

1.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

1.1.1 Existing Collection System

The City of Lincoln's wastewater collection system dates back to 1888 when the first sewer lines were installed in the Lincoln area. Much of the existing system has been well maintained and is in good condition. Some of the older sections are badly deteriorated due to age or are simply out of date with respect to current construction methods and materials. Replacement and/or rehabilitation of selected segments of the existing system is warranted to reduce the quantity of storm water or ground water entering the system. Replacement and/or rehabilitation of the existing system is ongoing and addressed in other studies and reports.

1.1.2 Community Growth

In addition to the maintaining the serviceability of the existing collection system, the City of Lincoln also has to provide new sewer service to accommodate the increasing City population. This project will provide collection system capacity for new growth areas located east and northeast of the City in the Stevens Creek Basin.

1.2 AUTORIZATION FOR WORK

The City of Lincoln, Nebraska and Carollo Engineers, PC, entered into an agreement for *"Preliminary Routing for Tier IA, Tier IB, Tier II (Westside) and Tier II (Lower Eastside) and Final Design of Phase I Stevens Creek Basin Trunk Sewer"*.

1.3 PREVIOUS PLANNING

The Lincoln and Lancaster County 2025 Comprehensive Plan (2025 Plan) identified the need to maintain a healthy climate for locally owned and operated commerce and trade. The Plan further recognized government's responsibility to preserve unique and sensitive habitats and to endorse integration of natural systems into developments. The Plan also states that utility improvements shall be in accordance with the Lincoln Wastewater Facilities Plan Update.

The Stevens Creek area has substantial development potential. Previous planning efforts (i.e. Facilities Plan Update) identified the lower western Stevens Creek Watershed as a near-term development growth area. Therefore, sewer service will need to be provided to this area to support growth. City staff and local stakeholders have come to a consensus that a new main sewer from the Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant (NE WWTP)

southeasterly to and along Stevens Creek should be designed and constructed to serve the areas east and northeast of Lincoln as the City continues to grow.

As part of this planning work, the City of Lincoln has developed utility planning zones. These zones are further separated into Tiers relating to the planning time frame when the need for sewage interceptors are anticipated to be needed as described in the *Wastewater Facilities Plan Update*. Tier I areas are defined as needing sewage interceptor service within the first 25 years of plan adoption, Tier II areas are defined as needing sewage interceptor service between 25 and 50 years, and Tier III areas are identified as needing sewage service 50 years or more into the future. These tiers generally follow the subbasin boundaries as shown in Figure 1.1.

1.4 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

1.4.1 Public Meetings

Three public meetings to solicit input from concerned and affected landowners have been conducted to date. It is envisioned that there will be at least one more public meeting scheduled prior to construction.

At the March 30, 2004 Public Meeting, input was solicited from local stakeholders concerning the alignment of the sewer. The stakeholders agreed that a gravity-flow system would need to be constructed through the lowest topography of the basin. Various alternate routes were identified for evaluation to provide sewer service to the basin. The preliminary routes were evaluated based on ecological, geological, environmental, topographical, and economical considerations.

During the June 23, 2004, meeting the public was presented with the preferred alignment that was identified in Technical Memorandum No. 4. Key issues that were addressed included:

- Service Area.
- Sewer Alignment.
- Right-of-Way Acquisition.
- Restoration following construction.
- Schedule of proposed improvements.

At the September 13, 2004 meeting, fact sheets concerning the project were handed out to interested citizens. A map that presented the preferred alignment as previously discussed was on display during the June 23, 2004 meeting.

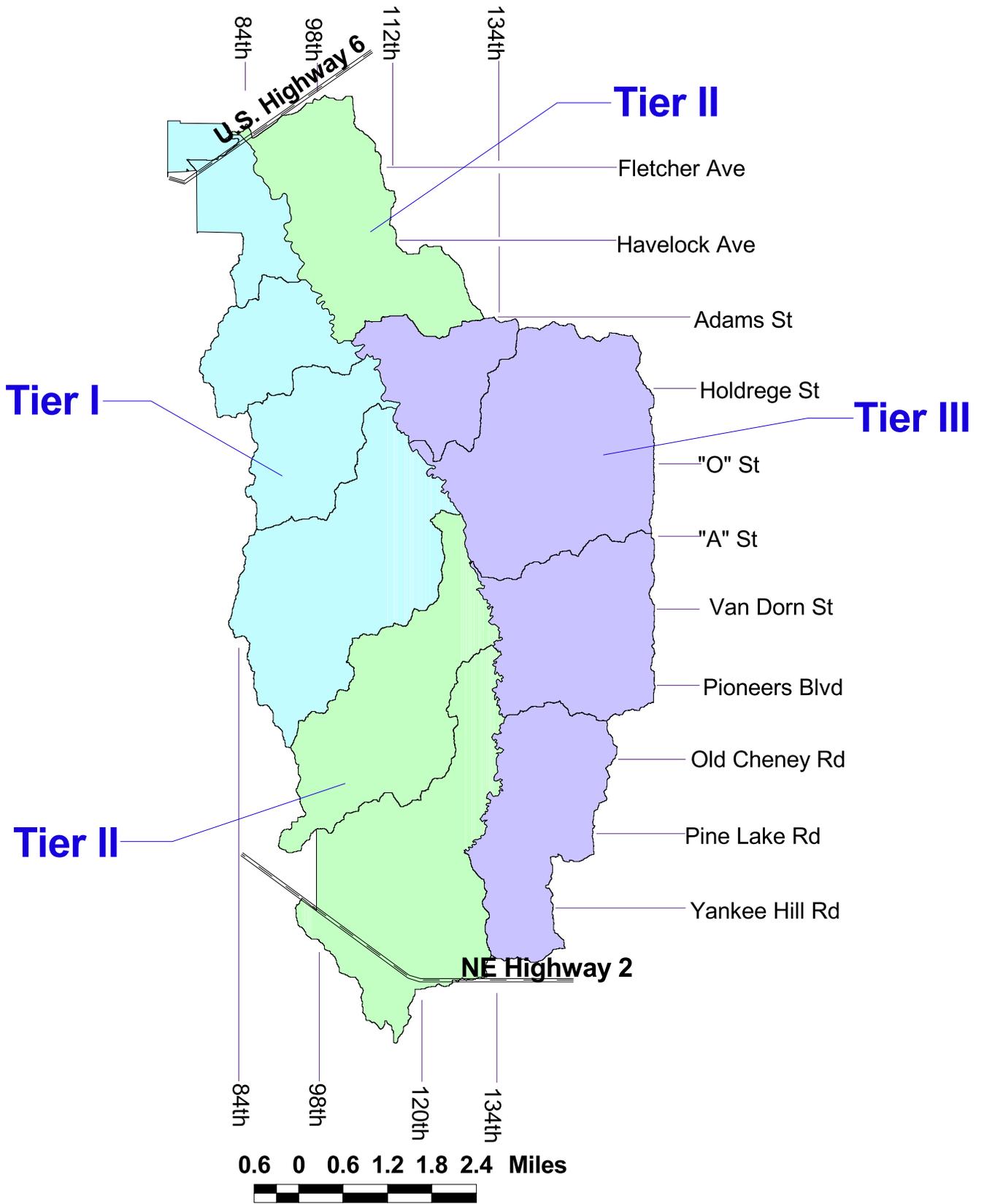


Figure 1.1
Planning Tiers
 STEVENS CREEK BASIN TRUNK SEWER
 CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

1.4.2 Newsletters and Fact Sheets

Several newsletters and fact sheets have been prepared to inform the public regarding this project. These documents have been distributed through the mail and in person at the public meetings.

1.4.3 Web Site

The City has developed a project web site where information regarding the project can be found. The website address is:

www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/waste/wstwater/projects/stevents/general/index.htm

1.4.4 City Contact

Persons interested in the project or who have questions or concerns can contact the following:

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