

Memorandum



DATE September 12, 2008

TO Trinity River Committee Members:

David A. Neumann (Chair)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Elba Garcia (Vice-Chair)

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway

Carolyn R. Davis

Linda Koop

Pauline Medrano

Mitchell Rasansky

Steve Salazar

SUBJECT Trinity River Corridor Project: Dallas Floodway Extension

The attached briefing will be presented to the Trinity River Corridor Project Committee on September 16, 2008. The purpose of this briefing is to provide an update on the progress of the Dallas Floodway Extension Project, and to inform the Council committee of future construction activities for this very important flood control project.

If you have additional questions, please let me know.



Jill A. Jordan, P.E.
Assistant City Manager



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Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Ramon F. Miguez, P.E., Assistant City Manager
A. C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
David O. Brown, Interim Assistant City Manager
David K. Cook, Chief Financial Officer
Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge C. Victor Lander
Helena Stevens-Thompson, Asst. to the City Manager
Frank Libro, Director, Public Information Office

Trinity River Corridor Project: Dallas Floodway Extension

Trinity River Corridor Project Committee
September 16, 2008



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Purpose of Briefing:



- To remind the committee of the background, purpose and components of the Dallas Floodway Extension (DFE) project
- To provide an update on the construction activities to date for the DFE Project
- To inform the committee on the future activities scheduled for this project
- To discuss legislative issues with regard to funding needs for the project



Background



- The DFE Project was first authorized by Congress as a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project in 1965
- It wasn't until 1990 (after serious flooding of Cadillac Heights and Lamar) that the City asked the Corps to re-evaluate the previously authorized project
- In the 1998 Bond Program, voters passed Proposition 11 for \$246 million for the Trinity River Corridor Project
 - Of the \$246 million, \$24.7 million was dedicated as the City's cost-sharing portion for the DFE
- As part of the DFE project, the Corps agreed to reimburse the City for the construction of the Rochester levee, built in the mid-1990's
 - \$22.2 million
 - This reimbursement is to be used for land acquisition for the project and Trinity forest



Purpose of DFE Project



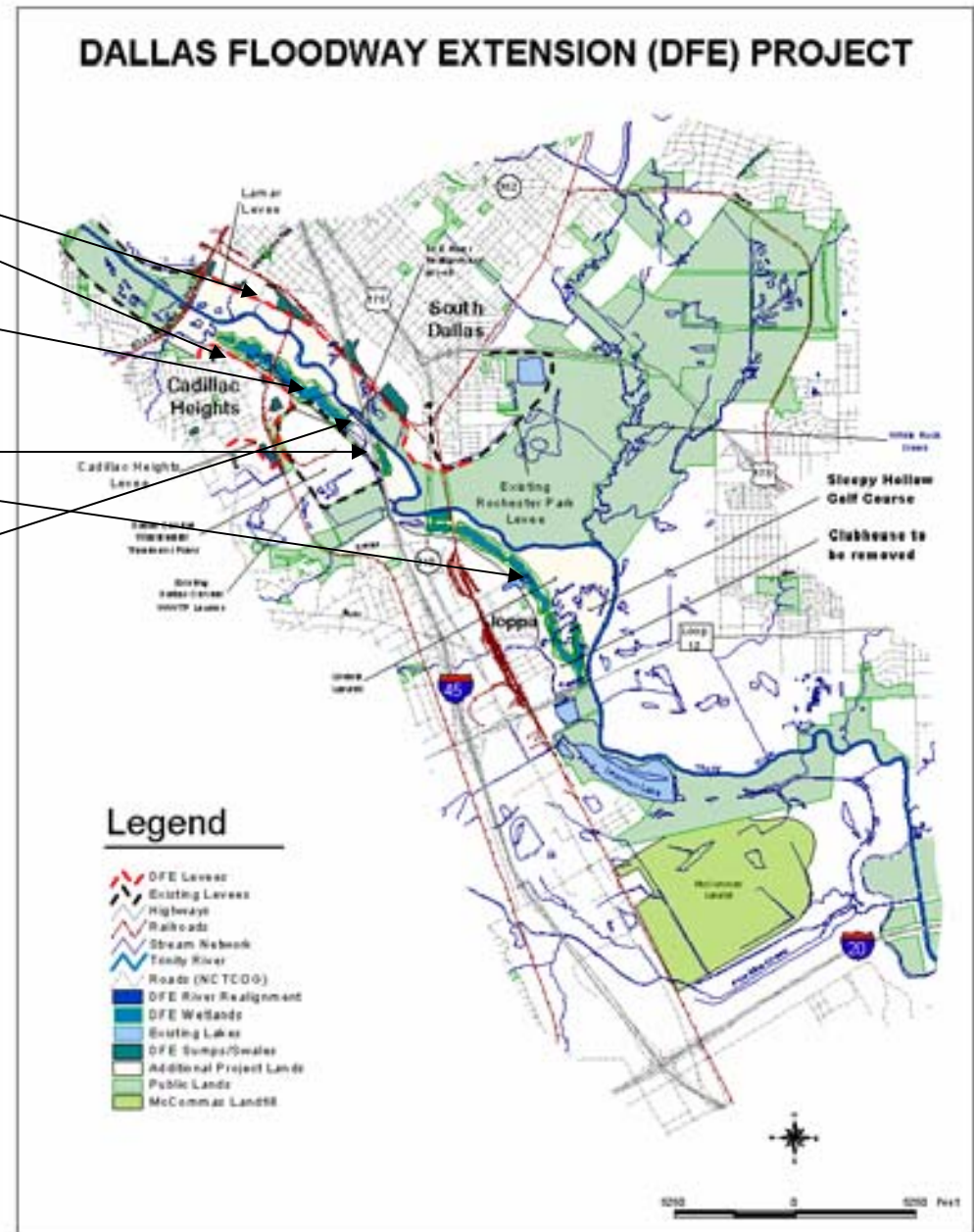
- Provide 800 year flood protection for 12,500 homes and businesses that previously had no protection (levees)
 - Cadillac Heights
 - Lamar
- Restore 800 year flood protection to the existing levees in the Dallas Floodway (with ATSF Railroad bridge demolition)
- Increase the flood protection for the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant to 500 year flood protection
- Increase the protection level of the Rochester Levee to 800 year flood protection
- Relocate the Trinity River channel under IH-45
- Provide environmental restoration through land acquisition, tree planting, forest management, and wetlands creation
- Cost-share in recreational components such as trails, river crossings, etc.



Components of DFE Project



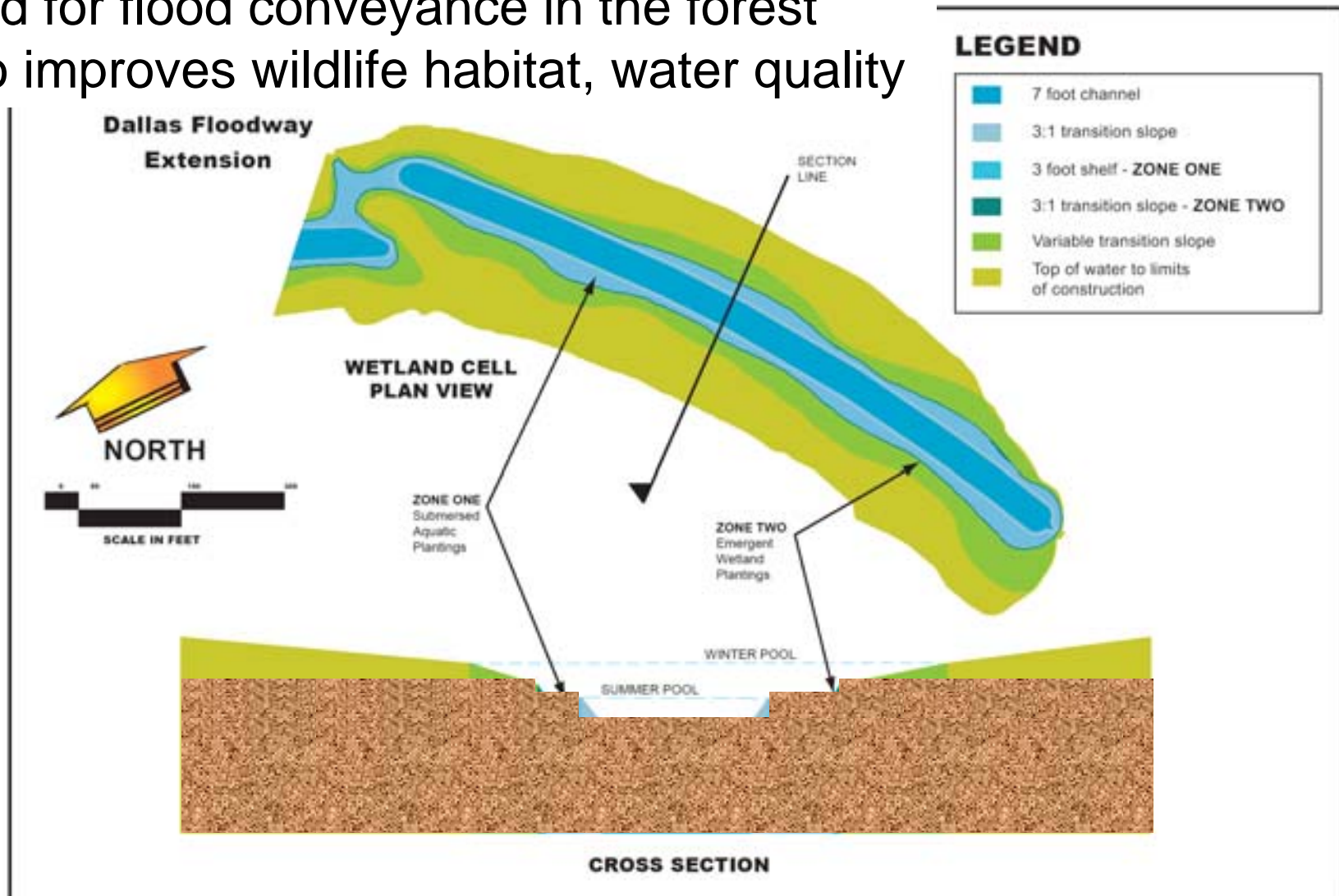
- Levees
- Upper chain of wetlands
- Lower chain of wetlands
- River relocation
- Recreation and mitigation (throughout forest)



What is a wetland cell?



- A shallow pool with tiered edges
- Used for flood conveyance in the forest
- Also improves wildlife habitat, water quality



Construction Activities: River Realignment Complete



Construction Activities: Wetland Cell D Complete



Construction Activities: Lower Chain of Wetlands



Cells E, F and G, looking north from Loop 12, into what used to be the Sleepy Hollow Golf Course



Construction Bridge from Loop 12 to Cell G will remain as access point

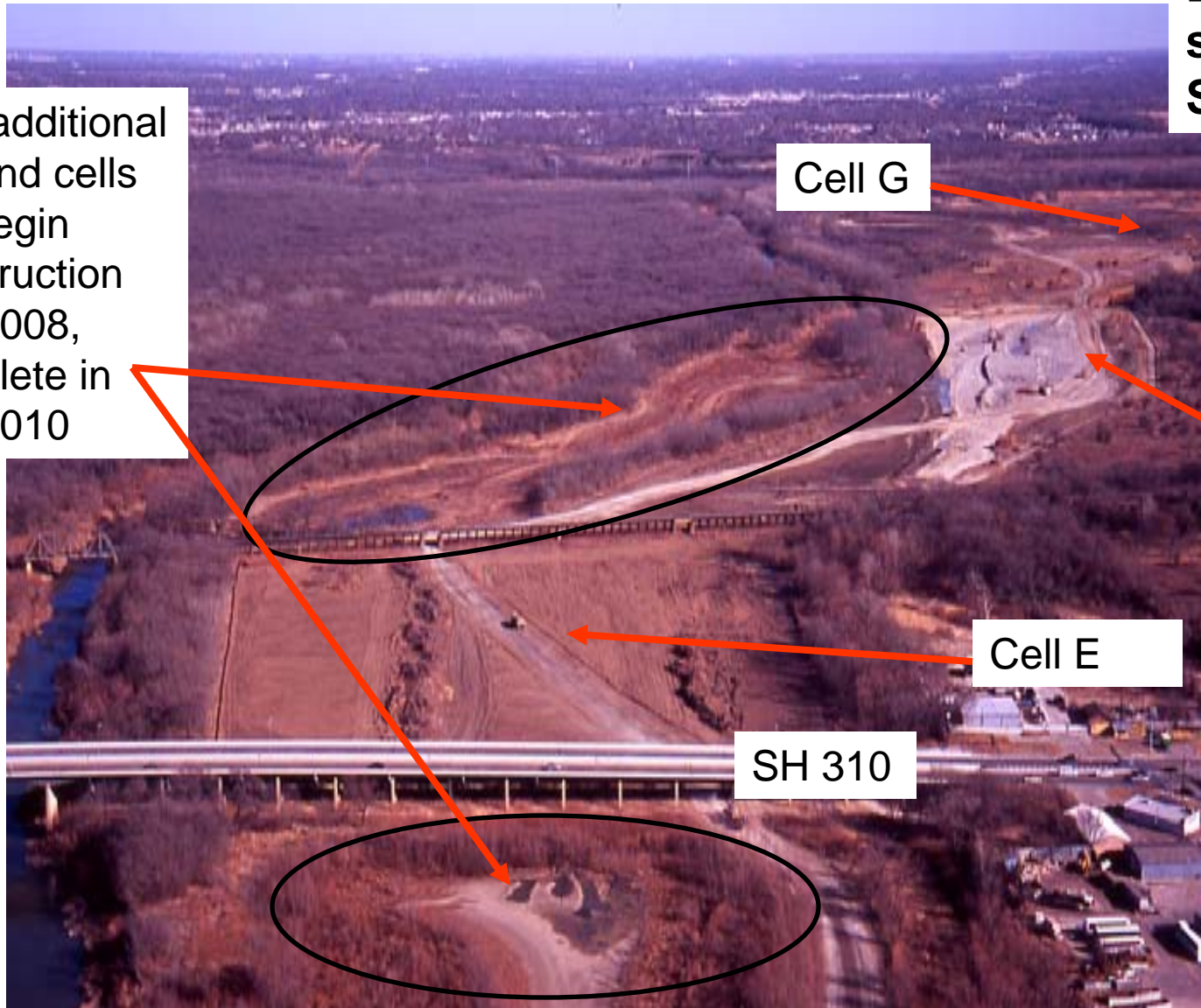


Construction Activities: Lower Chain of Wetlands



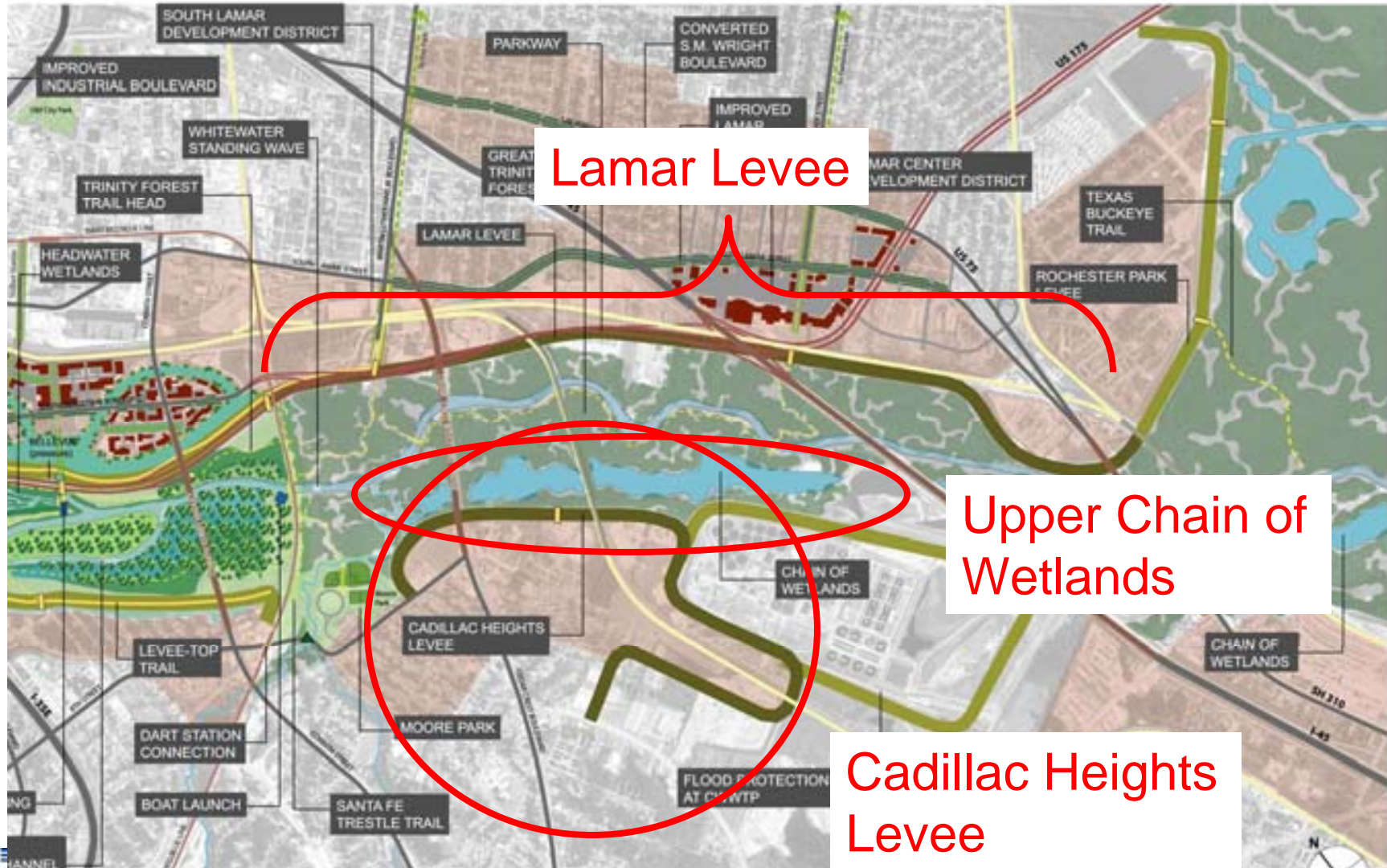
Looking
south from
SH 310

Two additional
wetland cells
will begin
construction
late 2008,
complete in
late 2010





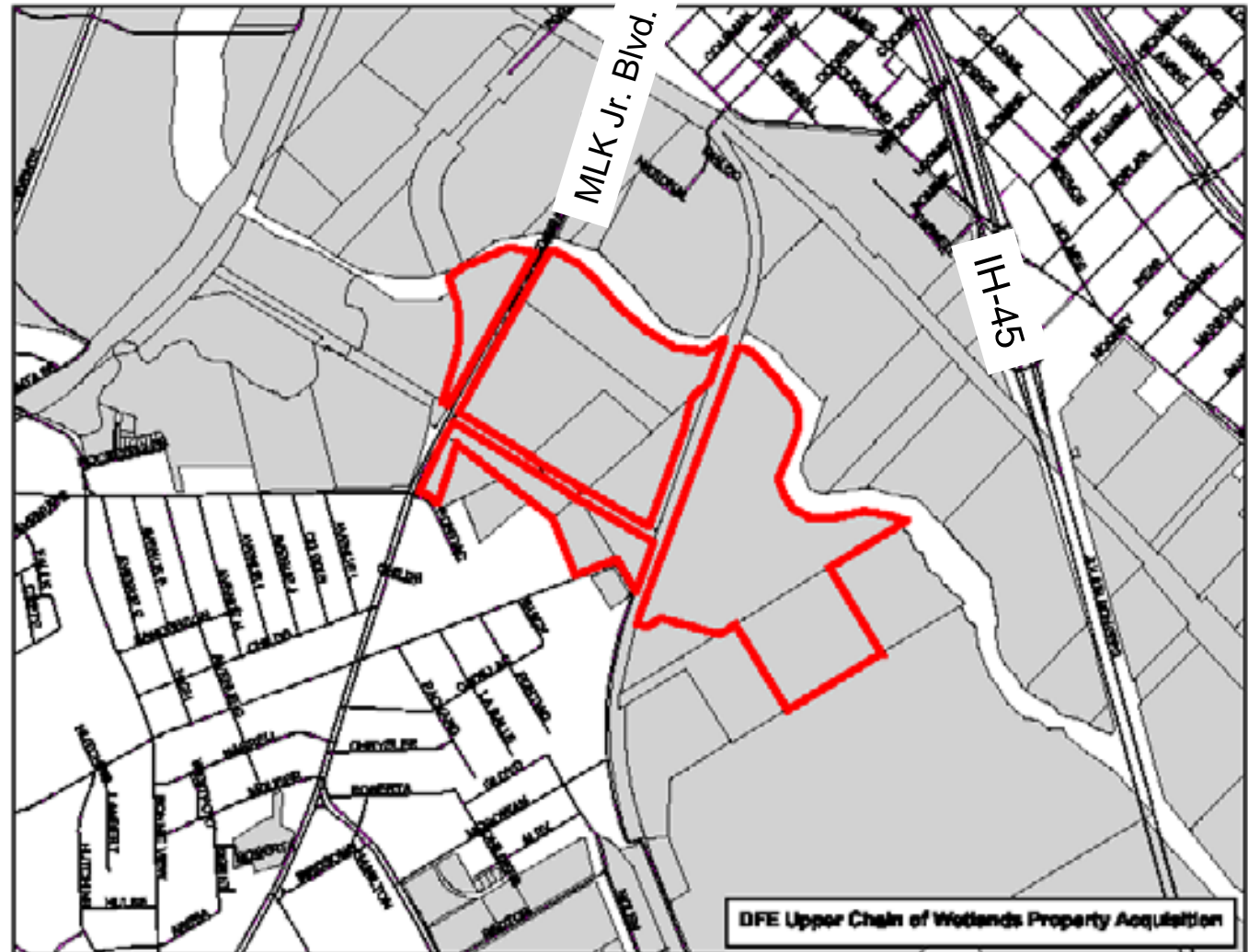
Future Work: Levees & Wetlands



Future Work: Upper Chain of Wetlands



These properties will be acquired over the next 6-8 months and will complete the needs for the Upper Chain of Wetlands





Future Work: Levees

- The final design of the Lamar and Cadillac Levees has not begun
- Final design will determine the specific properties to be acquired, as well as extent of taking (full or partial) and relocation needs



Upcoming Activities



- Corps will be awarding construction contracts in Fall 2008 for:
 - Two additional wetlands cells near the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - Wetland vegetation planting / turfing for the Lower Chain of Wetlands and erosion protection for new river channel at I-45
 - Mitigation planting (near IH-20 and Dowdy Ferry)
- City will be acquiring the remaining properties needed for the Upper Chain of Wetlands and levees through 2011
- City and Corps are collaborating on design of a mitigation & trail plan for the Great Trinity Forest
- Upper Chain of Wetlands construction should begin Summer 2009, complete by Summer 2011
- Levee construction should begin early 2011, complete in 2014
 - Levee construction delayed (from earlier schedule of May 2010) due to previous years of reduced funding for DFE



Legislative Issues



- Since 2001, the Corps has received \$71.2 million in Congressional funding for the DFE construction (an average of \$8.9 million per year)
- It is expected that an additional \$67 million (estimated) will be required from the federal government to complete the DFE construction
- For FY 08-09, the Corps has requested \$25 million to continue the DFE project
 - Upper chain of wetlands construction
 - Environmental mitigation
 - Land acquisition
 - Levee design
 - Recreational facilities
 - Project Management
- The City desires receiving federal funding for future fiscal years to allow completion of DFE in 2014:
 - \$28 million for FY 09-10
 - \$14 million for FY 10-11



Legislative Issues



- Recent reports from the Senate and House mark ups for the Energy and Water Appropriations :
 - \$13 million from the Senate side
 - \$6 million from the House side
- If the City only receives \$6 – 13 million in FY 09, the levee design activities and possibly construction of the Upper Chain of Wetlands (portions) will be delayed
- If congressional funding continues to be reduced annually, DFE will not be complete in 2014 as previously expected



Legislative Issues



- If we only get \$6 million per year in federal funding, completion of DFE is delayed by approximately 7 years
- If we only get \$13 million per year in federal funding, completion of DFE is delayed approximately 2 years
- The Trinity Office and Intergovernmental Services are working with our lobbyists and congressional staffers to ensure the highest level of funding is made available to the Corps



QUESTIONS?



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