“Public Meeting regarding Johnson Park Trail on June 11”

A newly funded trail project may traverse through this western section of Johnson Park. A public meeting on the project will be held June 11 from 5:30-7:00 pm at the City Council Chambers.

A public information meeting will be held June 11 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the City Council Chambers in the City of Norfolk Administration Building at 309 N. 5th Street concerning the proposed Johnson Park trail project. In January, the Nebraska Game and Parks Board of Commissioners announced a grant of $561,373 to fund 79% of a trail through the park. The City of Norfolk and the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District are sharing 21% or $141,595 of the total estimated $707,966 cost. The 7 Cities Century Bike Ride Committee is also donating $5,000 for the new trail.

At the public open house city officials and engineers for the project will be available to discuss the proposed trail route, the project schedule, environmental studies and possible closure of a one-block section of Nebraska Avenue. That street section lies within Johnson Park between First Street and Oak Street.

“The purpose of the meeting is to gather information and comments regarding the proposed project. No formal presentations will be made and people can come and go as they wish. This will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and get information about the trail project,” said Mark Dolechek, Assistant Engineer for the City of Norfolk.

The ten foot wide concrete trail will begin at the intersection of 3rd Street and Elm Avenue, follow alongside the North Fork of the Elkhorn River to 1st Street, continue through Johnson Park, follow the river south to East Braasch Avenue and connect to the existing sidewalk along North Cottonwood Street.

The American Society of Landscape Architects had named Johnson Park as their “priority redesign project” and submitted concept plans in January 2014 to a City Council subcommittee.

The public is invited to attend the meeting. For more information contact Dolechek at 402-844-2020.