

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE APPLICATION AND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR  
THE TREES FOR NEBRASKA TOWNS GRANT**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-104(6) (Reissue 2007), the County has the power to do all acts in relation to the concerns of the County necessary to the exercise of its corporate powers; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-103 (Reissue 2007), the powers of the County as a body are exercised by the County Board; and,

WHEREAS, a Grant for the new trees is available to Sarpy County through the Nebraska Environmental Trust; and,

WHEREAS, the grant application must be signed by the Chairman and submitted to the Nebraska Environmental Trust; and,

WHEREAS, Sarpy County is committed to and supports the grant application for the Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant for the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus; and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners that the Board Chairman is hereby authorized to sign the attached Application for the Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant.

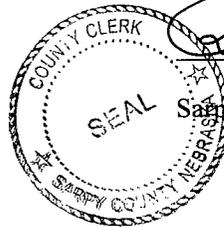
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners, that the Chairman of such Board is hereby authorized to sign the attached letter of support encouraging the award of the Grant.

The above Resolution was approved by a vote of the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners at a public meeting duly held in accordance with applicable law on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012.



Sarpy County Board Chairman - Vice

ATTEST:



Sarpy County Clerk



# Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

1210 GOLDEN GATE DRIVE  
PAPILLION, NE 68046-2895  
593-4155

[www.sarpy.com](http://www.sarpy.com)

ADMINISTRATOR Mark Wayne

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR Scott Bovick

FISCAL ADMIN./PURCHASING AGT. Brian Hanson



## COMMISSIONERS

Rusty Hike District 1  
Jim Thompson District 2  
Tom Richards District 3  
Jim Nekuda District 4  
Jim Warren District 5

## MEMO

TO: Sarpy County Board

FROM: Lisa A. Haire

RE: Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant for the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus

On September 25, 2012, the County Board will be asked to authorize the Chairman to sign the Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant application and letter of support.

The grant offers communities the opportunity to request funding for new trees to help reduce stormwater runoff, provide wildlife habitat and help clean the air.

Sarpy County will request \$2,500 from the Nebraska Environmental Trust to plant large maturing trees on the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus. If awarded the full \$2,500, Sarpy County will be required to match \$2,500. The county match will come out of FY 2014 Building and Facilities Management budget.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Ross Richards if you have comments or questions.

September 21, 2012

Lisa A. Haire

593-1565

cc: Mark Wayne  
Scott Bovick  
Brian Hanson  
Ross Richards  
Mike Hayes  
Deb Houghtaling



## 2012 Trees for Nebraska Towns - Project Proposal Form

Complete the form below by filling in the blanks in the lined areas. It can be completed and submitted electronically or as a hard copy. Please SAVE to your computer as you work.

Name of project: Sarpy County Courthouse Campus Tree Project

Project address or general location: 1210 Golden Gate Drive, Papillion, Nebraska 68046

Project sponsor(s): Sarpy County

Name of project coordinator: Lisa A. Haire, Sarpy County Grant Coordinator

Mailing address of coordinator: 1210 Golden Gate Drive, Papillion, Nebraska 68046

Daytime phone number(s) of coordinator: 402-593-1565

E-mail address of coordinator (required): lhaire@sarpy.com

Project will be completed on land owned by: Sarpy County, Nebraska

Project will be maintained by: Sarpy County Facilities Department

Amount of funding requested: \$2,500

Estimated amount of community match: \$2,500

Estimated total value of project: \$5,000

Estimated number of large-maturing trees to be planted: 38 trees

Trees for Nebraska Towns is made possible by funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust



## Proposed Project Budget

Complete the table below to estimate and itemize your project's budget, including all matching expenses. Be sure to meet all expense allowances as indicated in Program Guidelines and Requirements. The budget is an estimate, but should be as accurate as possible since grant amounts are awarded based on application budget.

Expenditures	\$ Amount covered by TNT (grant) funds	\$ Amount covered by other funds or in-kind value	Total Value
Large Maturing Trees & Installation (must be at least 75% of grant reimbursement)	\$1,825	\$1,825	\$3,650
Other Plant Material & Installation – (ornamental/understory trees, shrubs and groundcovers for massing)	\$250	\$250	\$500
Site Preparation (please describe)	\$185-micro nutrients	\$185-micro nutrients	\$370
Project Planning and Design			
Mulch (if separate from planting charge)	\$240	\$240	\$480
Other (please describe)			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

**Note:** Costs associated with purchasing and planting of large-maturing trees shall comprise at least 75% of the grant reimbursement. A minimum of 50% of local match (25% of project cost) must be cash.

## Narrative Summary of Project

Please describe the scope and expected outcomes of the project and include the following information (fill in the information below each numbered request OR attach a separate document):

1. Briefly describe the project, including organizations involved, site location and its general location within the community.

Sarpy County, Nebraska is seeking funds to plant 38 new trees of varied species on the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus located at 84th Street and Highway 370.

Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska with a population of 158,840. Today, more than 89,000 residents live in Bellevue, Papillion, La Vista, Gretna, and on Offutt Air Force Base. The County's population growth is primarily due to the expanding private sector economy and the opening of the Kennedy Freeway in 1994.

The Sarpy County campus is located on the northeast corner of Hwy 370 & 84th Street in Papillion, Nebraska. The campus consists of the Courthouse, Hall of Justice, Law Enforcement Center, East, and West Annex buildings, and the Administration Offices. The location of the Campus is in close proximity to Interstate 80 and Highway 50 providing easy access to a metropolitan area fast approaching one million people.

Highway 370 is a major thoroughfare which runs east and west through the County. The highway is over 22 miles long. It begins at U.S. 6 in Gretna and ends at Interstate 29 in Iowa. Highway 370 is the main east-west road in Sarpy County and serves the southern Omaha suburbs. Highway 370 intersects with Interstate 80, Nebraska Highway 50 and U.S 75 (Kennedy Expressway). The Highway runs through Gretna, Papillion, and Bellevue.

The Courthouse building houses the Sarpy County Attorney's offices, eight County and District Courtrooms, two Juvenile Courtrooms, County and District Court Judges, Juvenile Court Judges, County and District Court Clerk's offices, Victim Witness Office, Courthouse Security, CASA, and Juvenile Probation. The adjoining Administration building houses the Sarpy County Board Room, Sarpy County Administration, Sarpy County Assessors' Office, Sarpy County Clerk's Office, Sarpy County Fiscal and Budget Office, Sarpy County Community Services Office, Information Services, Sarpy County Planning, Sarpy County Purchasing, Registrar of Deeds, Sarpy County Treasurer, and Vehicle Inspection Office. Additionally, the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles has an office which is located in the Administration Building.

Also located on the Campus are two Annex Buildings which house, County Diversion offices, County Human Resources Department, County Adult Pre-Trial, County Adult Probation, Health and Human Services, and Veteran's Assistance Office.

Day to day business is conducted in the County Administration, County Courthouse, and Annex buildings. Visitors come to the buildings to acquire a marriage license, driver's license, pick up license plates, vehicle registrations, building permits and property tax bills. Additionally, the Courthouse building conducts County, District, and Juvenile Court business. Sarpy County Facilities Management estimates that 684,605 people visit the Courthouse, Administration, and Annex buildings on a yearly basis.

Please see attachment 1 for aerial of the project site.

2. In general terms, describe the types of trees and associated plantings proposed. Include an estimate of the number of all proposed trees, number of proposed large-growing trees and potential sources of trees.

The trees proposed to be planted are large deciduous trees that are considered long living, disease/pest resistant, and suitable for our area. The majority of the trees will be planted on the south and west boundaries of the property (along Hwy 370 and 84<sup>th</sup> Street) spread out along a proposed walking trail.

The goal of the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus project is to provide large trees that will accompany a future walking trail. Sarpy County hopes to bring beauty, shade, and nature to the Courthouse Campus and draw people out from the surrounding community to the campus to enjoy nature and outdoor activity.

The attached design plans include planting a total of 38 trees (19 from grantor and 19 for the County match) with approximately 25 native shrubs and groundcovers. The types of trees proposed in the plan include: Bald Cypress, River Birch, Kentucky Coffeetree, Frontier Elm, Turkish Filbert, Hackberry, Honeylocust, Black Maple, Red Sunset Maple, Sugar Maple, Black Oak, Burr Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Red Oak, Sawtooth Oak, Shingle Oak, Shumard Oak, Japanese Pagoda Tree, Sycamore, and Tulip Tree. This tree list may be revised by the grantor upon review to achieve maximum planting results. Sarpy County is committed to the environment and by partnering with the grantor will plant the most appropriate trees for the area.

With assistance from the grantor, a wide variety of tree species will be planted to help avoid susceptibility to disease and allow for diversity of trees within the Campus. All trees will be purchased from a reputable nursery with landscaping experts to assist in planting procedures.

Please see attachment 2 and 3 for a diagram and tree list outlining total number of large-growing trees proposed. The attached tree list can be easily modified to achieve the best overall planting results based upon review and approval by the grantor.

3. List the party or group who is expected to provide plant installation. If not the plant provider, describe the planter's experience.

Sarpy County will contract with a local landscaping company to purchase assorted large trees. Sarpy County will follow the County, or if required, State procurement process. The County procurement process begins with requesting bids from area landscaping companies. Upon receiving bids, Sarpy County will review the bids and select a landscaping company based on experience, knowledge, cost, and past references. A contract is then signed between the County and the landscaping company to purchase the plants. All trees will be planted by and under the direction of the Sarpy County Building and Grounds Foreman.

Site preparation has taken place and all hazards have been cleared. Soil samples were taken August 28, 2012. Samples were sent to Midwest Laboratories for a complete soil analysis. With this information, Sarpy County was able to determine a best course of action and put the "right tree in the right place." Some micro-nutrients will need to be added as recommended in the test results.

4. Describe the general project timeline.

Upon notification of grant funding in January/February of 2013, Sarpy County will work with the grantor to review planting guidelines, complete bid specs, and request bids from landscaping companies in March 2013. A bid will be accepted and contract signed with a reputable landscaping company by May 2013. Sarpy County anticipates purchasing and planting trees in September 2013 with a project completion date set for October 2013.

5. Describe the anticipated community and environmental benefits of the project and how this project will contribute to the TNT program goals.

The purpose of the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus Tree Project is to plant trees of varied species that will grow to shade visitors, provide green space, reduce stormwater run-off, improve air quality, reduce noise and air pollution, sequester carbon, give habitat to birds and other wildlife while also helping to add beauty to the Courthouse Campus for generations. It is a goal of Sarpy County to create prominent green space allowing visitors on the Campus to enjoy a more natural setting.

In addition to providing shade, planting trees will aid in the reduction of the "heat island" effect. Planting new trees at the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus will help reduce the "heat island" effect by shading nearby parking lots and streets. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),

Heat islands occur when the sun heats dry, exposed surfaces such as pavement. Temperatures can reach 50-90 degrees hotter than the air temperature. Hot pavement transfers heat to stormwater, which drains into storm sewers and raises water temperatures in streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes altering ecosystems. One strategy to help reduce the heat island effect is to increase trees in an area. Increasing tree cover is one step communities can take to reduce the heat island effect by helping to cool the environment and lower surface temperatures. Shaded temperatures may be 20-45 degrees cooler than unshaded surfaces. Trees are most useful as a mitigation strategy when planted to shade pavement in parking lots and on streets. ([www.epa.gov/heatisland/mitigation/trees.htm](http://www.epa.gov/heatisland/mitigation/trees.htm))

Stormwater run-off and soil erosion are also serious environmental problems. Planting trees helps to reduce soil erosion. Tree roots hold soil in place. Tree branches and leaves lessen the impact of rain on soil creating natural flood control for the area. Planting trees helps to control air and water pollution by reducing the impact of carbon dioxide on the community. Trees absorb and filter carbon dioxide and other pollutants such as fertilizers and pesticides produced by surrounding areas.

6. If applicable, describe the current/recent tree conditions on or near the project site.

The community forest on the Sarpy County Campus is being depleted due to extreme weather, age, and disease. Today, there are only a few larger maturing deciduous trees on the campus which are sporadically placed among Evergreen trees and shrubs. The majority of the remaining trees are in good health and all are monitored for pest and disease problems. Sarpy County

recently removed several Scotch Pines due to problems with wilt. There have been no other major pest problems on the campus. Sarpy County proposes to strategically replant a variety of diverse, large, maturing shade trees with high quality root systems; applying proper design, planting and maintenance techniques to ensure proper stewardship.

See attachment 4 for photos of current tree conditions at the Courthouse Campus.

7. Describe the anticipated sources for matching funds (for example: city funds, other grant funds, cash donations, donated materials, volunteer labor, etc.).

Sarpy County will meet the match obligation by planting 19 trees of varied species on the Courthouse Campus. Sarpy County will work with the grantor to select appropriate trees for the area. Sarpy County personnel will assist in care and maintenance of the trees after planting. Funding for the community match will come from the Sarpy County Budget for FY 2014.

8. Describe any educational and public outreach/community engagement efforts anticipated as part of the project.

In conjunction with the maintenance department, Sarpy County will have youth community service workers engaged in care and maintenance of new and existing trees on the Campus. Throughout the spring and summer months, Sarpy County has many young people that perform community service. This program will help youth to serve their community while learning how to care for nature and the environment at the same time.

After completion of the proposed walking trail, Sarpy County expects to have an increase of visitors to the Courthouse Campus to enjoy the trees, shrubs and green space as they bike or walk along the trail.

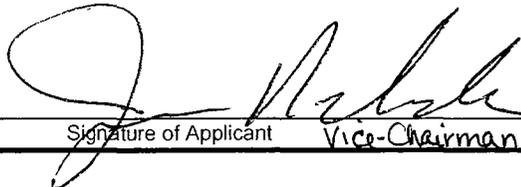
9. Describe the project maintenance plan, who will be responsible and their general maintenance experience.

Sarpy County's Building and Grounds Foreman will be responsible for the general maintenance of the trees which will include watering on a regular basis and mulching upkeep. The Foreman is a 15 year veteran of the landscape industry and has prior experience with a well-known landscaping company. The Foreman is also a licensed pesticide applicator and has planted thousands of trees during his 15 year landscaping career.

The Sarpy County Building and Grounds Foreman and support staff are available on site for aftercare of all trees. Watering supplies are readily available as needed. The Building and Grounds staff will be responsible for watering, stake removal, and weeding.

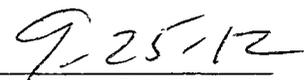
The maintenance plan will include watering as necessary, weed removal, re-mulching, fertilizing and pruning as needed in the coming years.

*As the applicant, I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is accurate and complete. I also certify that the authorities responsible for managing the project site have been made aware of the proposed project and agree to its implementation if grant funds are approved.*



Signature of Applicant

Vice-Chairman Sarpy County Board



Date

## Submittal Instructions:

1. Save a copy for your records.
2. Submit before application deadline of 5:00PM, October 1, 2012.

*When submitting a hard copy:*

Submit two copies all documents listed below.

*When submitting an electronic copy:*

E-mail all documents listed below to [kweyers2@unl.edu](mailto:kweyers2@unl.edu), with the subject line:  
**"2012 TNT APP (Last Name of Project Coordinator)"**

- ✓ This application form (word or PDF file)
- ✓ Concept Plan (suggested JPEG or PDF file)
- ✓ 3 site photos (JPEG-small file size)
- ✓ Google Map/Aerial Photo (PDF or JPEG)
- ✓ Optional supporting documents such as proposed plant lists, existing site tree inventories/evaluations, evidence of successful past tree planting projects, letters of support, etc.

**\*If you have the capability to combine all these documents into one PDF document it is helpful to do so.**

**\*Multiple e-mails may be sent if necessary to accommodate large attachments.**

**Trees for Nebraska Towns is made possible by funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust**





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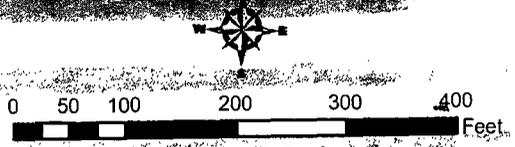
S 84th St

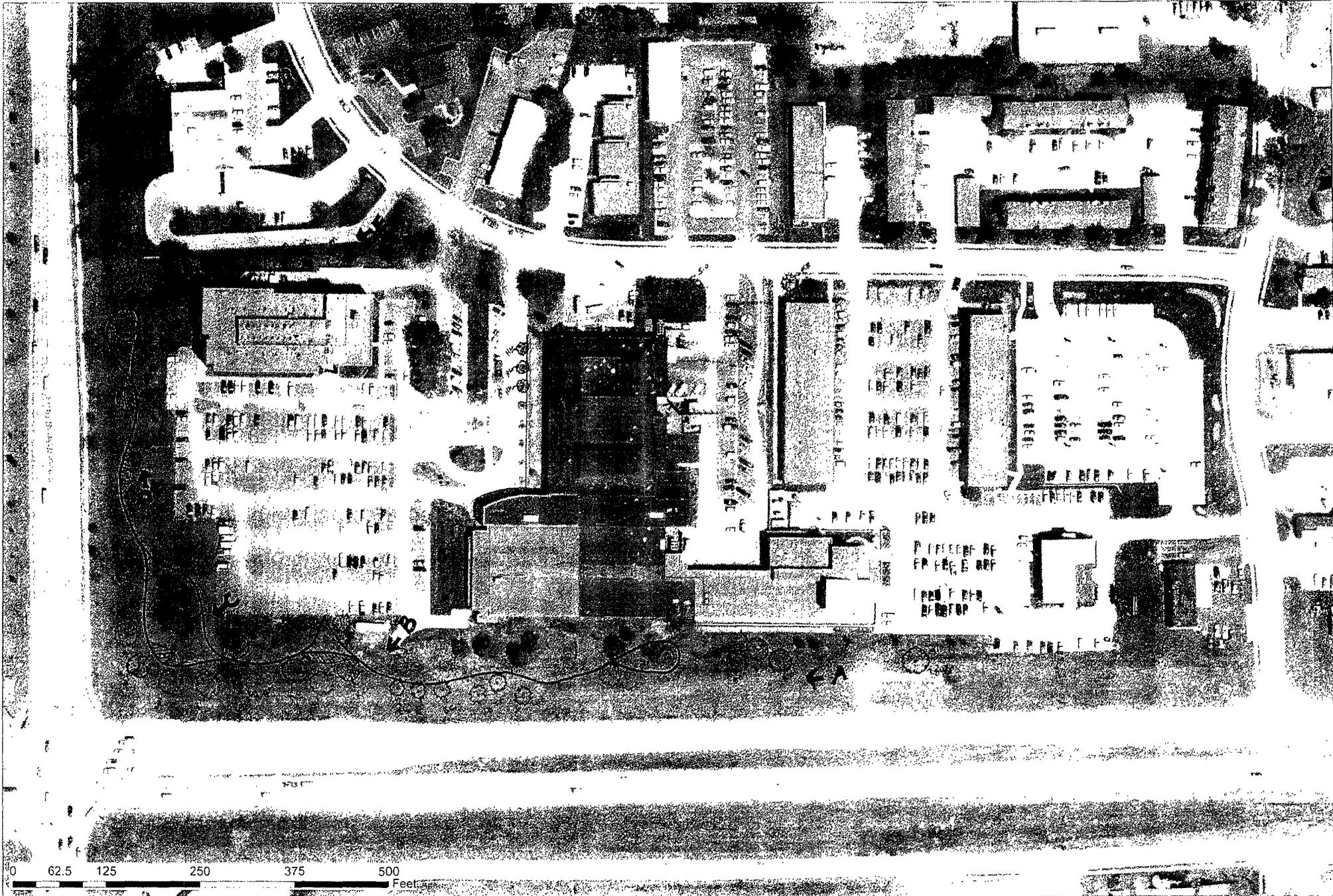
LEWIS & CLARK

Gold Coast Rd

Golden Gate Dr

376





0 62.5 125 250 375 500 Feet

Attachment 3

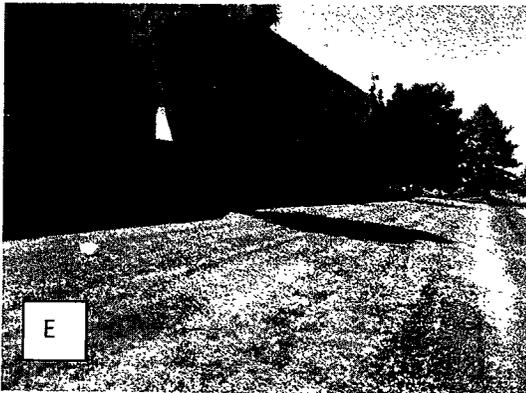
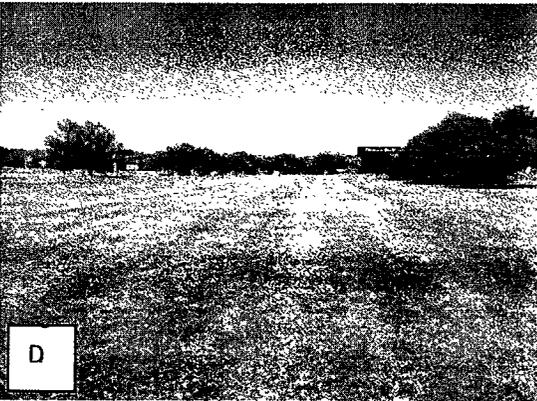
# Planting Key

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B.C	Bald Cypress	2	B.U.R	Burr Oak	2
R.B	River Birch	2	C.H.O	Chinkapin Oak	2
K.C	Kentucky Coffeetree	2	R.O	Red Oak	1
F.E	Elm –Frontier	2	S.O	Sawtooth Oak	2
T.F	Turkish Filbert	1	S.H.I	Shingle Oak	3
H.B	Hackberry	2	S.H.O	Shumard Oak	1
H.L	Honeylocust	3	P.T	Jap. Pagodatree	2
B.M	Black Maple (Grn Col)	3	S.Y.C	Sycamore	2
R.S.U	Red Sunset Maple	1	T.T	Tulip Tree	1
S.M	Sugar Maple	1			
B.O	Black Oak	3			

## Photo Key

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- A. South side of Administration building looking west towards 84<sup>th</sup> street
- B. South of Courthouse parking looking to the south west towards Highway 370
- C. Courthouse parking lot looking west towards 84<sup>th</sup> street
- D. West of Courthouse parking lot looking north towards the bank
- E. North side of the Jail looking to the west

## **Successful Past Tree Planting Project Sarpy County/Werner Park Baseball Stadium**

In 2010, Sarpy County applied for and was awarded grant funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust for a project at the Sarpy County/Werner Park Baseball Stadium. Sarpy County planted over 200 trees at the new Baseball Stadium located off of Hwy 370 and 126<sup>th</sup> Street in Papillion, Nebraska. The trees were planted in September 2011 and are now growing well and are a beautiful addition to the Ballpark.

The Sarpy County Ballpark creates a family entertainment district consistent with the area's growth that enhances the quality of life for residents in Sarpy County and the greater Omaha metropolitan area. The stadium and adjoining park will eventually have picnic areas and bike and walking trails, which will be visible from within the stadium.

The ballpark is the home of the Omaha Storm Chasers Triple-A Baseball Team. The Omaha Storm Chasers (formally Omaha Royals) have drawn over 300,000 fans per season for 24 straight years and over 11 million in 42 seasons. In the 2011 season, the Storm Chasers drew 410,326 fans, the team's best since the 2000 season. The Storm Chasers averaged 5,947 fans per home game. Additionally, the stadium hosts various concerts, festivals, and public events throughout the year. In 2011, a total of 452,841 people were in attendance for 124 different events which included 73 Storm Chasers games and 51 other special events.

One of the primary goals in the design of the stadium and adjoining park was to plant trees, add picnic areas and green space in order to create a more natural outdoor setting for visitors. With the addition of the trees from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, Sarpy County is accomplishing this goal for the Park. The County's long term plan is to add more trees to the park in the next few years through additional grant funding and/or other funding sources.

Ross Richards  
Sarpy County  
Facilities Management Director  
1210 Golden Gate Drive  
Papillion, Ne 68046

Dear Mr. Richards:

The University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension in Douglas and Sarpy Counties is supportive of your grant application to the Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant Program. The University of Nebraska – Lincoln believes in programs such as this as a means to improve your campus. These efforts will provide an environmentally sound addition to the courthouse grounds.

Sarpy County has been a key partner in past efforts to enhance your landscape using a variety of methods. Extension is pleased to again partner with you and to support this grant application. These efforts will provide a visual portrait for the people of Sarpy County to view sound arborist techniques that can be applied to their own yards.

We commend your efforts to apply for this grant and to improve your campus.

Sincerely,



Vernon L Waldren  
Extension Educator – Co-Unit Leader  
8015 W Center Rd  
Omaha NE 68124

# Sarpy County Board of Commissioners

1210 GOLDEN GATE DRIVE  
PAPILLION, NE 68046-2895  
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ADMINISTRATOR Mark Wayne

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## COMMISSIONERS

Rusty Hike District 1  
Jim Thompson District 2  
Tom Richards District 3  
Jim Nekuda District 4  
Jim Warren District 5

September 25, 2012

Nebraska Environmental Trust  
700 S. 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4913

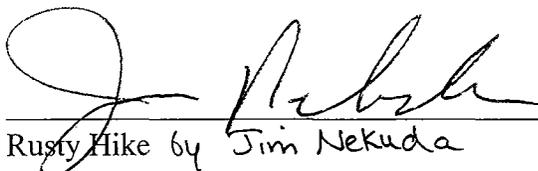
Dear Nebraska Environmental Trust,

The Sarpy County Board of Commissioners supports the Trees for Nebraska Towns Grant application to plant trees on the Sarpy County Courthouse Campus. The Sarpy County Courthouse Campus is centrally located in Sarpy County and houses most of the County Offices. The County would like to eventually add a walking/biking path around the building.

One of the main goals of Sarpy County is to add green space to the Courthouse Campus by planting trees, shrubs, flowers and grass. In addition to adding beauty to the Campus, planting trees will also aid in reducing stormwater runoff, help to clean the air and provide shade to visitors.

The Sarpy County Board of Commissioners supports this application and requests positive consideration from the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

Sincerely,



Rusty Hike by Jim Nekuda

Vice-Chairman

Sarpy County Board of Commissioners