



**LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**

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Landowners to Study MoPac Trail Extension Routes

After careful study by a consultant of several potential routes for extending its MoPac East Recreational Trail from Wabash to the Lied Platte River Bridge, near South Bend, the Lower Platte South NRD Board is still open to suggestions. When it met Wednesday the Board suggested landowners and the District attempt to come to a consensus about a route and report back to the NRD Board by July 1st.

The MoPac East Recreational Trail extends about 25-miles from 84th Street, just south of O Street in Lincoln, to Wabash. The Wabash segment was completed in 2001. In 2002 the NRD, along with other partners, opened the Platte River Connection and Lied Platte River Bridge, near South Bend, with intentions of extending its trail system from Wabash to the former railroad bridge over the Platte River. The Papio-Missouri River NRD in Omaha is also in the process of extending its trail system to the bridge, which will open a recreational trail corridor between Nebraska's two largest cities.

Since receiving results of a study of five potential routes by the Big Muddy Workshop, of Omaha, last spring the NRD Board has remained neutral on any specific route, but discussion Wednesday made it clear the Board still intends to extend the trail to the

bridge. Hopes were expressed by Board members that landowners input can help develop some kind of consensus about a route.