

Hanscom Park: Green Infrastructure Project



The Hanscom Park Project is one of a series of projects in the Leavenworth Basin intended to remove and/or control flows in the Combined Sewer System (CSS) and reduce the frequency, magnitude and duration of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).

This project will:

- Decrease the volume of stormwater runoff from the park and adjoining neighborhoods by restoring natural systems to cleanse and infiltrate some of the area's stormwater,
- Separate portions of the upstream drainage areas and direct stormwater into infiltration basins within the southwest corner of the park, and possibly the northeast corner of the park at a later date,
- Temporarily store water after storms in the lagoon to reduce flows in the downstream combined sewer system,
- Reduce the size and cost of downstream facilities,
- Reduce combined sewer overflows to the Missouri River.

By partnering with Omaha Parks Department for this project:

- The lagoon outlet structure will be replaced allowing improved water level management,
- Water quality in the lagoon will be improved,
- A NRD grant will be used to add depth to the lagoon to support fish.

Phase 1 Timeline: Completed in 2016

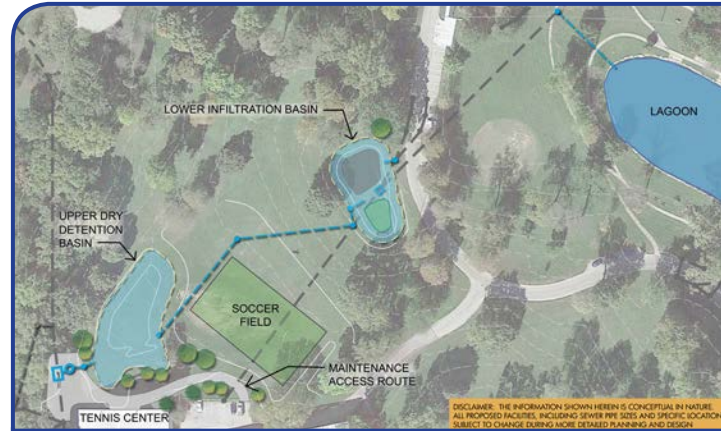
- Sewer Separation construction completed west of the park
- 32nd Avenue street improvements and bike trail completed

Phase 2 Timeline: Construction begins Spring 2018

- Southwest green infrastructure project will begin that includes:
 - ◆ Draining and deepening the lagoon,
 - ◆ Replacing the lagoon outlet
 - ◆ Constructing infiltration basins upstream of the lagoon

Phase 3 Timeline: To be determined

- Conceptual plan for Northeast Green Infrastructure is funding dependent, but can occur after Metropolitan Utilities District gas main upgrade on Woolworth Avenue is completed. Current estimate: 2021



Hanscom Park conceptual rendering



Sewer Separation Construction



Hanscom Park Lagoon

A Water Quality Improvement Program

Omaha is a national leader among the more than 772 cities who have an unfunded, federal mandate to improve the water quality in their rivers and streams. In 2006, the Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) Program was initiated to study and plan changes required by 2025 under the Federal Clean Water Act. In 2014, the timeline was extended to 2027 because of the Missouri River Flood.

Improved Water Quality Has Benefits

While the challenges facing the CSO Program are significant, there are also benefits. Many of the projects offer opportunities to improve and enhance neighborhoods. Where streets and curbs are removed for construction, new streets, curbs, handicap ramps and driveway approaches will be built. Where trees are removed, new trees or other plants will replace them. Green infrastructure options such as bioswales, rain gardens or the creation and expansion of ponds for water retention all add beauty and recreation to some of the projects.

Funding the Program

The CSO Program is funded through sewer fees which will increase throughout the life of the program. The program will be financed primarily with 30-year revenue bonds issued in periodic increments as approved by the Mayor and City Council. Sewer fees will be used to pay off the bonds, with 60 percent coming from Residential customers, 30 percent from Industrial and commercial users, and 10 percent from regional customers who use the City's sewer services.

Calculate your estimated sewer fees on the Omaha CSO website:
www.omahacso.com/funding/rates

Ratepayer Assistance Program

The CSO Program recognized that increased rates could be a hardship for some residents, so the City took a proactive role in finding a solution and created an assistance option for fixed and low income residents which was implemented in 2011. Residents will qualify for this assistance if they are receiving low income energy assistance (LIHEAP) from the State of Nebraska.

Get assistance on the Ratepayer Assistance Program by calling the CSO Hotline:
402-341-0235

Job Creation: Local Labor and Materials

The City and the CSO Program actively encourage the use of local labor along with locally purchased or locally available materials. Through the Small and Emerging Business program of the City, businesses of many sizes have the opportunity to work on contracts or to bid on projects for their company. Over the course of the 18-year CSO Program, it is anticipated that over 2000 existing and new jobs will be part of the workforce.

Get more information about Small and Emerging Business opportunities:
402-444-5055

