



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## **Development Board Approves Annexation of 1,461-Acres**

**JOHNSTON, Iowa** – The City Development Board on Wednesday, September 12 approved a 1,461-acre annexation into the City of Johnston. Properties included in the annexation are 100 percent voluntary and include the Beaver Creek Golf Course, a Department of the Navy Training Facility currently under construction, a portion of Camp Dodge, and six large undeveloped parcels. Properties with development potential are centered around the east side of Highway 141 and Saylorville Drive near the mile-long bridge.

Continued growth in Johnston and limited land availability have drawn interest from developers to the annexation area for a number of years and the Saylorville Drive area has long been included in the Johnston's Comprehensive Plan as a future growth node. Recent land acquisitions by Camp Dodge south of Saylorville Drive and continued rural residential development to the north have already started to change the landscape.

The City of Johnston's Economic Development Manager Adam Plagge states, "In the past year, landowner interest in development has intensified and there have been strong indications the area will begin developing if city services were brought into reach of the properties. Recent growth in northern Johnston has brought utility services closer and results from a 2017 cost of service study indicated creating a utility connection to the area is achievable." Plans to extend utility services are underway and utility extension could commence soon as prospective projects continue to take shape.

Most of the annexation area will be rezoned upon completion of a Comprehensive Plan Update. Commercial land uses are expected to develop east of Highway 141 along with significant areas of single-family residential north of Saylorville Drive. "This is an area we are certainly excited about not only because of its proximity to Highway 141 for commercial development, but it is also adjacent to the natural resource amenities along Saylorville Lake. The leaders within our city have certainly worked hard to make this annexation possible," said Mayor Paula Dierenfeld.

Information about this annexation can be found by visiting [www.cityofjohnston.com/EconDev](http://www.cityofjohnston.com/EconDev).

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