

# EUFAULA WETLAND PARK:

## ADVENTURES IN PARTNERSHIP & COMMUNITY-BASED ECOLOGICAL DESIGN

**Jerry McCormick**  
Save Our Water  
& Team Up to Clean Up



**Steven Patterson, Ph.D.**  
Bio x Design

OCLWA, Stillwater, OK, April 4-5, 2018

## Eufaula Wetland Park



Image: LAUD Studio





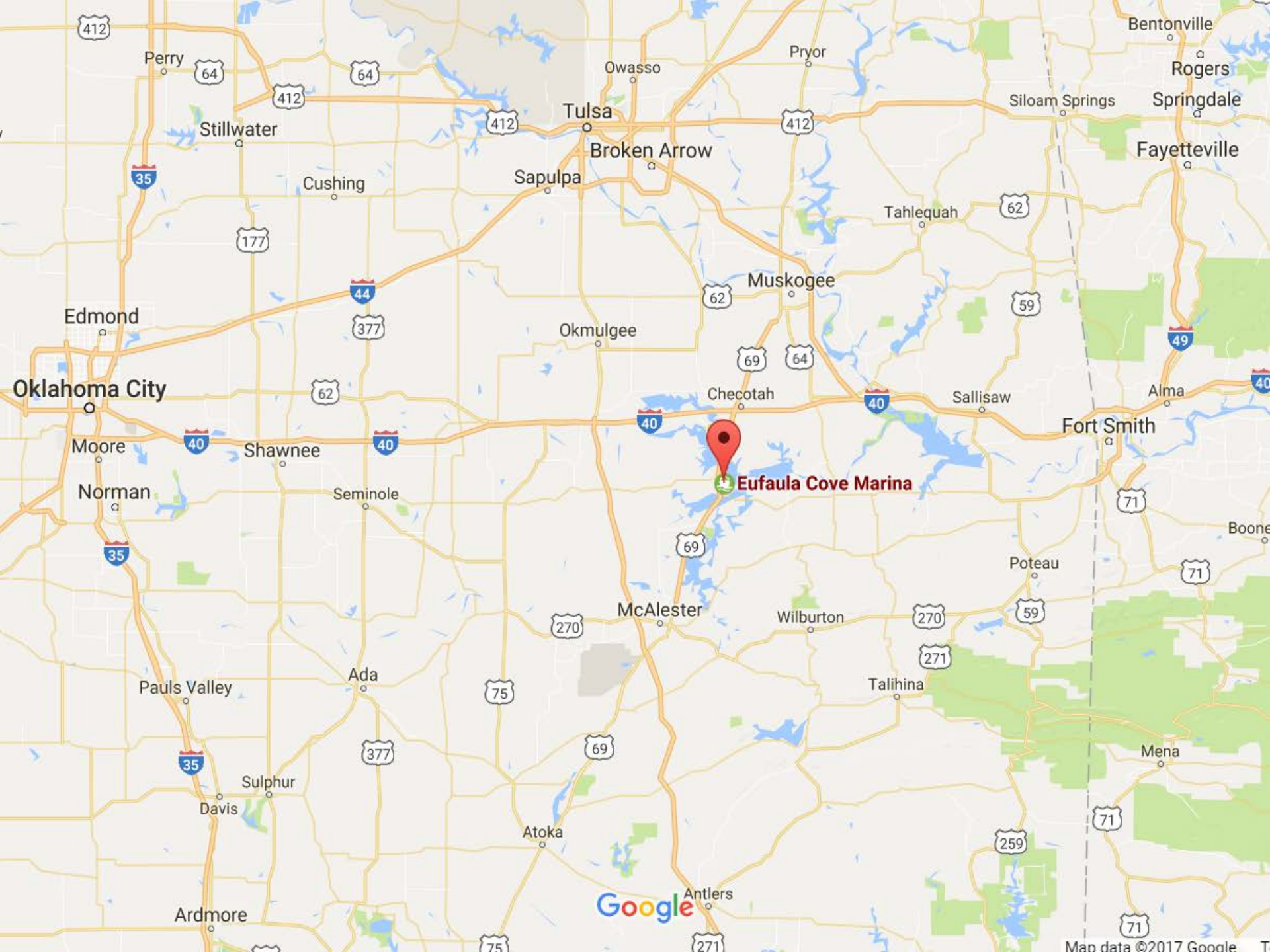


Tahoe City Treatment Wetland





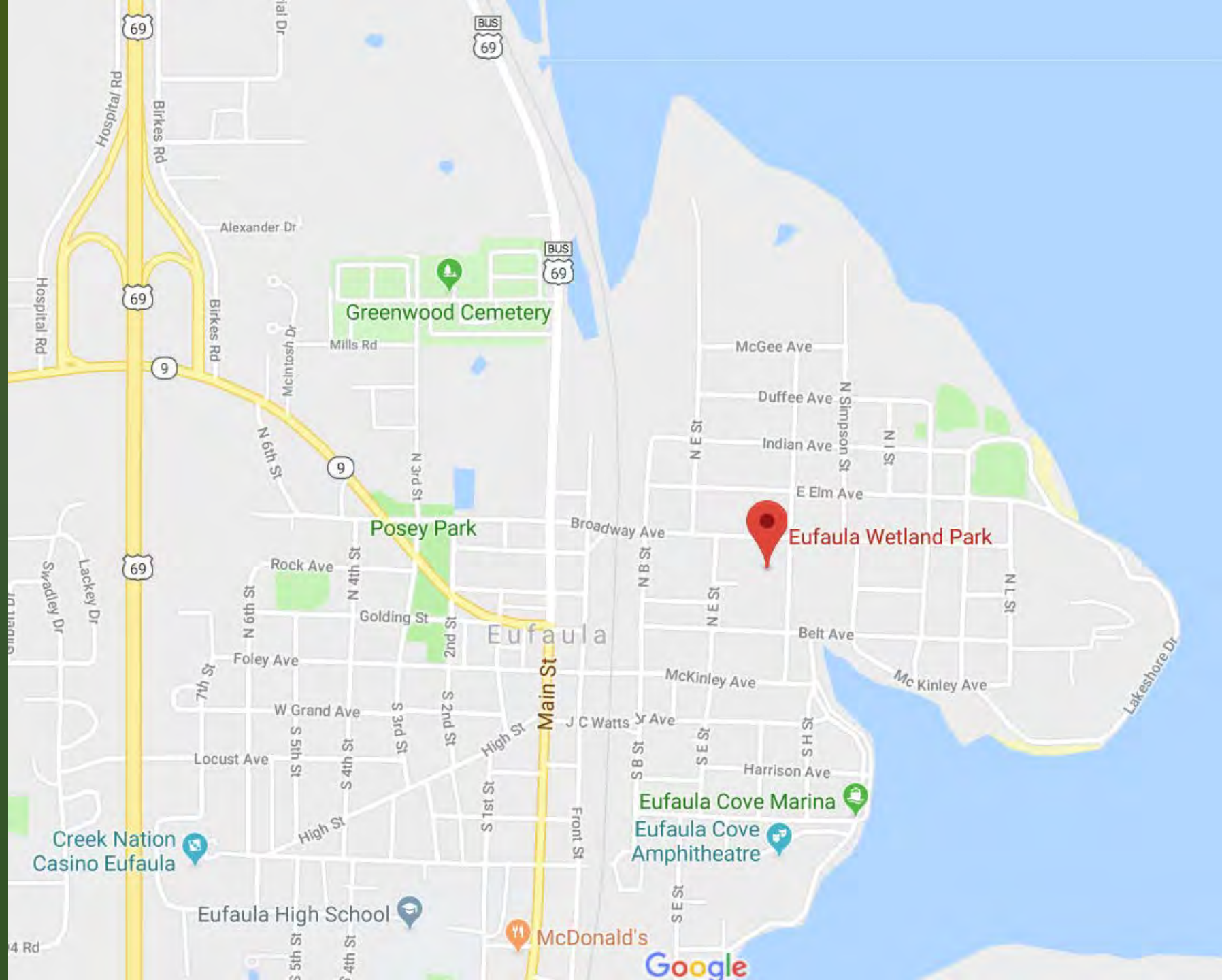




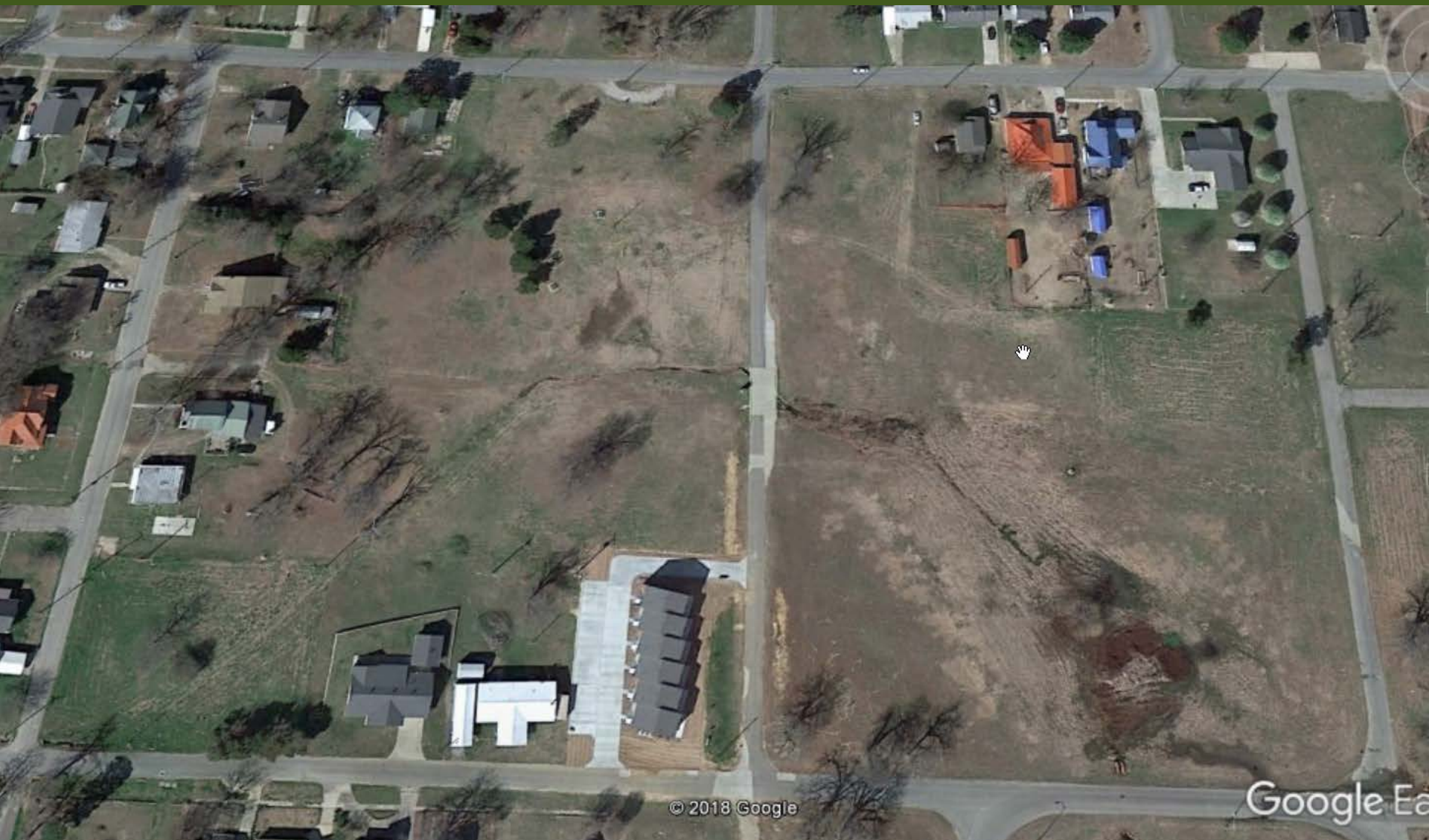
**Eufaula Cove Marina**

Google

Map data ©2017 Google







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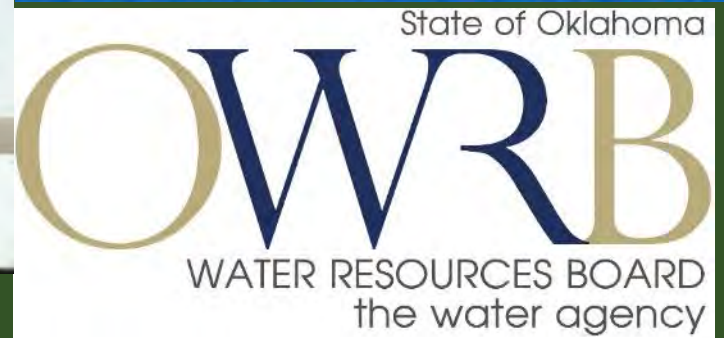






**PRIVATE**





# OWRB awards \$100,000 towards wetlands project

## Community hears three wetlands presentations

3/23/2017



Sam Sylvester and wetlands project coordinator Jerry McCormick look over a proposed design presented by University of Oklahoma students last Thursday. (Staff photo by Shauna Belyeu)

By Shauna Belyeu  
General Manager

University of Oklahoma students from India, New York, China, Vietnam, Iran and Oklahoma presented three different proposals on wetland ideas Thursday, March 23 at the Eufaula Community Center.

Plans are moving right along for a new wetlands project, thanks to the foresight and determination of Save Our Water and Team Up to Clean Up (TUCU) member, Jerry McCormick.

"The project is two years in the making," McCormick said. "I attended a wetlands meeting and listened to Restoration Ecologist, Steve

Patterson speak, and I was so impressed."

McCormick contacted Patterson and together they scoped out potential wetland areas around Lake Eufaula. They narrowed the potential location down to the area at Broadway and Belt.

"The 2.5 acre area that we were looking at was already wet," said Patterson. "We could create an educational opportunity for a school. Wetlands improve water quality, create wildlife habitats and develop recreational locations."

Patterson did the preliminary work, reviewing the logistics and hydrology

aspects. He then brought in the architectural landscape class from the University of Oklahoma.

Students visited and walked the area for a site analysis. They spent two weeks working on their conceptual ideas then spent another two weeks working on their designs and presentations.

Ideas posed during the presentations included raised boardwalks, accessible terraces, water ring gardens, fountains, docks, interactive signage and viewing decks.

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## Wetlands

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Spectators and neighbors were impressed by the presentations.

"This is a great project for our community. As with anything, it all comes down to fundamental budget," said City Manager Greg Buckley.

Enter Shannon Phillips with the Oklahoma Conservation Commission.

"Our department works with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to offer low interest and principal forgiveness loans and water-quality funding.

Phillips made the announcement that her agency was offering a principal forgiveness loan of \$100,000 toward construction. The principal will be forgiven when the project is completed.

OCC officials attending the OWRB's monthly meeting in support of the loan application included Shannon Phillips, Water Quality Director and Jeri Fleming, Environmental Programs Manager.

"We will work with Save Our Water, TUCU and the city to find contractors who meet state guidelines. Then we will work with and reimburse contractors," Phillips said.

### What's next:

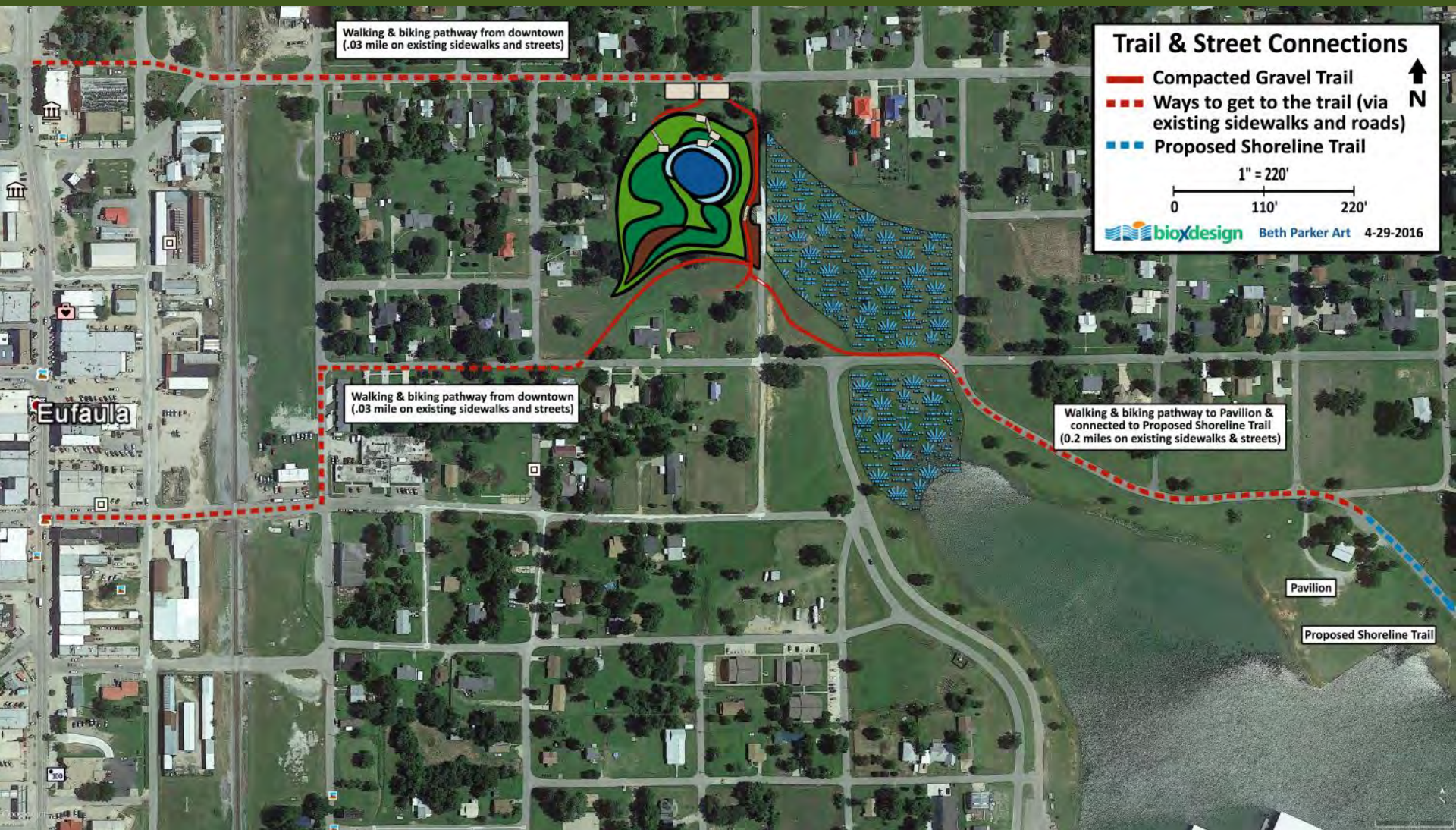
- Review team designs to create best approach
- List of professional engineers
- Get the professional engineered plans
- Develop a construction budget

The group will have to secure permits from the Corp of Engineers for earth movements.

"I am confident we can get this project completed and the community involved. This loan is great. It will get us started. This will be great for the community," McCormick said."

















Questions?



Photo: Jim Arterburn







View of Eufaula



View from LOCATION IN WETLAND PARK



Sketch at the entrance

