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February 16, 2017

Heidi Mehl Beals Healthy Streams Initiative Manager The Nature Conservancy 2420 NW Button Road Topeka, KS 66618 Sent via electronic mail to heidi.mehl@tnc.org

Re: Sustainable Rivers Project for Kansas River

Dear Ms. Mehl:

Thank you for contacting us regarding a potential partnership as a stakeholder in the Sustainable Rivers Project addressing the Kansas River. The City of Lawrence has long been an advocate for responsible environmental stewardship along with protecting the river's accessibility for recreation and trails and ensuring the viability of our water supply and the Bowersock dam.

We understand that the desire of the project is to have various stakeholders come together to discuss the sustainability of the Kansas River and develop a management plan that better balances the health of the river and its aquatic life with human water demands. We further understand that there is no financial obligation to the City and that there is a desire to ensure that all impacts would be either neutral or positive.

The City of Lawrence is supportive of this initiative and discussion about the health of the Kansas River, upon which our citizens rely for water supply, recreation and environmental quality. We look forward to learning more about this partnership and participating as a stakeholder. Please let us know of next steps as they develop. Again, thank you for contacting us about this opportunity.

Sincerely,

homas M. Markua

Thomas M. Markus City Manager

