



# Hubbell Lake Dam Expansion Project

---

COMMUNITY MEETING #1

APRIL 26, 2023

# Introductions

---

## **Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA)**

Nicole Friedt  
Marie Vandergeest

## **City of Albuquerque Open Space Division (COA-OSD)**

Colleen Langan-McRoberts  
Adryana Vialpando (Montoya)

## **Bohannon Huston**

Alandren Etlantus      Denise Aten  
Clare Haley              Maggie Ramirez

## **Tetra Tech**

Ondrea Hummel      Tessia Robbins



## **Key Stakeholders**

Bernalillo County  
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD)  
New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

# About the Project

---

- AMAFCA is proposing to expand the Hubbell Dam to improve flood control capacity for the greater Albuquerque area.
- The dam is adjacent to the COA Hubbell Oxbow Open Space; therefore, project is being coordinated with the COA Open Space Division.
- The community is encouraged to provide input regarding public access and other aspects of the proposed site plan.





# Hubbell Dam

---

- Primary purpose is flood control
- Regulated by the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) – Dam Safety Bureau
- Requirements by the OSE will guide the decision-making around proposed improvements to the Open Space
- Expansion will require additional land area and reconfiguration of Open Space
- Expansion may also provide opportunities to enhance the Open Space for public use



# Hubbell Oxbow Farm (HOF) Open Space

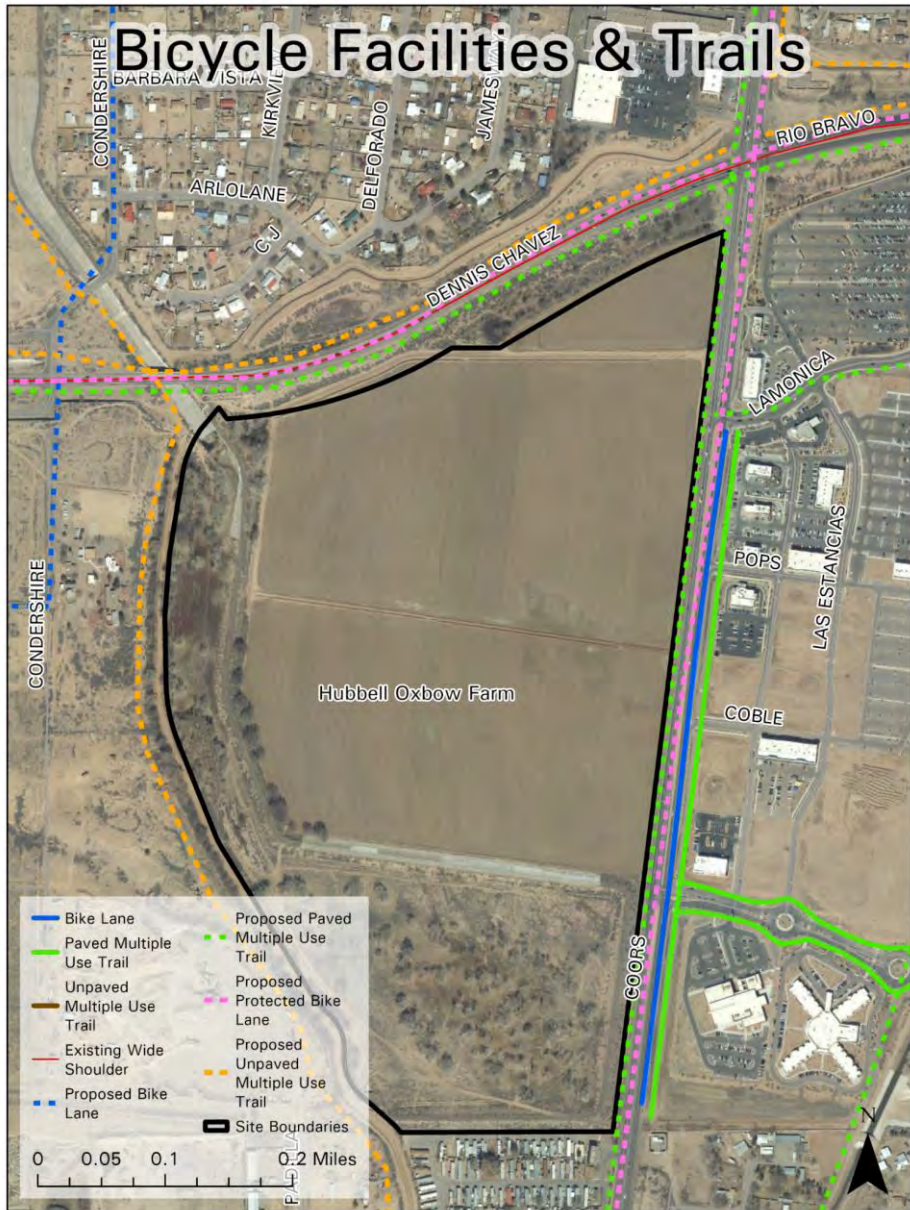
---

- 1999: City of ABQ bought Hubbell Oxbow Farm
- 2004: HOF Resource Management Plan
- 2023: Open Space is closed to public and portions are leased for farming
- HOF RMP Management Goals/Policies:
  - Allow for multiple uses (agricultural and recreational)
  - Conserve natural resources
  - Opportunities for low-impact outdoor recreation



# Existing Conditions

- Access Points
- Bike Facilities and Trails
- Natural Resources
- Floodplains/Hydrologic Resources



# Bicycle Facilities & Trails

- Existing Facilities
  - Short trail and bike lane on east side of Coors Blvd
  - Wide shoulder & popular bike route on Rio Bravo/Dennis Chavez Blvd
- Potential Future Facilities
  - Bernalillo County Coors Blvd Pedestrian Safety Project
    - Between Blake Rd and Gun Club Rd
    - Likely to include new sidewalk or trail on west side of Coors Blvd
  - Isleta Drain Trail (*Study Only*)
    - 13-mile canal and potential trail corridor running from Central Ave to I-25
    - East of Hubbell Oxbow Open Space

# Natural and Cultural Resources

## ***Natural Resources***

### Wildlife, Vegetation, and Habitat

- ❑ Riparian habitat
- ❑ Endangered or threatened species
- ❑ State-listed species
- ❑ Migratory birds
- ❑ Riparian species
- ❑ Noxious and invasive plants
- ❑ Nests, burrows, roosts

## ***Cultural Resources***

- ❑ Agricultural tradition of South Valley

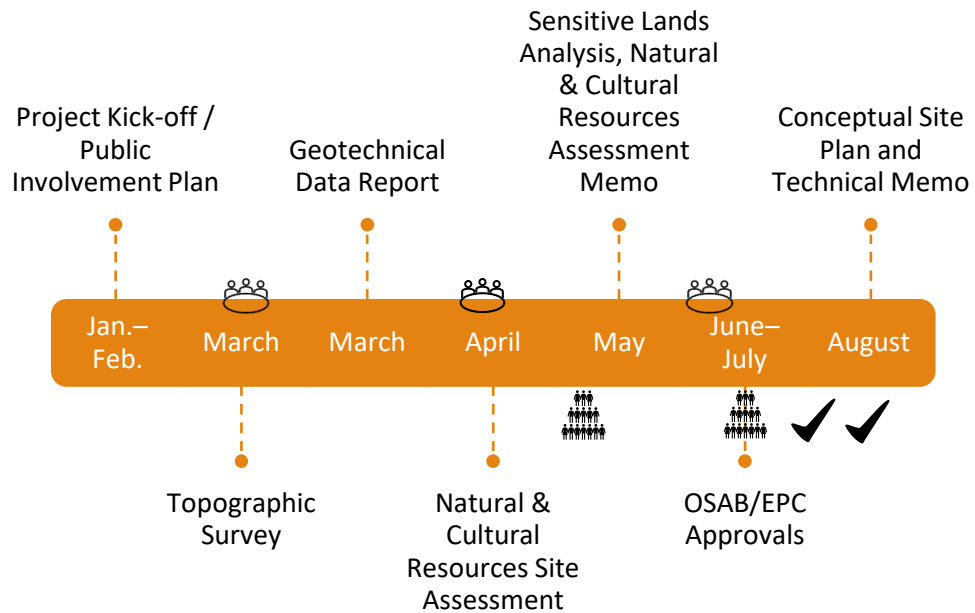
## ***Next Steps***

- ❑ Archaeology records search
  - ❑ Certificate of effect *OR*
  - ❑ Class I survey





# 2023 Project Timeline



# Goals and Expectations

## Hubbell Lake Dam Expansion Goals and Expectations

### Safety

- Include flood control infrastructure (fencing/railings/grates...)
- Include gates for maintenance vehicles
- Include caution signs
- Consider lighting and other safety features in the public parking and access areas
- Improve pedestrian crossings of Coors Blvd

### Flood Control

- Design to provide 100 yr flood protection
- Design to meet OSE DSB requirements
- Provide caution signage around flood control activities
- Consider additional storage needs
- Consider sediment control

## Hubbell Lake Dam Expansion Goals and Expectations

### Conservation

- Preserve agricultural land
- Maximize natural vegetation and wildlife habitat
- Protect cottonwoods and riparian habitat

### Accessibility

- Improve maintenance access for AMAFCA
- Provide public vehicular access and parking
- Provide public non-motorized access
- Provide signalized access for at least one entrance point off Coors
- Consider ADA facilities where possible

### Usability

- Create opportunities for low-impact recreation
- Integrate wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Create internal trail system
- Provide connectivity to external bike/ped facilities
- Provide amenities (benches, trash, etc...)
- Consider opportunities to create educational features

# Draft Conceptual Site Plan

- Public Access Elements
  - Parking
  - Access off Coors
  - Trail Connections
- Hubbell Dam Infrastructure
  - Requirements of the Office of State Engineer (OSE) – Dam Safety Bureau
    - Buffer around dam embankment
    - Clearing of vegetation



# Open Space Uses Amenities – Allowed and Not Allowed

---

- High-impact recreational amenities are **not** allowed:
  - Sports fields
  - Aquatic facilities
  - Play structures
  - Golf courses
  - Skate parks
- Low-impact recreational amenities are allowed!



# Open Space Uses

## Low-Impact Recreational Amenities

---

- Parking
- Trails
- Benches
- Bike Racks
- Picnic Tables
- Shade
- Wayfinding/Signage



# Please Provide Input on Conceptual Site Planning

**Hubbell Dam Expansion  
POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE AMENITIES**

 Parking	<b>Hubbell Dam Expansion POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE AMENITIES</b>
 Unpaved Trails	 Picnic Tables
 Benches	 Shade Structure
 Bike Racks	 Trash Receptacles
 Information Kiosk	 Mutt Mitt Dispenser
ANY	 Educational/Wayfinding Signs
ANY OTHER IDEAS?	

**HUBBELL DAM EXPANSION  
SURVEY**

1. How likely would you be to visit the Hubbell Oxbow Open Space if it were open to the public?

Likely     Unlikely     Unsure

2. What activities, if any, would you like to do at the Hubbell Oxbow Open Space? Select all that apply.

Riding a bike for Recreation     Riding a bike to get where I need to go  
 Hiking/Walking     Picnics     Birdwatching     Horseback Riding  
 None of the above     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which of the following would be the most valuable at Hubbell Oxbow Open Space?

Trails within the site     Trail connections to the site  
 Picnic areas     Interpretive signs and viewpoints  
 None of the above     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Overall, how would you rate the preliminary Hubbell Oxbow Open Space conceptual site plan?

Excellent     Very Good     Good     Fair     Poor

5. Do you have any additional comments about the preliminary Hubbell Oxbow Open Space Conceptual Plan?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have additional questions or comments?  
 Contact us at 505-264-0111 or outreach@bhinc.com

**ONE ALBUQUERQUE** Parks & Recreation    **AMA FCA**  
 Bohannon & Huston





# Next Steps

---

- Finalize Conceptual Plan
- Complete Resource Studies
- Request EPC and OSAB Approvals
- Public Meeting #2 – Late Summer 2023
- Design – 2023/2024
- Office of State Engineer (OSE) – Dam Safety Bureau Approval
- Construction - 2025

# Questions?

- Please Provide Input
  - Comment Sheets
  - Take our Survey
    - Online or Paper
  - [Outreach@bhinc.com](mailto:Outreach@bhinc.com)
  - 505-264-0111
  - Survey:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CXG7QCF>

