Plan
- 2) Project budget development, Fiscal 2017-18
- 3) Environmental and plant species assessment
- 4) Wetland Mitigation Plan
- 5) Property Management Plan

Upon review of past Council actions regarding the status if the property, staff is returning to Council for further direction.



We continue to build an email list, so please forward addresses to me of those wishing to receive this information.

Feel free to forward to anyone with interest.

If you have additional questions regarding ongoing projects please address them to my email and I will add them to future reports.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Dan D. Whitlow, P. E., Marion City Engineer, [dwhitlow@cityofmarion.org](mailto:dwhitlow@cityofmarion.org)

1225 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200 Marion, Iowa 52302

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