

LOWER NEOSHO (CHANUTE) KICKOFF MEETING NOTES

Location: Memorial Building, Alliance Room, 3rd Floor, 101
S. Lincoln, Chanute, KS 66720

Date: November 19, 2019

Time: 10:30 AM

Facilitator: Tara Lanzrath, KDA

Discussion Topics

- Chanute provided drone footage that was taken of the May 2019 flood event. The flight zone was along a section of the Neosho River near the treatment plant.
- Concern was expressed in Chanute about a new overpass on K39 Highway closing off a significant portion of a drainage structure. It was initially thought to be a localized drainage issue, but could be causing back up issues with the Neosho River. Follow-up will occur on this and survey or As-Built information will be useful to look into this. A web map comment was made in this area.
- Humboldt expressed concern on the tributary on the north side of town due to growth in that area.
- Pittsburg expressed concerns on dumping that is occurring in the railroad right of way that is causing flooding. It was also mentioned that the drainage pipes are 6 inches higher than the stream channel and therefore water is not able to drain properly. A comment was placed on the web map for this area. Overall, the comments indicated the BLE floodplains looked appropriate or maybe underestimated slightly.
- Iola mentioned an area on State Street that is green (proposed to be removed) on the maps but noted that it has a flooding problem. This may be a localized flooding issue. This area is likely to change some with enhancements during Data Development since it will be a Zone AE with floodway. Enhancements will include any structure information.
- An issue was discovered with the USGS rating curve for the Neosho River gage near Iola. The rating curve had errors when providing future predictions. The USGS confidence levels for this gage will be checked.
- Iola expressed concerns with the USACE forecasting efforts during the 2019 flood event regarding the John Redmond releases into Neosho River and went through multiple communication options to reach the appropriate persons. Iola has since toured the dam to understand its impact downstream and to establish a point of contact with the operator. There may be interest in a Technical Assistance project to develop maps for various rating curves and their associated levels, similar to what Manhattan recently did with the Silver Jackets Program. Another Technical Assistance idea is the development of a communication plan with the key stakeholders to utilize during a flooding event. These ideas will be further discussed for feasibility.

Action Items

1. Provide Comments on Project Scope by December 19, 2019