

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO SURVEY THE CITY'S TOWN BROOK

Jacksonville Mayor Andy Ezard and the Jacksonville Special Studies Town Brook Committee are pleased to announce today that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Planning and Office of Water Resources, has agreed to survey the City's Town Brook. The survey is the first step in helping the City to identify possible causes for flooding and bank stabilization concerns along the Town Brook.

Yesterday, Community Development Director Kelly Hall, City Lobbyist Jeff Torricelli and Chairman of the Special Studies Town Brook Committee Alderman Lori Large Oldenettel met with a team of individuals from the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Those present were able to view photos, ask questions and review other materials that had been previously presented to them to help make the determination to assist the City with this next step.

"I appreciate both IDOT and IDNR working with the City of Jacksonville. This is a great example of government working together and helping municipalities save money and resources. I am thankful for the opportunity to work with Mayor Ezard, the Town Brook Committee, and the City's Department Heads to help increase the City's efforts to enhance the Town Brook," said Torricelli.

City Lobbyist Jeff Torricelli has been working with City of Jacksonville Department Heads and the Special Studies Town Brook Committee for several months and was instrumental in orchestrating a series of meetings with several state departments in Springfield. "Jeff is working hard on many projects for the City of Jacksonville and we are grateful to be working with Jeff on the Town Brook project. We would not be where we are right now without his help," said Large Oldenettel.

The Special Studies Town Brook Committee and Cities Town Brook Committee have been working diligently for over a year to identify a starting point for what many are hopeful will provide increased quality of life and activity through the center of our town along the Town Brook. As a committee, we knew we needed to address the main function of the brook which is to ensure water continues to move from west-to-east through Jacksonville. "I think everyone living in the City of Jacksonville knows we have a flooding concern, and, as a committee, we wanted to make sure we were addressing flooding issues and create a solid foundation for any future brook enhancements. This is a great step forward for our community and the future of the City's brook," said Large Oldenettel.