CORRESPONDENCE
IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 5, 2004

I. MAYOR


*2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Names City Council Compensation Committee -

*3. NEWS RELEASE - Mayor Kicks Off Effort to Prevent Cigarette Litter (Also See #1 Under III CORRESPONDENCE - B: DIRECTORS/DEPARTMENT HEADS - Health Department)

*4. NEWS ADVISORY - Mayor’s Public Meeting Schedule for June 24th - June 28th

*5. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Accepts Report Of Streets, Roads and Trails Committee - (See Release)

*6. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Invites Area Residents To City’s Fourth Of July Celebration - Annual event returns to Oak Lake Park for second year - (See Release)

**7. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Seng Balances City Budget - Mayor cuts budget requests, but flat revenues call for restoring one cent of previous rate cut to maintain services - (See Release)

**8. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Coleen J. Seng’s schedule includes the following events: - (See Advisory)

II. CITY CLERK
III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

PATTE NEWMAN

1. OUTSTANDING Request to Ernie Castillo, Wynn Hjermstad, Marc Wullschleger, Urban Development Department/ Terry Bundy, LES/ Allan Abbott, Public Works & Utilities Director/Mike DeKalb, Marvin Krout, Planning Department/Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director - RE: Signs or banners identifying individual neighborhoods - (For Witherbee and Eastridge area) - (RFI#20 - 3/24/04. — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM TERRY BUNDY, LES RECEIVED ON RFI#20 - 4/12/04.

2. OUTSTANDING Request to Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Dennis Bartels, Allan Abbott, Public Works/ Tonya Skinner, Dana Roper, City Law Dept./Marvin Krout, Planning - RE: A resident of the Easthart Neighborhood a problem they had in their development - the commons area between 78th St. & Maxey School - (RFI#21- 4/29/04). — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM DENNIS BARTELS, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ON RFI#21 - 5/24/04. — 2.) Response from Dennis Bartels, PW received on RFI#21 - 06/04/04 (Same response as 1.) —

3. OUTSTANDING Request to Allan Abbott, Public Works & Utilities Director/Dana Roper, City Law Department - RE: The Infrastructure Financing Meeting on 5/18/04 - subject of wheel tax was raised (RFI#24 - 5/19/04)

4. Request to Marc Wullschleger (UD)//Kit Boesch (Human Services)//Dana Roper (Law) RE: A concern that College Students may be usurping Low-Income Public Housing from the Poor. (RFI #25 - 06-23-04)

TERRY WERNER

1. Request to PW/Planning - RE: Inquiry from Jay Petersen on Kajan Drive - Public or Private Roadway, plus Surface Rehabilitation Process (RFI #130 - 6-15-04).

2. Request to Vince Mejer, Purchasing Agent - RE: Notice to Bidders #04-110 – Television Equipment (RFI#132 - 6/16/04)

3. Request to Marvin Krout, Planning Director - RE: Opening Fletcher Avenue to 14th Street (RFI#133 - 6/16/04). — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM DENNIS BARTELS, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ON RFI#133 - 7/01/04.

GLENN FRIENDT

1. Request to Lynn Johnson, Parks & Rec. Director - RE: South Salt Creek Community Organization concerns (RFI#33-5/25/04)

JONATHAN COOK

1. Request to Weed Control/Public Works & Utilities Department/Parks & Recreation Department - RE: Maintaining of ROW along W Van Dorn - (RFI#114 - 6/14/04)

2. Request to Terry Bundy, LES - RE: Administrative and general expense item in LES budget - (RFI#115 - 6/28/04). — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM TERRY BUNDY, LES RECEIVED ON RFI#115 -7/01/04.

JON CAMP

*1. E-Mail to Jon Camp - RE: Cats - (See E-Mail)

*2. E-Mail from Bill English to Jon Camp - RE: Cats on a leash - (See E-Mail)

*3. E-mail to Jon Camp from Ed Caudill - President of the North Bottoms Neighborhood Association RE: Enforcement of current codes relating to Overgrown Lawns (See E-mail)

*4. E-mail and letter to Jon Camp from Lori Yaeger RE: In Support of Cat Leash Law (See E-mail)

ANNETTE McROY

1. Request to Polly McMullen, Downtown Lincoln Association - RE: An area that is being utilized as a garbage and brush storage collection point for the DLA - area directly East of 610 “G” Street - (RFI#151-6/24/04)

2. Request to Public Works & Utilities Department - RE: Stop signs (RFI#152 - 6/28/04)
B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

BUILDING & SAFETY DEPARTMENT

*1. Letter from Mike Merwick to Mayor Seng, City Council, County Board - RE: Hallam - (See Letter)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT/CITY TREASURER


HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**1. Response Letter from Bruce D. Dart to Danny Walker - RE: The property directly east of 610 G Street - (See Letter)

LIBRARY

**1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Discovery Bags Available @ your library - (See Release)

LINCOLN-LANCASHER COUNTY: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

*1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: County Revises Time Frames For Debris Removal - (See Release)

*2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Lancaster County Emergency Management No Longer Recruiting Volunteers to Help with Clean-Up Efforts.

**3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: More Disaster Cleanup Volunteers Needed On July 9 And 10 For Final “Push” In Hallam And Lancaster County - (See Release)

LINCOLN-LANCASHER COUNTY: HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*1. NEWS RELEASE RE: CIGARETTE LITTER PREVENTION RESEARCH PROJECT ANNOUNCED w/Invitation to Council Members for Kick-Off Celebration (Council Members Received this Release on June 21, 2004)
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

*1. Letter to Jason Theillen RE: Prairie Village 1st Addition Final Plat #04036 (See Letter)

PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION . . . .

*1. Special Permit No. 04031 ( Dwelling units above the first floor in B-4 Lincoln Business District) Resolution No. PC-00879.

*2. Preliminary Plat No. 04002 - Stone Bridge Creek 1st Addition (South of Humphrey Avenue and east of N. 14th Street) Resolution No. PC-00881.

*3. Special Permit No. 04030 (Expand nonstandard single-family dwelling at 2653 S. 11th Street) Resolution No. PC-00878.

*4. Preliminary Plat No. 04007 - Anderson’s Place (South of Leighton Avenue and east of N. 84th Street) Resolution No. PC-00880.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT


PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

*1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Lane Closures On Vine Street Extended - (See Release)

*2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Intersection of 8th and “O” To Become Four-Way Stop - (See Release)

URBAN DEVELOPMENT - Real Estate Division

*1. MEMO from Clinton W. Thomas RE: Vacation of South 489th Street; Prescott to Lowell - Followup to June 4th Letter - Revised sale price. for the vacated property. (See Memo)

**2. Interoffice Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4007 Washington Street from 1st Street to Southwest 1st Street; and the east-west alley between West A and West Washington Streets, South 1st Street to Southwest 1st Street - (See Memo)
**3. Interoffice Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4008 21st Street between Y Street and the abandoned MoPac RR right-of-way - (See Memo)**

**4. Interoffice Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4005 Allen Road from west line of Stephanie Lane west approximately 565 feet - (See Memo)**

**5. Interoffice Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4004 6th & M Streets - (See Memo)**

C. MISCELLANEOUS

*1. Letter from C.W. Swingle - RE: The objective of this letter is to notify all of the Lincoln Council Members that action on all of the following items must be put in place: - (See Letter)*

*2. E-Mail from Dave Shoemaker - RE: Smoking - (Council & City Clerk received copies of this E-Mail on 6/21/04)(See E-Mail)*

*3. E-Mail from Mark Welsch, GASP President - RE: Letter for Public Hearing on Non-Smoking Ordinance - (Council & City Clerk received copies of this E-Mail on 6/21/04)(See E-Mail)*


*5. E-Mail from Peggy Sturwe RE: Mayor's State of the City Address - Notification.*

*6. E-Mail from Bob Valentine RE: Charges for Vice-President Cheney’s Lincoln visit.(Against)*

*7. Letter from Dr. Robert W. Beck RE: Charges for Vice-President Cheney’s Lincoln visit.(Against)*

*8. E-Mail from Jan Karst RE: Smoking Ban Ordinance (See E-mail)*

*9. Letter from Bruce J. Bohrer, Senior Vice-President/Governmental Affairs Counsel, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce - RE: State Fair - (See Letter)*

*10. Material from Lincoln Chamber of Commerce - RE: Resolution on State Fair Constitutional Amendment - (See Material)*
Material from Richard Meyer - RE: Get Fluoride Out Of Our Drinking Water! - (See Material)

Letter from Simera Reynolds, M. E.d., State Executive Director, MADD to Bob Logsdon, Chairman, Liquor Control Commission - RE: MADD has not received any information about the commission’s future actions with regard to the loophole in the liquor control statute - (See Letter)

E-Mail from A.C. Thayn - RE: Public smoking ban proposal - (See E-Mail)

Letter from Nancy Russell - RE: The City budget - (See Letter)

E-Mail from Mark Siske - RE: The Council Meeting on June 28th - (See E-Mail)

44 E-Mail’s - RE: Thank-you for the smoking ban - (See E-Mail’s)

E-Mail from John (J.R.) Brown III - RE: Innovation in Infrastructure Financing - (See E-Mail)

E-Mail from Bob Ihrig with response from Joan Ray - RE: Length Of Terms for City Council - (See E-Mail)

4 E-Mail’s - RE: Comments on Smoking Ban - (See E-Mail’s)

10 E-Mail’s - RE: Against the Smoking Ban - (See E-Mail’s)

E-Mail from David Oenbring - RE: My very strong opposition to the holding of a special election for the purpose of voting on a bond issue - (See E-Mail)

E-Mail from John Leonard Harris, President, Encouragement Unlimited, Inc. - RE: Issue regarding the Housing Authority - (See E-Mail)

9 Note Cards - RE: Please reconsider your vote on the Smoking Ban - (See Note Cards)

7 Thank-you cards - RE: The Smoking Ban - (See Cards)

3 Thank-you Letters - RE: The Smoking Ban - (See Letters)

Material from Ed A. Schneider, O.D., Lincoln Vision Clinic P.C. - RE: Hard Evidence - Study: Secondhand Smoke Is Much More Dangerous Than First Thought - (See Material)
**27.** Letter & Material from Peter W. Katt, Pierson/Fitchett, Law Firm - RE: Cardinal Heights Second Addition Annexation and Zoning Agreement Resolution No. 04R-143 - (See Material)

**28.** Letter from Teresa J. Meier - RE: Applaud your decision of a total smoking ban - (See Letter)

**29.** Letter from Edmund Sheridan, President of Lincoln Police Union to Don Taute, Personnel Director - RE: The City’s last best offer - (See Letter)

IV. DIRECTORS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

*HELD OVER FROM JUNE 28, 2004. ALL HELD OVER UNTIL JULY 12, 204.*

da070504/tjg
NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

FOR RELEASE: June 28, 2004
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
                        Steve Hubka, City Budget Officer, 441-7698

SENG BALANCES CITY BUDGET
Mayor cuts budget requests, but flat revenues call for restoring
one cent of previous rate cut to maintain services

After months of review, cutting more than $2.4 million from department requests and cutting or delaying
$3.3 million in capital construction projects, Mayor Seng today presented to the City Council a balanced
budget for fiscal year (FY) 2004-05 that asks to restore one cent of the 2.4 cents cut from the City property
tax rate adopted last summer.

In balancing the budget, Mayor Seng cut department requests for new spending. But with some revenue
sources not increasing next year, the City will need to rely more on property taxes to maintain current
services. Also, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) has indicated that it will not restore the $381,000 for its share
of the funding for the 15 police officers assigned exclusively to the schools. Until this current year, LPS paid
$381,000 of the $781,000 cost of the School Resource Police Officers. Without a contribution from the
schools, the City absorbs the $381,000 cost. The assignment of the School Resource Officers remains
undetermined.

City tax-supported spending is projected to increase 4 percent, limiting the FY 2004-05 budget to a $125.8
million tax-funded budget. As a cost containment measure, Mayor Seng said the City will review each City
job vacancy to determine if the job can be eliminated or filled at a later date.

"The scrutiny is necessary because personnel costs account for 71 percent of the budget," Seng said. "If
there is some way to streamline duties, it should be considered. In addition, travel and discretionary
spending would be frozen at current year levels." She said discretionary spending will be closely monitored.

The City is facing some costs that it cannot control. The higher cost of gasoline is estimated to increase city
spending $100,000 to operate the Police, Public Works, StarTran, Fire and Parks vehicles. The costs of the
watershed management program to comply with the unfunded federal mandate for new storm water
requirements will be about $260,000. The cost must be absorbed by property taxes because the Legislature
has not granted cities authority to charge a fee to those who have significant storm water run-off. The tax
subsidy to operate the Pershing Center is increasing $100,000. It is anticipated that costs to operate the
County Emergency Management Agency will be increasing following the devastating tornados and storms
last month.

- more -
Balanced Budget
June 28, 2004
Page Two

The City plans to spend $3.5 million of the cash reserve to help balance the budget. This complies with the official policy the City adopted last year. "Spending any more of the reserve would put the City's Triple-A bond rating at risk at a time when the City hopes to do more bonding to benefit from the lower interest rates." The Triple-A bond rating helps the City obtain lower interest rates and save money.

Mayor Seng said this proposed budget is built on a consensus reached with the City Council earlier this year to preserve current city services. The City plans to save $600,000 by restructuring the way it pays for street lights. Also, the City plans to use $500,000 of unused bond funds from previous Library and Parks projects to reduce the tax levy for debt payments. In order to balance the budget, the City Council will be asked to restore one cent of the 2.4-cent property tax rate reduction from last August.

To generate additional funds, the 911 telephone surcharge would be increased 25 cents from its current 75-cent-per-month charge. The increase will reduce the City property tax subsidy to the 911 Center by $240,000.

Last summer, the Mayor proposed and the City Council approved cutting the property tax rate from 31.4 cents to 29 cents per $100 of assessed value. The budget proposal would restore one penny to the rate.

Separately being added to the tax rate is one-half cent to pay for two bond issues voters passed in 2002 and 2003. The City property tax rate would be adjusted to 30.6 cents per $100 of assessed value for FY 2004-05, still less than the 31.4-cent City property tax rate of FY 2002-03.

The City has relied more and more on sales tax revenue as a way to reduce the property tax rate. Sales tax now provides about 42 percent of the funding to operate City government, while property tax provides about 28 percent of the operating budget. The City property tax rate has been cut 44 percent, dropping from 51 cents per $100 of assessed value in 1994 to its current 29 cents, thanks to growing sales tax revenue and not taking advantage of higher property revaluations.

"I don't like the idea of restoring any of last August's property tax cut," Seng said. "But only after cutting projected spending and realizing that revenues would still not cover costs, I present the option to the Council that either we restore some of the tax rate or we cut current services. I look forward to working with the City Council to complete the budget in a way that does not rely on one-time deferrals or budget gimmicks that could cause problems for many years into the future."

The budget does include a $300,000 increase for the City's contribution to the Police and Fire Pension Fund. The City should increase its contributions to the fund because the annual contribution has been less than recommended. The total City contribution to the fund next year would be $2.4 million.

Also proposed to be added to the City's tax-funded budget are a Traffic Engineer, Watershed Engineer, Parks Coordinator, Personnel Clerk, Community Learning Center Employee, Teen Center Manager, a Parks Laborer and payroll hours equal to 3 FTEs (full-time equivalents) for a variety of seasonal assignments at the Parks and Recreation Department. In addition, the proposed budget includes two new Firefighters to help relieve staffing shortages. The current number of firefighters is the same as it was in 1994.

Of the total property taxes paid by a property owner, less than 15 percent goes to the City. Other local and County government agencies makeup the other 85 percent of the property taxes paid.
City of Lincoln
FY2004-05 City Government Budget Summary
June 28, 2004

Factors that Affected Revenue Forecasts for FY2004-05 City Budget
Sales tax revenue met, but did not exceed projections. The Budget Office lowered from 3.25% to 2.5% the projected growth in the property tax base. Other City revenue sources are projected to decrease (occupation taxes, fees, interest income, in-lieu of taxes).

Mayor Cuts $2.4 Million from Spending Requests
In March 2004, the City Departments requested funds totaling more than $130 million for FY2004-05 for the operating budget and capital improvement projects. Mayor Seng cut $2.4 million from the requested amounts, lowering the proposed budget to $125.8 million, or a 4-percent increase.

In addition, City Departments requested $5.2 million of general tax funds for Capital Improvement Projects in FY2004-05. Mayor Seng cut or delayed $3.3 million in proposed capital projects using general funds lowering the amount to $1.9 million next year.

The City Budget would increase from $121 million this year to $125.8 million next year.

Costs the City Cannot Control
Higher fuel costs for Police, Fire, and Public Works vehicles will increase spending $100,000. Lincoln Public Schools not paying its share of the nearly $800,000 total cost for 15 police officers at schools. Cost to comply with unfunded federal mandate on storm water requirements is $260,000. Pershing Center tax subsidy increasing $100,000.

The cost of the County-City Emergency Management Agency following the tornado and storms is expected to rise, but the amount is not yet known.

Actions Taken to Limit a Change in the Tax Rate
City to spend $3.5 million of cash reserves.
City to restructure the financing of street lights, saving $600,000 annually.
Spend $500,000 of unused bond funds from completed Library and Parks projects.
Travel and discretionary funds frozen at current levels.
Antelope Senior Center proposed to close.
Meadowlane Pool evening hours changed to party rental use to increase revenue and reduce expense.
Reduce City subsidy to 911 Center by $240,000 by increasing the telephone surcharge 25 cents.

Property Tax Rate Still Less Than in 2002
The City property tax rate has been reduced 44 percent since 1994 when it was 51.9 cents per $100 of assessed value.

The City property tax rate in FY2002-03 was 31.4 cents per $100 assessed value.

Last summer in the FY2003-04 budget, Mayor Seng proposed and the Council approved cutting the City property tax rate 2.4 cents, lowering the rate to 29 cents.

For the FY2004-05, the City proposes restoring 1 cent.

Separately, one-half cent will be added to the tax rate due to two voter-approved storm water bond issues approved in 2002 and 2003.

The proposed FY2004-05 City property tax rate will still be less than it was in 2002.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

DATE: June 30, 2004
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Coleen J. Seng’s schedule includes the following events:

THURSDAY, JULY 1
• 10 a.m. - News conference with the United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County to kick off the 211 service for human service information and referral. The news conference will be in Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Board Room, 1135 “M” Street.

• 11 a.m. - News conference on State Fair campaign at the Nebraska Club, 20th floor of the U.S. Bank Building, 233 South 13th Street.

FRIDAY, JULY 2
• 9:30 a.m. - Rededication of the Lincoln Mall on the Mall at 11th Street.
June 25, 2004

Lyle Bigley
2140 Breckenridge Drive
Lincoln, NE 68521

RE: Opening Fletcher to 14th Street

Dear Mr. Bigley:

The opening of Fletcher from 14th Street east to its present terminus in North Creek Business Park approximately 1600 feet northeast of 14th Street is anticipated. At this point in time, there is no right-of-way in the anticipated location. As asked in the inquiry, Engineering Services anticipates the right-of-way will be dedicated along with future subdivision of the property and in fact has been shown on preliminary plats submitted to the City.

There are other barriers to construction of Fletcher. The interstate bridge and topography, including the wetlands, limits the potential location. The proposed intersection with 14th and its grade will change with construction of the 14th Street bridge over I-80. The desirable timing of Fletcher will therefore need to be coordinated with construction of the bridge and the scheduled improvements to 14th Street.

Funding for 14th Street and Fletcher are included in the proposed 2004-2010 CIP anticipating construction 2006-2007 time frame. The construction however is contingent upon availability of city funds and the Nebraska Department of Roads schedule for construction of the 14th Street bridge over I-80. The construction of Fletcher could occur with the City acquiring the right-of-way rather than dedication by the plat process if anticipated platting and development does not occur.

Sincerely,

Dennis Bartels
Engineering Services

cc: Karl Fredrickson
Randy Hoskins
Roger Figard
Marvin Krout
Mayor Coleen J. Seng
City Council
Allan Abbott
Nicole Fleck-Tooze
Becky Horner
Tammy, please process the following RFI. Thank you.
Susan

RFI #133

Request For Information
City Council Office

From: Terry Werner, City Council
Date: June 16, 2004

RE: Opening Fletcher Ave. to 14th Street

Because of concerns regarding the response time of emergency vehicles (in particular fire dept. vehicles, the nearest of which are at Belmont and the Highlands), a constituent indicates he has talked to the Planning Dept. and traffic engineers regarding the potential of opening Fletcher Ave. from 27th St. to 14th St., indicating it currently ends around 18th St. He states he has been told opening the street is "up to the developer."

Please respond to the following questions:

1) What are the barriers to reconfiguring Fletcher St. so it is open to 14th St.?
2) Is it, indeed, up to the developer?
3) Has the department given the change consideration, and made a determination regarding the potential?

Thank you for your response.

Send Response To: Lyle Bigley
2140 Breckkenridge Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68521

cc: Terry Werner

Response (Indicate action taken): By: Dennis Bartels Date: 6-25-04
Jonathan,
Attached is a response to your request for a breakdown of a reported Administrative and General expense number for LES.

If you need any additional information or clarification, please let me know.

Terry

(See attached file: LES-JCook RFI 115.pdf)
NOTE: This electronic message and attachment(s), if any, contains information which is intended solely for the designated recipient(s). Unauthorized disclosure, copying, distribution, or other use of the contents of this message or attachment(s), in whole or in part, is prohibited without the express authorization of the author of this message.

- LES-JCook RFI 115.pdf
July 1, 2004

Lincoln City Council
County-City Building
555 South 10th
Lincoln, NE 68508

Subject: Request #115 for Information Related to LES Administrative & General Expense

Dear Lincoln City Council:

This memo is in response to Jonathan Cook's request of June 28, which is attached.

The document referred to by Mr. Cook separated LES' operating expenses into just five categories.

- Purchased Power: $63,692
- Production: $19,567
- Operation: $6,905
- Other Maintenance: $4,308
- Administrative & General: $21,679
- Total Operating Expense excluding depreciation and in lieu of taxes: $116,151

Mr. Cook asked for a breakdown of the Administrative & General expense item. I will briefly cover all of the expense categories and provide a more detailed breakdown of the Administrative & General category.

**Purchased Power**
This item is fairly self-explanatory. It includes power we purchase from the market as well as our contracted power purchases from resources such as Gerald Gentleman Station, Sheldon Station, Cooper Nuclear Station and Western Area Power Administration.
Production
This item includes the cost of producing power at LES-owned generating stations including Rokeby, J Street, Salt Valley, Laramie River Station and the wind turbines. A comparison of the production and purchased power numbers can be misleading, because of the handling of fixed costs. Fixed costs are included in the purchased power category because those costs are all rolled into the contract payments which we make. The fixed costs related to LES-owned facilities are included in our debt service numbers, because we financed those projects. For purchased power and production to be on the same basis for 2003, about 80% of our debt service number (or about $22 million) would need to be added to the production number. With Cooper Nuclear Station dropping out of the purchased power category in 2004 and Salt Valley Generating Station being added to production, there will be significant shifts in these two cost components in 2004.

Operation and Other Maintenance
Roughly $11 million of combined operation and other maintenance expenses represent the cost to operate and maintain both our high voltage transmission systems and distribution system.

Administrative & General
This category covers all of the items that are not related to the above expense categories or to depreciation, in lieu taxes and debt service. A breakdown by division and department is included in the table on the next page.

I hope this has answered Council member Cook’s request. If there are any areas where you would like us to provide more detail, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Bundy, P.E.
Administrator and CEO

E-mail: tbundy@les.com
Phone #: (402)473-3392
FAX #: (402)475-9759

TLB:cls
Attachment

c: Mayor Coleen Seng
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(a) Includes employee benefit costs for hours not related to construction.

Employee time, benefits and FICA taxes related to construction projects are in the capital budget.
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

June 28, 2004

To: Terry Bundy, Lincoln Electric System
Re: Administrative and general expense item in LES budget

Terry,

Attached is a table showing the debt service coverage table for 2002 and 2003 that was provided in the most recent annual report. As you know the City Council is charged with overseeing and approving the LES budget. Could you please provide a breakdown of the “Administrative and General expense” budget for me?

Thank you.

Jonathan Cook
Debt Service Coverage  
Years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002  
(Dollars in thousands)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating revenues:</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric retail $</td>
<td>152,113</td>
<td>145,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric wholesale</td>
<td>12,711</td>
<td>15,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4,044</td>
<td>3,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating revenues</td>
<td>168,868</td>
<td>164,974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating expenses:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased power</td>
<td>63,692</td>
<td>58,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production</td>
<td>19,567</td>
<td>19,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation</td>
<td>6,905</td>
<td>6,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other maintenance</td>
<td>4,308</td>
<td>4,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative and general</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,679</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,702</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses, excluding depreciation and in lieu of taxes</td>
<td>116,151</td>
<td>109,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net operating revenues, excluding depreciation and taxes</td>
<td>52,717</td>
<td>55,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>1,542</td>
<td>3,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for debt service $</td>
<td>54,259</td>
<td>58,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt service* $</td>
<td>27,881</td>
<td>9,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt coverage</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes bond interest, bond principal, commercial paper interest, and allowance for funds used during construction.

See accompanying independent auditors’ report.
June 28, 2004

Mr. Danny Walker
427 E Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Walker,

I received your letter dated June 18 regarding the property directly east of 610 G Street. As you are aware, staff have responded to your complaint at this location and have contacted Gene Langdale, Maintenance Supervisor for the Downtown Lincoln Association.

DLA has indicated to us that they are now making several trips a week to take brush to the landfill. LLCHD staff have checked this location this past week and have not found any brush being piled up.

There is no city ordinance that would prevent DLA from collecting brush at this site. However, they were notified that brush does have to be removed a minimum of once a week to prevent the brush from providing rodent harborage. DLA has assured us they will do their best to keep the area cleaned up and to remove any brush they might collect there at least once a week if not more often.

DLA has also informed us that they have increased the number of times the dumpster is emptied from five to seven days a week. This might change during the winter months if they collect less garbage. Any illegally dumped tires they collect are being kept inside their building.

Thank you for your concern in helping keep Lincoln clean.

Sincerely,

Bruce D. Dart MS
Health Director

cc: City Council
    Lin Quenzer, City Ombudsman
    Gene Langdale, Downtown Lincoln Association
    Polly McMullen, Downtown Lincoln Association
FOR RELEASE:  May 10, 2004
CONTACT: Vicki Wood, Youth Services Librarian
PHONE:  402-441-8529
E-MAIL:  v.wood@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us

DISCOVERY BAGS AVAILABLE
@ your library

Lincoln City Libraries, in partnership with Lancaster County 4-H, has created “Discovery Bags” on arts and crafts and on wildlife.

Teachers, 4-H leaders and any other members of the public may use the bags. Each bag is available for a checkout period of three weeks and can be renewed for three weeks if there are no holds on the bag.

Each bag contains activity resources such as books, flyers and compacts discs. They are perfect for 4-H leaders looking to complete a project or for teachers, home school parents or other youth leaders wanting resources for educational activities.

For more information contact the Youth Services desk at Bennett Martin Public Library, 441-8566.

###
NEWS RELEASE

LANCASTER COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
575 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2004
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dave Norris, Citizen Information Center, 441-7547
Wayne Svoboda, Volunteer Partners, 435-2100

MORE DISASTER CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON JULY 9 AND 10 FOR FINAL “PUSH” IN HALLAM AND LANCASTER COUNTY

Lancaster County Emergency Management and Volunteer Partners request an additional 500 volunteers per day on Friday, July 9 and Saturday, July 10 to help conduct one final cleanup “push” in Hallam and other parts of Lancaster County.

On July 9 and 10, volunteers must check in at the Emergency Volunteer Center, now located at the Reformed Church of Firth, 603 Russell St., in Firth. Previously, the Volunteer Partners’ Emergency Volunteer Center was located at the Princeton Countryside Alliance Church in Princeton.

Volunteers can check in from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on July 9 and 10. They will be registered at the church and bused to assigned areas for cleanup. Individuals wishing to volunteer will need to wear proper clothing, including gloves and heavy shoes. Sun screen and bug spray are also recommended.

Lunch will be provided for the volunteers on July 9 and 10.

A daily summary and breakdown of volunteers registered in Princeton and Firth, as well as other information regarding the disaster cleanup effort, can be found on the County Web site, lancaster.ne.gov, by clicking on the “Lancaster Co. Disaster Relief Effort” link.

Any groups wanting to volunteer on July 9 and 10 are encouraged to call Volunteer Partners in Lincoln at 435-2100 with the group name and group total.

-30-
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Seng
   & City Council Members

FROM: Clinton W. Thomas

DEPARTMENT: City Council Office
DEPARTMENT: Real Estate Division

ATTENTION: Joan Ross
           Marvin Krout
           Dana Roper
           Byron Blum

DATE: June 29, 2004

SUBJECT: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4007
Washington Street from 1st Street to
Southwest 1st Street;
and the east-west alley between
West A and West Washington
Streets, South 1st Street to
Southwest 1st Street

A request had been made to vacate a street and alley lying between South 1st Street and Southwest 1st Street. Washington Street is located one block south of A Street and the alley lies in the block between A and Washington. The area was viewed and appeared as an open pasture area encompassed as part of a horse pasture utilized by the adjoining property owner. No utilities were observed, but Public Works has indicated a request has been made to retain a 10-foot utility easement along the south side of the street right-of-way.

Even though the abutting area contains two single-family residences and some assorted outbuildings, its highest and best use is considered to be for industrial development. Planning has indicated this vacation will create lots without frontage or access to public streets and had required, as a condition of approval, a final plat be submitted creating lots that conform to the subdivision ordinances. As such, the area should be considered as land available for potential industrial development as opposed to developed industrial land.

The abutting property was recently appraised as developed industrial land for $2.03 per square foot. While the area of the street right-of-way is large enough to be a buildable parcel, the alley is not. This fact coupled with the requirement the area be replatted lead this writer to expect a prospective buyer not to pay more than 40% of the developed value they expected to see once the property is assembled and replatted. The required retention of utility easement is considered to be inconsequential since the dedication of easements is usual and customary with the platting process and the location of existing easements likely can be changed to fit the requirements of the plat.

The value of the street and alley to be vacated is estimated at 40% of the surrounding land value, or $0.80 per square foot. The calculations are as follows:

\[
19,079 \text{ sq. ft.} \times \$0.80/\text{sq. ft.} = \$15,263.20 \text{ called } \$15,000
\]

Therefore, it is recommended, if the area be vacated, it be sold to the abutting property owner for $15,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton W. Thomas
Certified General Appraiser #990023
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Seng
& City Council Members

FROM: Clinton W. Thomas

DEPARTMENT: City Council Office

DEPARTMENT: Real Estate Division

ATTENTION: 

DATE: June 29, 2004

COPIES TO: Joan Ross
Marvin Krout
Dana Roper
Byron Blum

SUBJECT: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4008
21st Street between Y Street and the abandoned MoPac RR right-of-way

A request had been made to vacate that portion of North 21st Street lying between the former Missouri Pacific Railroad right-of-way and Y Street. The area was viewed and appeared as a brick street with concrete curb and guttering. Electric utility lines were observed along the east side of the right-of-way at the south end and crossing diagonally across the street in the northerly portion. The area is bounded by industrial uses. Public Works has asked that easements be retained over the entire area for existing and future utilities.

While there is sufficient area being vacated to create a buildable lot, the retention of easements will render it unbuildable. As such, it is viewed as land that can be assembled into the abutting property and would undoubtedly take on the value of the abutting property at that time.

Public Works has also indicated the street return must be removed and replaced with curb and gutter. This work will require a bond in the amount of $5,000 to guarantee the work.

Recent appraisals of the abutting property have indicated an underlying land value of $1.50 per square foot. It is estimated, with the retention of utility easements, a prospective buyer would be willing to pay 30% to 35% of the proposed assemblage value once it is acquired. This would give a range of value from $0.45 to $0.53 per square foot. The value of $0.50 per square foot is considered appropriate. The calculations are as follows:

\[
15,000 \text{ sq. ft.} \times \frac{\$0.50}{\text{sq. ft.}} = \$7,500 \\
\text{Less removal of street return} = \$5,000 \\
\text{Difference} = \$2,500
\]

Therefore, it is recommended, if the area be vacated, it be sold to the abutting property owner for $2,500.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton W. Thomas
Certified General Appraiser #990023

dge
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Seng
& City Council Members
FROM: Clinton W. Thomas

DEPARTMENT: City Council Office
DEPARTMENT: Real Estate Division

ATTENTION: 
DATE: June 29, 2004

COPIES TO: Joan Ross
Marvin Krout
Dana Roper
Byron Blum
SUBJECT: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4005
Allen Road from west line of
Stephanie Lane west approximately
565 feet

A request had been made to vacate a portion of Allen Road lying west of Stephanie Lane. The area is located a few blocks south of Pine Lake Road just west of South 56th Street. The area was viewed and appeared as a new, paved, curb and gutter street running through an open field. Street lights were observed along the new road. The vacation of this street is being done in conjunction with a special use permit associated with the community unit plan. As a part of this use permit, the petitioner will be required to dedicate a new street which includes more area than that which is being vacated. They also will be required to relocate existing water and gas mains.

It is considered the dedication of the new street and the cost of relocating utilities will more than offset the value of the area being vacated. As such, it is recommended, if the area be vacated, it be deeded to the abutting property owner at no cost in exchange for meeting the requirements of the special use permit.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton W. Thomas
Certified General Appraiser #990023

dge
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Seng & City Council Members

FROM: Clinton W. Thomas

DEPARTMENT: City Council Office

DEPARTMENT: Real Estate Division

ATTENTION: 

DATE: June 29, 2004

COPIES TO: Joan Ross

Marvin Krout

Dana Roper

Byron Blum

SUBJECT: Street & Alley Vacation No. 4004

6th & M Streets

A request had been made to vacate a portion of 6th Street lying north of the alley between L and M Streets. The area was viewed and appeared as open space with the remnants of what appeared to be granular surfacing visible. The area was also somewhat grown-up in worthless vegetation. A utility line was observed running across the area parallel to the abutting railroad right-of-way; and, a small amount of material from the adjacent manufacturing business appeared to be stored there. Public Works has asked permanent easements be retained for the existing, as well as, future utilities.

Small, irregular parcels such as this rarely have any value in and of themselves. This is especially true given the location of this parcel at the end of a dead-end alley. However, once it is assembled into the abutting property, it will take on the value of that property which in this case is estimated at $3.50 per square foot. It is expected a purchaser would likely pay 30% to 35% of the expected assembled value for a small parcel of assemblage property such as this. In this case, the irregular shape would reduce its utility below even that which would be expected of a parcel that was more readily usable. As such, a value more in line with 20% of the expected assembled value is considered appropriate. The calculations are as follows:

\[ 6,170 \text{ sq. ft.} \times \$3.50/\text{sq. ft.} \times 20\% = \$4,319.00 \text{ called } \$4,300.00 \]

Therefore, it is recommended, if the area be vacated, it be sold to the abutting property owner for $4,300.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton W. Thomas
Certified General Appraiser #990023
dge
June 25, 2004

Dear City Council,

If the Mayor & City Council has a problem knowing how to cut budget, please consult with the mother of a large, poor family. You will get good advice.

The home, electric, gas, food supply must be protected from any taxation increases.

Thanks,

Nancy Russell

Jun 29, 2004 3710 "F" St. (60)

City Council Office
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Mark siske
Address: 1819 north 58th
City: Lincoln, NE68505
Phone: 402-429-5469
Fax:
Email: msiskeme@neb.rr.com

Comment or Question:
Very dismayed at the very visible anger displayed after the councils vote on
the smoking ordinance. Several members actions reminded me of a child who did
not get their way. Also the shuffling and stuffing of papers made the audio
very hard to hear. When one of the angry members stuffed their paper into
what I assume was a garbage can I noticed the almost embarrassed reaction by
several of the other council members. I realize the frustration, however as
elected officers please maintain the leadership and decorum expected. Lead by
example PLEASE. It seems to me that many votes over the last few years have
not gone the way I would have liked. But I respect those that have made these
decisions and applaud the way you have maintained the integrity until now.
Dear Dr. Spry: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6886
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

LSPRYGUY@aol.com

My congratulations to the City Council for getting it right. This is truly historic and means that right does win out in the end. Please thank Ken Svoboda specifically for his bravery in this effort. He is my champion.

Leslie Spry, MD
Lincoln Nephrology & Hypertension
Dialysis Center of Lincoln
Lincoln, NE USA
Phone: 402-484-5600 (answered 24 hours per day by service, have me paged)
Dear Mr. Kraft:

Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Tim Kraft" <tkraft2@neb.rr.com>

"Tim Kraft" <tkraft2@neb.rr.com>
06/29/2004 07:04 AM
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>  
cc: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
Subject: Smoking Ban

Thank you for making what is so obviously the correct decision for the well being of the people of Lincoln, and what will obviously eventually be the law everywhere.

A minority of people will be upset at first, but please don't be bullied into changing the ordinance.

THANK YOU!

Tim Kraft
4901 Boeckner Ave
483-9952
Dear Ms. Manglitz: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

marjmanglitz@yahoo.com

marjmanglitz@yahoo.com
06/28/2004 11:22 PM
To: Council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
cc: unalincin@yahoo.com
Subject: Congratulations!

I am so pleased with your making Lincoln a smoke free city by your action today. Congratulations to all City Council members and especially Ken for his amendment, and to all the departments who have worked for this.

Thanks to all,
Marj Manglitz
955 N 67th
Lincoln, Ne 68505
464-3607
Dear Dr. Frantz: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Lee Frantz" <lfrantz@mchs.com>

Lincoln City Council,
This letter is a personal position and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of my employer referenced below.

I want to express my deepest and sincerest congratulations on the tremendous courage it took to pass the employee health bill in regard to smoking in the workplace. As I mentioned during a city-council candidate meeting in spring 2003, I have spent 37+ years in the hospitality field (commercial, non-commercial, military, and now education) and five years ago had second-hand smoke related cancer – and developed asthma. I have never taken a single puff on a cigarette in my life – they have never touched my lips, but I can remember the days when the break table full of smokers was a corner table in the kitchen.

I am cancer free following surgery, and plan to live long enough to see all U.S. employees have 100% smoke-free workplaces. Mark Lutz told a group of Lincoln Restaurant owners 2 years ago (in a meeting where he told me to shut up or leave), “we have to keep fighting the state effort to ban smoking, because in ten years we won’t be talking about the issue, the whole nation will have smoke-free workplaces because it is a health issue; we can’t win on that issue, so let’s keep fighting.” I never figured out that logic and the Nebraska Restaurant Association has been smart enough to get rid of Mr. Lutz as a spokesperson.

My wife and I had been considering buying land near Plattsmouth, NE, Yankton, SD or returning to Lincoln for retirement, but since we know Lincoln’s restaurants and lounges will be smoke-free, we will definitely be considering Dick Campbell’s new development at 60th and Pine Lake as soon as lots are available. Lincoln is home.

Again congratulations. The silent majority has won. All the research data tells me you have made the right decision for individuals and businesses.
Dr. Lee Frantz, UNL, ‘03
Formally, 4452 Birch Hollow, Lincoln

Home:
Gary "Lee" Frantz
Donna D. Campbell
241 Pine Ridge Rd.
Brookings, SD 57006-3649
605.697.5130 Voice & Fax

Learning is not a spectator sport....
Students must talk about what they are learning,
write about it, relate it to past experiences,
(and) apply it to their daily lives. They must make

Work:
Gary "Lee" Frantz, Ph.D., FMP
Asst. Professor of Hospitality Management
Box 2275A, NFA 437 Rotunda Lane
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007-0295
Voice 605.688.4050
Fax 605.688.5603
Lee.frantz@sdstate.edu

One who has imagination without learning has wings, but no feet. Unknown
Dear Ms. Anderson: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-8668
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Julie Anderson" <JAnderson@lmep.com>

Congratulations to the City Council of Lincoln! A very intelligent and courageous vote took place last night that is bound to have positive impacts on this city for years to come. It is terrific to know that there are still politicians who when pushed to the limit will still follow their convictions and do the right thing from a health and enforcement perspective. Thank you!

Julie Anderson
Division of Adolescent and Family Health
Lincoln Medical Education Partnership
4600 Valley Road
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-483-4581, Ext. 244
janderson@lmep.com
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Robert E. Cunningham
Address: 3127 North Hill Rd. # 103
City: Lincoln, NE 68504-4730
Phone: 402-476-2756
Fax: 
Email: rpicturebob@aol.com

Comment or Question:
Dear Lincoln City Council members,
I wish to thank you for your tireless efforts spent working on the anti-smoking ordinance. Mostly I wish to commend you on your insight, for reverting to the original 100% smoking ban ordinance. Your courage and commitment to the health and well being of the community will be legendary in the annals of Lincoln’s history. A new dawn is breaking here and the tide will spread throughout Nebraska and beyond, all due to your selfless contribution to better living in Lincoln. Thank You...........R. Cunningham
---- Message from logan walters <loganwalters@earthlink.net> on Tue, 29 Jun 2004 09:43:00 -0500 (GMT-05:00) ----

To: <TWernerLNK@aol.com>,
    <CAMPJON@aol.com>

Subject: smoking ban

: It finally happened! :) I can't tell you how much I appreciate how you finally came together and passed such a very important health issue for the City of Lincoln! I look forward to spending my money in these establishments now that I won't have to worry about the smoke! Please forward this to your fellow council members.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!
Dear Mr. Benne: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Shotkoski & Associates, P.C. (Jeff Benne)* <jbenne@shotcpa.com>

"Shotkoski & Associates, P.C. (Jeff Benne)"
To: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
To: <jbenne@shotcpa.com>
cc: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
Subject: Smoking Ban
Subject: Smoking Ban

06/29/2004 11:53 AM

GREAT JOB! - Most of you have finally pulled your head out of the sand or where ever you had it. Everyone knows that the only fair ban is a total ban. You create an unlevel playing field with a partial ban. If no bars in lincoln city limits allow smoking, then all bars will retain the business they currently have. If some bars can have it and some cannot, then all smokers will leave the ones that cannot. - How unfair is that.

The majority of the smokers will still go out to bars, they will just have to go outside to smoke. The small percentage of people who choose to leave the city limits for a smoking bar - let them go. If they have enough time to drive out of town to a bar, then they are not probably productive citizen's anyway.

I personally do not attend bars very often because it is always too smoky. I will be more likely to go to bars, especially sports bars if there is no smoking inside. One of my favorite hangouts is Past-time pub in North lincoln.

By voting for the original ban - you have done a great service to the community and the business owners who are trying to compete in this market.

Jeff Benne
Lincoln, NE
Dear Ms. Scheinost:

Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Sheila Scheinost" <SheilaS@LandscapesUnlimited.com>

"Sheila Scheinost"
SheilaS@LandscapesUnlimited.com
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
cc:
Subject: THANKS!!

06/29/2004 10:37 AM

Thanks for much for making a wise, but difficult decision to ban smoking in restaurants and bars. I do believe it will be much easier to regulate vs. the other options you had on the table. I can’t wait to smell smoke free when I leave a restaurant or bar with my children. THANKS SO MUCH!!

Sheila Scheinost
Project Manager Assistant
Landscapes Unlimited, LLC
Ph: (402) 423-6653
Fax: (402) 423-1443
e-mail: sheilas@landscapesunlimited.com
Re: Smoking Ban
To: Ken Svoboda, Glenn Friendt, Jon Camp, Terry Werner and Mayor Seng

I have been reading & watching the progression of the proposed smoking ban in Lincoln. I am very happy to see that yesterday evening, the original 'undiluted' version passed!! The four of you who voted to pass the measure are to be commended for your courage in doing the right thing for the health and safety of the people who live in Lincoln and for those who visit. I'm pleased to also read that Mayor Seng will sign it. Hopefully, more towns and cities in Nebraska will follow our capital city's lead and ban smoking in all public buildings.
We should urge and encourage our Nebraska State Legislature to put a ban in effect in the whole state! It can work! Contact the Senators and the Governor!
Congratulations to all who voted in favor.
Sincerely,
Judy Murphy
Falls City
Dear Ms. Hilt: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-8866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Jennifer Hilt" <jhilt@LandscapesUnlimited.com>

"Jennifer Hilt" <jhilt@LandscapesUnlimited.com>  
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>  
cc:  
Subject: Smoking ban

06/29/2004 10:37 AM

Thank you for passing a total smoking ban in Lincoln. I am pleased that the city council is putting the health of the citizens of Lincoln first!

Jennifer Hilt
Lincoln, Nebraska
Dear Mr. Schlegelmilch: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
tim.schlegelmilch@usbank.com

The merits of the ban will be played out over the course of time, but my personal view is that it is the right move. I agree with Mr. Friendt's statement that the # of exemptions would have played favorites, not to mention opened the door to loopholes & become a nightmare to administer.

It would have been a shame to pass a watered-down version of the ban, so I'm pleased to see it be all or nothing. If you're looking for a mandate, put it to a vote of the people. My perception is this decision would be validated.

Electronic Privacy Notice. This e-mail, and any attachments, contains information that is, or may be, covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521, and is also confidential and proprietary in nature. If you are not the intended recipient, please be advised that you are legally prohibited from retaining, using, copying, distributing, or otherwise disclosing this information in any manner. Instead, please reply to the sender that you have received this communication in error, and then immediately delete it. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
Dear Mr. Showalter: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

dshowalter <dshowalter@nebrr.com>

---

I have never been more proud of the council than I am right now. Thank you for passing the ordinance in the original language. Now is the time that Lincoln shows Nebraska and the rest of the world that we are serious about peoples health. We have some of the finest hospitals in the nation, we have all the nice trails, we have a marathon... This proves to our peers that our city council isn't driven by the dollar.

Dan Showalter
Dear Mr. Newell: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Robert Newell" <bdn54539@alltel.net>

"Robert Newell" <bdn54539@alltel.net>  
06/29/2004 12:55 PM
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>  
cc:  
Subject: smoking ban

Thank you so much for having the courage to ban smoking in public places.

I have asthma, and many of my family including my father, died from lung cancer. I truly appreciate the promising future of going into places without fear of having an asthma attack.

Unless you have ever been unable to breathe you have no idea

THANKS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Dear Ms. Levos: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Darlene A. Levos" <dalevos@megavision.com>

Lincoln City Council Members:

I want to commend you on your Smoking Ban Vote on June 28th. I am sure you will be hearing from people who are against this but I assure you there are many many of us out here who are so appreciative of the vote.

I lost my husband, who was a smoker, to Lung Cancer. I sincerely hope this will prevent many others from experiencing the same sorrow I had to go through. I am sure it will.

Thank you so much and may God Bless you all.

Sincerely,
Darlene A. Levos
Dear Ms. Vokal: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
Debra K Vokal <dvokal1@unl.edu>

Debra K Vokal
<dvokal1@unl.edu>
06/29/2004 02:46 PM
To: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
cc:
Subject: Smoking ban

I was thrilled to read the article in today's paper regarding the smoking ban being passed as it was originally conceived. I was dismayed when it was continually being watered down changing the whole intent: To protect the health of our citizens. I work at the University of NE health center on campus and see many young adults through our clinic. Many classify themselves as social or occasional smokers which means they only smoke when they go out to the bars etc. I feel this ban will have a positive impact on this behavior and we will have less people hooked on nicotine because of it. Keep up the good work.

Deb Vokal PA-C
Dear Mr Hauptman: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6666
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

I would like to thank each of the council members that voted in favor of the original health department smoking ban and I would urge the rest to get on board. This ban is fair and balanced for all businesses and demonstrates your concern for the health of all citizens of Lincoln. As someone with asthma, and a son with asthma, your support of the non-smoking majority will allow all families to patronize the establishments of their choice without jeopardizing their health from secondhand smoke. Please stand firm against the inevitable onslaught of pressure from the special interest groups. This ban will promote Lincoln as healthy place to live.

Thank you again.

Phillip Hauptman
2911 Dudley
Lincoln, NE 68503
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Christine Aguirre
Address: 7409 S. 48th Street
City: Lincoln, NE 68516
Phone: 402-420-7227
Fax:
Email: caguirre@foundation.nebraska.edu

Comment or Question:
I am writing to express the absolute thrill I felt when I opened my Lincoln Journal Star yesterday to find that a new, and complete, smoking ban was passed. Congratulations to those who supported the new ordinance on making the right decision! And I hope those of you who opposed it will come to recognize the appropriateness of the ban.

I’m sure this is the type of issue that we will look back on and realize the pain of initial implementation was worth the long-term benefits.

My family’s increased expenditures at Lincoln’s smoke-free bars and restaurants will hopefully help the few currently upset business owners become more comfortable with the change.

I know my family, co-workers and friends are absolutely delighted with the change and couldn’t be happier with the decision. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!
Dear Ms. Hailth:
Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.
Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6868
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Barbara Hailth <bhaith@alltel.net>

Dear Ken:
Hallelujah! I had taped the mayor's state of the city message yesterday and thought I would also get the city council's agenda to listen to later in the evening. Somehow I heard the mayor but never taped the rest. So when I was listening to the news last night, out of one ear, and heard something about the smoking ban passing, I thought I was dreaming. I asked my husband, Paul, if he had heard it the same way. We were actually almost in disbelief until we read it on the front page this morning.
How absolutely brilliant of you to put the original amendment out on the table again. And how fortunate we are that not only you but Jon, Glenn, and Terry chose to favor it too. Now all we have to hope for is that the other 3 will come to the realization soon that this was the wisest and healthiest decision for the well being of Lincoln's community. Now we can stand proud that we led, as a capital city, rather that followed. Thank you so very much for you leadership. It truly was a miracle!
Regards,
Barb Hailth.
Dear Ms. Moje: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Sarah" <szimmer2@neb.rr.com>

"Sarah" <szimmer2@neb.rr.com>
To: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
cc: Subject: smoking ban

06/29/2004 06:00 PM

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Finally the realization of the hazards of secondhand smoke and the infringement on other’s rights to live and breathe clean air has been acknowledged. My husband is a smoker, and even he admits supporting this ban. As an individual with health issues that are exacerbated by second-hand smoke, I am so excited at the prospect of being able to enjoy social activities with my family and friends, once again. My brother just moved back from New York, where the ban has been in place for a while now, and is pleased that Lincoln is taking the steps to become as health conscience and up to date with necessary action as other major cities in this country. You will, no doubt, receive angry responses to this act, however, I would like to go on the record as being 100% for the ban and very appreciative for the hard work and progress you bring to this beautiful city. Have a great day, and keep up the progressive strides you are taking.

Sincerely,
Sarah E. Moje
Dea Mr. & Ms. Neverdahl: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6666
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Rachelle Neverdahl" <rneverdahl@neb.rr.com>

Thank you for approving the original smoking ban ordinance and not the watered-down previous version.

Ray & Rachelle Neverdahl
Dear Ms. Ward: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Tausha Ward Armbruster <tausha49@yahoo.com>

Thank you to all of the City Council members who voted FOR the smoking ban. I am tired of living in a city where I have to base my entertainment opportunities on who allows smoking and who doesn’t. Now the majority of the population in Lincoln (who by the way, does not smoke) have the freedom they deserve!

Tausha Ward Armbruster
6631 South 30th Street
Lincoln, NE 68516

Do you Yahoo!?
New and Improved Yahoo! Mail - Send 10MB messages!
Dear Mr. & Ms. Nielsen: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6868
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Kurt Nielsen" <KurtNielsen@msn.com>

"Kurt Nielsen" <KurtNielsen@msn.com>
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
cc: Subject: 100% Smoking Ban for Lincoln

06/30/2004 09:16 AM

<?xml:namespace prefix="v" /><?xml:namespace prefix="o" />
YES! The City Council made us proud last night by doing the right thing and protecting the health of ALL Lincolnites by passing a true smoking ban for the city of Lincoln. And with the news today announcing the conclusions of a study done on second-hand smoke...that even a small amount of second-hand smoke causes heart disease, it is a major victory for employees, customers and future generations. THANK YOU to Ken Svoboda, Jon Camp, Terry Werner and Glenn Friendt for your progressive action and for putting health first. This is too important to do half-way. Our family is looking forward to November 1 when we can go anywhere we choose to enjoy a meal and a beverage and enjoy a smoke-free evening. Please DO NOT give an inch on finalizing this ban.

Sincerely,
Kurt and Rebecca Nielsen
4910 Larkwood Road
Lincoln, NE  68516
Dear Ms. Wasser: You message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6666
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"jw23947" <jw23947@ALLTEL.net>

I have watched the debate on the proposed smoking ban for quite some time and was very disappointed in the decision to go with a partial ban. When I heard the news about the public smoking ban this morning, my faith in your ability to actually make a decision was restored.

Due to the number of special interest groups who populate your meetings, I did not attend the open sessions. I also assumed that common sense would prevail and that smoking would be banned.

On the economic side, for years, I have avoided many Lincoln establishments because of cigarette smoke. I have to say that I look forward to having the freedom to choose a restaurant, bar or entertainment establishment based on the services they provide rather than the amount of smoke I might have to contend with.

Thanks again for finally making this much needed decision.

Marva Wasser
Joan V Ray

06/30/2004 09:18 AM

To: Dalevos417@aol.com
cc: Dalevos417@aol.com
Subject: Re: (no subject)

Dear Ms. Levos: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you, again, for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Dalevos417@aol.com

06/29/2004 08:12 PM

To: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
cc: Dalevos417@aol.com
Subject: (no subject)

City of Lincoln Council Members

I want to thank you for the vote on the Smoking Ban on June 28th. Of course you will be hearing from people that will be against it but I want to assure you that there are many, many of us out here that sincerely appreciate your action on the matter.

I lost my husband (who was a smoker) to Lung Cancer. I truly hope this will keep many others from having to experience the loss of a loved one to Cancer.

Keep up the good work. God Bless you all.

Darlene A. Levos
Dear Mr. Callahan: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your forthright input on this issue.
Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Bob Callahan" <bcallahan@neb.rr.com>

THANK YOU!.... to the four of you who had the 'fore'sight to vote for the smoking ban. You have done a great service for the City of Lincoln. To the shortsighted people (bar owners, Cook, McRoy, Newman) who are afraid of the unknown, look at the state of California, and the cities of New York and Boston. Is Lincoln so unusual that it won’t work here????

I for one can now feel free to go to a bar without concern whether it’s too smoky. You have emancipated countless Lincolniters like me, to now go out and socialize freely, taking advantage of a formerly dim, smoky realm once reserved for cigarette smokers and victims of second hand smoke.

I don’t think it’s too farfetched to hope bar owners find a noticeable INCREASE in business as a result of this ban.

THANK YOU!!!
Dear Mr. Oswald: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6666
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Oswald, Stanley" <Stanley.Oswald@molex.com>

Thank you for passing the smoking ban in its original form.
As a citizen and taxpayer, I expect my elected officials to make decisions that benefit the good of the majority of our community, in passing the ordinance you have done just that!

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Stan Oswald
stanley.oswald@molex.com
DO NOT REPLY to this-To: General Council <council@lincoln.ne.gov> InterLinc cc: Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback <none@lincoln.ne.gov>

06/30/2004 09:26 AM

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Alex MachuNazhi
Address: PO Box 94742
City: Lincoln, NE 68509

Phone: 
Fax: 
Email: ujalambda@yahoo.com

Comment or Question:
June 30th, 2004

Dear Council Member Ken Svoboda,

I commend you for your vote and action of enforcing the total no-smoking ban in the City of Lincoln. I favor the no-smoking ban completely and have done so since it became a city debate. I congratulate you for having the stamina and bold courage to lay the issue to final rest.

It is my view that if a metropolitan city like New York City can pass and enforce a no-smoking ban city-wide then Lincoln also is able to pass its own no-smoking city-wide ban also. Thank you and best regards to your future endeavors. - Alex MachuNazhi, Registered Democrat 2004 Senator Mat Connealy for US Congress 2004!
Dear Mr. Stitzman: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Larry Sitzman" <lsitzman@plainspower.com>

"Larry Sitzman"
<lsitzman@plainspower.com>
06/30/2004 10:00 AM

To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
cc: Subject: Smoking ban

Congratulations, you have restored my faith in the council. Up until that amendment and vote we were calling you the City Cowards. It appeared to many of us you were afraid to make a hard decision and stick to it. We will now call you the City Champions, not just because we personally dislike smoking, because you finally made a decision that represented the majority of who you represent. Oh, by the way "we" are many many friends and Lincoln citizens. Council Man Svoboda, run for Mayor or Governor you are a man of decision in the face of hostility.
Dear Mr. Cozine: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. We hope you'll reconsider your position, but we thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Mark Cozine" <mcozine@inebraska.com>

Thanks to Ken Svoboda, Glenn Friendt, Jon Camp, and Terry Werner for doing the right thing for public health. With all we know about the perils of tobacco, this is the right decision.

Thanks,
Mark Cozine
Dear Ms. Meysenburg: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
“Shannon Meysenburg” <smeyenburg@neb.rr.com>

---

Dear Council,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for approving the smoking ban. I was at the meeting a couple of weeks ago with two of my boys so they could get a merit badge for Boy Scouts. I know this was/is a very hard thing to decide, but having Lincoln smoke free is GREAT! My oldest has asthma, therefore when he is around smoke his asthma will flare up and he will be sick for several days, often he will get a secondary infection. This cost us (as non smokers) several sick days as well as the cost of doctors and medicine. We are unable to do things most families can do because of the danger of second hand smoke. Even attending a fair is hard on him, as we walk past several people deciding for us that we would like to inhale their smoke.

As far as businesses are concerned, I personally think that treating all businesses the same will eliminate the fear of competition. (As far as smoking vs. non smoking goes.) I do not see why a person can not or will not go 1-1½ hours without lighting up. Every smoker I know wishes they could stop, but as one put it “it’s so easy to light up every where I go that it makes it hard to quit”.

My neighbor recently died of lung cancer. He was not a smoker, but was around smoke a lot due to work and his social life. It is like the TV commercial where the older gentleman goes on to say that his wife wanted him to stop smoking and he says “I didn’t know the life I would take would not be my own”. Also, I think that if smoking is not as accessible it shows a message to the young people that smoking really isn’t that cool.

Once again, thanks for making this a top priority for the thousands of non smoking families in Lincoln.

Shannon Meysenburg
Dear Ms. Brown: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Hannah Brown" <hanabrown@hotmail.com>

To whomever it may concern:

I would just like to applaud the lincoln city council for the recent ban on smoking. I believe that it is every persons right to decide whether or not they want to smoke but I choose to not, therefore I do not want to be around it. I appreciate your willingness to take this issue seriously. I hope that maybe one congratulation out of many disapprovals will help make your day a little better. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Hannah Brown
Lincoln Resident

MSN Toolbar provides one-click access to Hotmail from any Web page - FREE download! http://toolbar.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200413ave/direct/01/
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Carole Cornelius
Address: 1804 West Koenig St.
City: Grand Island, NE. 68803
Phone: (308) 381-8626
Fax:
Email: cornelius.carole@principal.com

Comment or Question:
To Lincoln City Council Members;
Congratulations on passing the smoking ban in Lincoln. I think this shows
great courage and foresight on your part!

I currently serve on the Grand Island City Council and as you may or may not
be aware, this topic is currently being studied for our city. I’m very
interested in getting feedback from you on some specific items that may help
assist us in our quest for a smoke free city.

1. Will the Nebraska stadium be exempt from the ban? (we have former park
racing track, so I’m interested in seeing how the stadium in Lincoln fits into
the the ordinance).
2. Were local bar and restaurant owners involved in the writing of your
ordinance? Was there any consensus reached on a local level from business
owners before it was voted on by the council?
3. Does the ban only apply to businesses within Lincoln city limits or does it extend to a two mile radius of the city?
4. What was the greatest obstacle (in your opinion) to overcome? How did you
 overcome it?

I appreciate your responses to these questions.

Thank you again for making our "Capital City" smoke free. You’ve raised the
bar and I hope other cities can now move forward and follow suit.

Sincerely,
Carole Cornelius
Grand Island City Council
H (308) 381-8626
W (308) 385-7175
Dear Mr. Luedtke: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

walker luedtke <cornwalker@yahoo.com>

Although some may fight the smoking ban, the people who voted for it need to be praised.

Smoking not only appears to be one of the single worst social habits for the smoker, it also affects and intrudes on the personal space of others.

As a frequent user of restaurants around the city of Lincoln, I applaud your efforts to make myself, my family and my friends environment safer.

If New York can make this work, we surely can.

Attached is a link to a study just published on the danger of secondhand smoke.

http://abcnews.go.com/sections/WNT/MedicineCuttingEdge/secondhand_smoking_040629-1.html

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail is new and improved - Check it out!
http://promotions.yahoo.com/new_mail
Dear Ms. May: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

emily may <emmyann_00@yahoo.com>

emily may <emmyann_00@yahoo.com>
06/30/2004 02:17 PM

06/30/2004 01:35 PM

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

I would like to sincerely thank you for choosing the stricter smoking ban for the city of Lincoln. It will be wonderful to be able to go into an establishment and not have to worry about health reactions due to smoke or having clothes and hair that smell so bad from smoke that you have to take a shower before you can go to bed. Thank you for making these public places a safe and healthy place to enter. I only hope Omaha and the rest of the state will follow your lead and put citizens health rights ahead of smokers rights. Thank you again on behalf of my family and friends who do not want to be exposed to second hand smoke.

Sincerely,
Emily May
UNL student from Omaha

Do you Yahoo!?
New and Improved Yahoo! Mail - Send 10MB messages!
Dear Mr. Read: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Paul Read" <pread@unlnotes.unl.edu>

To: "Paul Read" <pread@unlnotes.unl.edu>
cc: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
Subject: Re: Smoking ban

To all City Council Members - I congratulate you on your courageous vote to eliminate smoking from the workplace. Lincoln will be known as a healthier environment as a result of your action. I’ve always been proud to be known as a Lincolnite, but now I’m even prouder, knowing that it will be an even healthier environment than in the past.

Please continue your efforts to make Lincoln a great place to visit, live and work.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Read
5401 S. 67th Street
Lincoln, NE 68516
Dear Mr. Cummins: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-8868
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
<Jim.Cummins@alltel.com>

<Jim.Cummins@alltel.com>  To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>  cc:  Subject: Smoking Ban

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. The day when I can get to a resturaunt or bar and not come home smelling like an ash tray is finally here. I was beginning to think that day was never going to come. I'm glad somebody has finally decided to stand up against this filthy habit that continues to pollute our air. To those who say this is going to hurt business I say bologna. People will still go out to eat and frequent bars. Lincolnites are not going to all of the sudden decide to start cooking and drinking at home. Please do not back down from this stance. I can't begin to count the number of people I have talked to who have said they would love it if there was less smoking when they went out. You probably won't here from these people. Most likely you will only hear from the ones who are displeased with this decision. Once again, thank you. Jim Cummins.

*************************************************************************
The information contained in this message, including attachments, may contain privileged or confidential information that is intended to be delivered only to the person identified above. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, ALLTEL requests that you immediately notify the sender and asks that you do not read the message or its attachments, and that you delete them without copying or sending them to anyone else.
Dear Ms. Shainost:

Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
"Women's Clinic-Research Dept" <WCOLCR@NEB.RR.COM>

Congratulations on your success in passing the smoking ban in all workplaces. This will help all of us. You have my full support.

Peg Shainost
Dear Ginny: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. We appreciate Mr. Cherners enthusiasm - maybe hes thinking of our spirit of good will when he ranks us as the "largest City in Nebraska". :-) Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

VKFeline@aol.com

Thank you Council Members Svoboda, Werner, Friendt, & Camp. It has always been about public health & legitimate issues of worker safety & health. New York City has seen a net increase in bar & restaurant establishments; tax base is up.

It is essential that this be the law. You have served the public interest by passing a legitimate smoking ban. THANK YOU!

Ginny
814 Lyncrest Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510-4022
402-489-6239
402-730-1951 (cell)
------ Message from "Joe Cherners" <Joe@smokefree.org> on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 12:07:31 -0400 ------

To: "Joe Cherners announce list"<JoeCherner-announce@smokefree.net>
Subject: [JoeCherner-announce]Columbus (OH) and Lincoln (NE) Pass Smokefree Workplace Laws

Columbus (OH) and Lincoln (NE) Pass Smokefree Workplace Laws

The scales of justice are quickly tipping in favor of smokefree workplace legislation. Seven entire states-- CA, DE, NY, CT, ME, MA, and RI -- and hundreds of cities/towns
have adopted comprehensive clean indoor laws entitling workers to a safe, healthy, smokefree workplace.

This week, Columbus (OH) and Lincoln (NE) joined the growing list. In a packed council chambers, the Columbus City Council voted 5-1 to eliminate tobacco smoke pollution from indoor public places and workplaces, including bars, restaurants, bowling alleys and bingo parlors. The Lincoln City Council voted 4-3 in favor of similar legislation. "Miracles do happen," said Lincoln Mayor Coleen Seng, a strong support of clean indoor air.

Columbus is Ohio's largest city and the 15th largest city in the U.S. Lincoln is Nebraska's largest city.

To win smokefree air where YOU live, go to http://www.smokefree.net/alerts.php

Joseph W. Cherner
"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."  Margaret Mead

To unsubscribe vkwfeline@aol.com, send any email to uns-102-192108-@smokefree.net
Dear D. Fazel: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
MK57Free@aol.com

Finally!!!! Council members that represent the silent majority. I approve of the smoking ban. Those who voted for the ban, I hope you stick to your decision to ban smoking in public buildings. Those that did not vote for the ban. Please understand the majority of Lincolnites do not smoke. To businesses that are against the ban, I say look for me to be at your businesses when the smoking ban is implemented. Smokers have rights, but so do non smokers. Non smokers have a right not breath the smoke that smokers exhale. After all isn’t it about providing a healthier environment for employees and the public. Thank you for your hard work.

Dorrance Fazel
Joan V Ray
07/01/2004 10:16 AM
To: <christina@neb.rr.com>
cc: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
Subject: Re: Smoking Ban

Dear Christina: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us
<christina@neb.rr.com>

<christina@neb.rr.com> 07/01/2004 10:17 AM
To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
cc:
Subject: Smoking Ban

I am a waitress at a bar here in Lincoln and cannot express enough how thankful I am about this new ban, I hope that it fully goes through in the next few weeks. I could go on and on about how I feel about smoking, but I will keep this to the point. Thank you so much for saving my life! I cannot wait for November!
Dear Mr. Sunneberg: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@cl.lincoln.ne.us
"Gary Sunneberg" <sunneberg@msn.com>

"Gary Sunneberg" <sunneberg@msn.com> 
To: <council@cl.lincoln.ne.us> 
cc: 
Subject: smoking

06/30/2004 09:30 PM

Yes to no smoking. Thank You now the rest of us don't have to breath that crap when we go out.

Gary Sunneberg Lincoln
DO NOT REPLY to this-
InterLinc
<none@lincoln.ne.gov>

07/01/2004 01:58 PM

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Brad Zumwalt
Address: 7210 Braumfield Circle
City: Lincoln, NE 68516

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
I am very happy with the council’s decision on the smoking ban. It is enlightening to see the council take a stand for such an important health issue. The Miami Herald just released an article on the effect of the Florida smoking ban. I pasted it below in case you have not seen it.

Posted on Thu, Jul. 01, 2004

IMAGES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: As Beverly Tucker Glassberg of Coral Springs dines with friends at the Mama Mia Italian Ristorante in Hollywood, the statewide smoking bans in restaurants and bars turns one year old. J. ALBERT DIAZ/HERALD STAFF

Fear over ban has gone up in smoke

BY ROMINA GARBER
rgarber@herald.com

Today marks the first birthday of the statewide smoking ban in restaurants, and no one - from the restaurants enforcing it to the smokers themselves - is complaining.

'If you’re eating, it bothers everyone, I would think,' Lisa Almanza, who works at The Van Dyke café on Lincoln Road in South Beach, said of the no-longer-welcome cigarette smoke. 'Even when I work the bar, it's so much better at the end of the night not to have your clothes smelling like cigarettes.'

Almanza, herself a smoker, supports the ban, a stance that places her in the same camp as Smoke-Free For Health and other advocacy groups that say it has improved not only the health of patrons and staffers but also the health of Florida’s restaurant business.
Nor has there been any negative impact on the hotel, restaurant or tourism industry, according to a study conducted by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at the University of Florida.

Sales at lunchrooms, restaurants and catering services, the study found, are up 7.37 percent since the ban went into effect, while there has been no significant change in sales at taverns, nightclubs and bars.

And every restaurant contacted by The Herald said the ban had had no adverse affect on business.

Smoking is forbidden in establishments that make at least 10 percent of their revenue from the sale of food. Bars that do not sell food are exempt.

Last year, when the ban went into effect, many restaurant owners and managers feared out loud what it might do to their business. Yaël Esra, general manager of Soyka's Restaurant Cafe and Bar in Miami, worried about losing regulars. She soon realized that the ban was not keeping smokers from taking their meals there.

"It hasn't affected us at all," Esra said. "Smokers still come and go to the outside patio, have a cigarette and come back in.

"Sometimes they go out and just take their cocktail with them," she noted. "They chitchat at the bar, go outside to smoke, come in and eat, then go out and smoke again and so on."

Joe Franco, owner of Hollywood's Mama Mia Italian Ristorante, said his business, too, had remained generally unaffected. The only part that has seen a drop in customers is the bar, he said, but "nothing worth sweating over."

"The biggest effect," he said, "was maybe one group we had who used to come here every Monday night and they chain-smoked like crazy but then one day stopped coming."

Ed Degenhardt, a Fort Lauderdale smoker, now finds himself favoring restaurants that offer outdoor seating.

"I don't mind sitting outside," he said. "It's my choice: I cannot smoke and sit in air conditioning, or I can smoke and sit outside.

"When I sit inside," he added, "I eat, get my check and leave. When I used to smoke [inside], I might order dessert, stay a while, order a drink, etc. Not anymore."

Another change: Smokers no longer tend to be squatters, restaurantese for patrons who stay at the table way after they've finished their meal. Now they tend to finish and immediately head out to light up -- freeing the table for more customers.

"I think the first couple of months that the ban took effect, a lot of our customers were unaware, so there was a two-to-three-month transition period when people wanted to light up and we had to stop them," said Tony Puche, general manager of the Van Dyke.

"But, after that, it just slowly phased away, and now things are fine. I have always preferred people not to smoke."
Dear Ms. Dolan: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Hooray for the city council and your initiative. We need more health conscious representatives in our government like you. Hope it sticks! Nancy Dolan, RN
Dear Mr. Brown: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
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e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"J.R. Brown" <jr@jrbsoft.com>

Innovation in Infrastructure Financing

Or should I say LACK of Innovative ideas. Bond, Bond, Bond... That's all I hear coming from the Streets, Roads, and Trails (SRT) Committee. Not too innovative if you ask me.

On the other hand a very new and innovative idea has come forth; the Worker Tax originally proposed by committee member Carol Brown and later brought to the forefront by citizen demand is largely favored by the public.

Unfortunately, some members of the SRT committee aren't so convinced. The Worker Tax proposal was left off the agenda for the first few citizen meetings on infrastructure finance. If it wasn't for the work of Carol, this innovative idea would not have been brought before the public and if not for the public this proposal would have surely been thrown in the trash can.

I strongly encourage the Citizen's of Lincoln, Mayor, and City Council to take a good look at this proposal and any other innovative ideas without the word 'BOND' in them.

John (J.R.) Brown III
5501 Rockford Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68521
Home - (402) 617-0493
Work - (402) 465-7150
Dear Mr. Ihrig:

Council Members terms are for four years. You can see the election dates and term expirations of each member at the Council's website:
http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/council/members.htm

The process for running for a City Council office is outlined in the Lincoln City Charter which can be accessed at the following website under Article IV - (Sections 1 - 6):

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
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e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

RMIhrig@aol.com

Bob Ihrig

Can you please tell me when everyone's term ends for the City Council. And, what procedures need to be followed to run for the City Council.

Thank you
Dear City Council members,

I would like to start out by saying that I do not have an issue with the smoking ban. I understand the argument and can see the concerns of those who pushed for the smoking ban. This spring when you passed the partial ban, I felt that it was only a matter of time before the City Council passed a full ban on smoking in public places.

My problem with the decision last night was how it seemed to come out of nowhere. While bars and restaurants seemed to have agreed to the partial ban and were making sure that they would be in full compliance, it seems that there were people at the City-County building who were working hard to undermine the public’s confidence in their elected officials.

Today in a time of uncertainty on the national political scene, where the country couldn’t be more divided on political candidates, it takes a lot of guts to go behind the backs of the citizens of Lincoln. The fact that no one knew that the City Council was even considering this ban says a lot about the character of every single member of the Council.

I am 24 years old and have never been more ashamed to say that I live in Lincoln, or that I grew up in Lincoln. My question to all of you is what made you think that you had to hide an issue like this from the public? We are talking about a smoking ban! What happens when some people don't agree with you on the important issues?

I hope that in the future when you think about hiding from the public, you remember that great leaders make tough decisions in tough times and they do it in front of the whole world to see.
I would appreciate a response to one question, why did you have to hide this vote from the public?

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Dan Dutton
Resident and Voter in the City of Lincoln
Dear Mr. Burkey: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray  
City Council Office  
555 South 10th Street  
Lincoln, NE - 68508  
Phone: 402-441-6886  
Fax: 402-441-6533  
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Josh Burkey" <jooshyb@hotmail.com>

I know this will reach many deaf ears, since the council doesn't really have the average citizens best interests at heart. It disgusts me to think that the council settled on a decision, just because they were sick of arguing about it. That's your whole purpose is to argue things until you reach a favorable outcome for the CITY not for your individual needs. Our city is in an already dire financial situation. Banning smoking is going to be even more detrimental to that. It will force many businesses to close because of a lack of revenue. We already know what happens when businesses close, it means less money for the city. But I'm sure you guys will find some sort of new tax to levy against us citizens to offset that loss of revenue. God knows we already are one of the highest taxed states in the country, what's a few more? Somewhere you have to stop and realize that the average citizen isn't a dumb arrogant person anymore, that needs to be told what to do on a continual basis. We are adults, we make adult decisions everyday. It seems pretty archaic to me that you believe we have to be lead around on a leash, and don't have the free will to act on our own. I don't like watching basketball, so I don't go see Nebraska play basketball. Why is it hard to understand that if you don't like smoking, don't go to a bar. The majority of restaurants already don't allow smoking. There are bars that don't allow smoking. For god sake you don't even allow a privately owned business create a room designed for smoking so that they can stay in business. Why don't you try passing some laws that give us free people freedoms, instead of trying to control every aspect of our life.

Held captive,  
Josh Burkey  
jooshyb@hotmail.com

From 'will you?' to 'I do,' MSN Life Events is your resource for Getting Married.
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name:       Steven E Weaver
Address:    4801 S 52nd St
City:       Lincoln, NE 68516
Phone:      (402) 486-4671
Fax:        sweaver@mbuna.net

Comment or Question:
The way you guys railroaded in the new all-out smoking ban was simply abhorrent. Regardless of my feelings on the issue, you have a responsibility to the people of this city to represent them. Your actions have shown that you don't give any consideration to the thoughts and feelings of your constituents when you have your own agenda to push.

You should be thoroughly ashamed of yourselves.
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Matthew D. Will
Address: 8101 Mathew Pl.
City: Lincoln, NE 68516
Phone: (402)327-9843
Fax:
Email: jenniferwill@msn.com

Comment or Question:
I heard the news today about the all out smoking ban you voted on and I have some questions, comments and observations for you. First, since this was brought forward under the guise of a public health issue, a few things can be inferred from it. For instance, the LLCHD wanted this because it was causing lung cancer, emphysema, and a myriad of other diseases in the non-smoking public, which is admirable, but, smoking is the only thing they were trying to ban. So it is safe to say that since it was for public health, and second-hand smoke causes these diseases, and now smoking is banned, so there should no longer be any of those diseases in non-smokers. Also, if these diseases keep showing up in non-smokers, then that would mean there are other things out there that cause them besides smoke, which is why the W.H.O. said there was not enough information to claim that second-hand smoke causes any of those ailments. Too many things out there that spew carcinogens into the air. But the LLCHD took a political hot-button and ran with it. Second, this should now lower the cigarette tax because there will be lower health care costs for these diseases. The only people who should be getting them now are the smokers, so it will take less money to cover the medical costs, and those savings should be passed on to the smokers. Also, there should be a mountain of savings in court costs, since non-smokers will now have no reason to sue tobacco companies. Third, since smoking is now not allowed in public places, the monies generated from cigarettes should therefore not be used to fund public things. Otherwise it is sending a very hypocritical statement. Fourth, I keep hearing that people want a non-smoking bar, well there is one in Lincoln, and if there was such a demand for it, why isn’t it packed to the rafters every night? Fifth, I could understand a ban in restaurants, like movie theaters you’re only there for a couple of hours, but bars and bowling alleys? Something that can be inferred from that is the LLCHD says it’s OK to destroy your liver and then drive home and possibly kill someone else, as long as you don’t smoke. Sixth, I also heard that 80% of Lincoln wanted this, well everything I’ve seen, heard, or read, says it wasn’t exactly a scientific poll. Be that as it may, why not put this on a ballot and see how the population votes, then you’ll know exactly how the public feels. Another thing I gleaned from the public testimony was that there were as many for this ban as against it, but if 80% of the population wanted it, there should have been a lot more people there against it than for it, and from what I saw it was about 50-50. Seventh, during the 2 days of public testimony way back when, I kept hearing about how non-smokers had to work in smoky places, because they couldn’t make a living somewhere else. Well there are a lot of dangerous jobs out there that people do every day, and they couldn’t make a living at something else. For example, I am a refuse hauler, I breathe in God
only knows what on a daily basis. But I see no legislation making people put things like drywall dust, saw dust, fiberglass, dryer lint into bags to lower the risk of that going into my lungs. (I listed those because those are the ones I can tell what they are, there's more I have no clue about). In closing, this may be a health issue, and I don't fault the LLCHD for that, but why only cigarettes? Why not liquor also? Why not unhealthy foods? If it is truly about public health, they should go after everything, not just something that has been demonized over the last few years, where they know they will get a good portion of the public to support them. This is just a very narrow ban, on a section of the population that pays more taxes than anyone else for the most part, and who gets the state budget balanced on their backs.
Dear Mr. Harrison:

Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"David Harrison" <whitarknight_44@msn.com>

---

"David Harrison" <whitarknight_44@msn.com>

To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
cc: 
Subject: Smoking Ban

06/29/2004 04:40 PM

I am a veteran who fought for freedom, and now once again I see a city government take more of those freedoms away, even taking away choice. I am sure that you have heard all the arguments so I will not bore you with more. But what I can tell you is that even though I do not live in Lincoln, I come to Lincoln several times a month to eat dinner out. I shall no longer do this since your vote. And no I am not a smoker, I quit a year ago. My stand is about freedom of choice.

Thank you,

David Harrison
Dear Mr. Fisher: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. We hope you'll reconsider your position, but we thank you for your input on this issue.
Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Dan Fisher" <OregonTraillInsurance@alltel.net>

06/30/2004 08:42 AM
Please respond to "Dan Fisher"

To: <council@ci.lincoln.ne.us>, <info@kolnkgin.com>,
<mayor@ci.lincoln.ne.us>,
<friend@ci.lincoln.ne.us>, <ksvoboda@ci.lincoln.ne.us>,
<twerner@ci.lincoln.ne.us>, <amcroy@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
<jcook@ci.lincoln.ne.us>, <jcamp@ci.lincoln.ne.us>,
<pnewman@ci.lincoln.ne.us>
Subject: smoking ban in Lincoln

I for one will not be taking my family to Lincoln to shop or eat... And we use to do that fairly often. Lincoln is where we buy our major appliances, home improvement supplies, most of our big ticket items, office supplies and get most of our entertainment. But with the ban on smoking the city council is telling me that they don't want smokers (and x-smokers) in their town. We will not be going to Big Red Football, the state fair (which a messed up deal anyway!!!) or all those other things we use to do in Lincoln. I will try to go to business classes in GI or Kearney if possible and will even go to Iowa if need be. I will make every effort to not do ANY business in Lincoln!!!

I stopped smoking back in Nov. because of all the taxes the state of Ne. imposed. I encourage others to buy tobacco products over the internet or in a different state where they are MUCH CHEAPER and where the greedy Nebraska politicians don't get any tax dollars from. I still smoke a cigar on special occasion but the state of Ne does not make ANY money off of my smoking!

I feel that if an individual wants to smoke then they should be able to do so. If a business wants to allow smoking in their business then they (the owners) should be able to do so, it is their business not Lincoln City council or any government
offices. Patrons as well as employees should be aware that it is a smoking establishment and they can decide if they want to patronize the business or if they want to work else where.

I strongly feel that the city council of Lincoln has over stepped their boundaries and authority, and if there is any law suit against those members I for one will be very willing to get involved in that law suit!!

Dan J. Fisher Agent
Oregon Trail Insurance
PO Box 473
Edgar, NE. 68935
Phone: 402-224-4795
Fax: 402-224-3253

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InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Pat Vendetti
Address: 346 North 30th Street
City: Lincoln, NE, 68503
Phone: (402) 416-5656
Fax:
Email: PMVendetti@hotmail.com

Comment or Question:
This is in reference to your newly created total smoking ban. Why do you feel it is your right to dictate where people can and can not smoke. Instead of spending lots of time and money enforcing laws that invade my freedom of choice, why don't you use that same money as incentives for business people to open or create smoke free establishments. This would eliminate the cost of enforcing, what should be an unconstitutional law, and would allow the citizens of Lincoln the option to go to a smoking or non smoking establishment.

Thanks,

Pat Vendetti
Dear Mr. Heim: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Rmheime12@aol.com

Rmheim12@aol.com
06/30/2004 01:37 PM
To: council@ci.lincoln.ne.us
cc: Smoking Ban
Subject: Smoking Ban

Attention council members,
I do not smoke in restaurants or bars, and seldom go to bars. **I feel strongly that people who go to bars should be allowed to smoke as that is the reason that they go there along with drinking. The workers in bars that the Health Dept. is claiming to protect will be without a job in three months.** Check with Tempe, AZ that instituted a similar ban and see how many bars closed their doors due to lack of business. The various surveys that you use to justify such drastic action are a farce because the people who congratulate you on this action never go to a bar and they don't smoke, of course. **A valid survey would be one in which you survey persons that go to bars**

Rodney M. Heim
7208 Carmen Dr.
rmheim12@aol.com.
DO NOT REPLY to this-
InterLinc
<none@lincoln.ne.gov>

To: General Council <council@lincoln.ne.gov>
CC: Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

06/30/2004 02:27 PM

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Karen Kersten
Address: 4912 NW 2nd Street
City: Lincoln, NE 68521

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
I am greatly disturbed by the recent passage of the smoking ban in Lincoln.
Although the way it was done was completely inappropriate, I will not get into
that issue and will rely on the voters in Lincoln to respond to it accordingly
in the next election.

I would however like to point out that those of you who voted for the ban
should brush up on the law and quit abusing your power as elected officials.
Since when does a free society need regulations limiting legal activity on
private property. Just because a business is open to the public doesn’t mean
it is a publicly owned space. Do not presume that we the people cannot decide
for ourselves where we are comfortable working and frequenting as customers.
In a free society where government is supposed to be limited and respect
personal and private rights there is no need to interfere unless there is a
problem for which the people cannot themselves rectify. This is not the case,
the citizens of Lincoln can choose where to work and what businesses to
frequent.

So bravo to those of you who didn’t vote for the ban. You get it. Freedom of
choice as a citizen and private property owner is respected.

To the rest of you, maybe you are fighting the wrong battle. If smoking is
such a concern, try to get smoking made illegal. If it is truly that harmful
it should be made illegal like other substances and you won’t have to worry
about banning it and infringing on anyone’s rights. Of course government would
have to make do without the tobacco tax revenue but you can always raise
property taxes.

Maybe you like being told what you can and can’t do on your property but I do
not! I do not allow smoking in my house and if someone wants to smoke in my
home they cannot. If they don’t like it they don’t have to come over. It is as
simple as that—I don’t need the government to tell me what common sense
dictates!

http://www.professorbainbridge.com/2003/10/smoking_bans_co.html

http://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/article.php/423.html
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: j cohen
Address: 4431 Holdrege Street
City: Lincoln, NE 68503

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
To the four council members and mayor seng:

How convenient...a vote no one was made aware of...What right do you have
telling smokers they cannot indulge anywhere in Lincoln. I think there are
more pressing matters for you consider. How about the lousy streets for
one...I find the fact that restaurant/bar owners who had already invested
time, efforts not to mention money in an effort to comply with the 60%
regulations already voted on and passed by you have been * stabbed in the back
* by your basically secret vote for a total smoking ban...My suggestion to
them is to sue the city for their losses...Given the fact that as a tax paying
American citizen and a Nebraska resident I find 4 people deciding for me where
I can and cannot smoke is disgusting...I will not vote for any of you,
including mayor seng, in any future election...in fact if any of you were
running for dog catcher I would vote for the dog...Further more I will
immediately stop patronizing any Lincoln restauruant/bar...I wonder what your
response will be when businesses close because of this regulation. 4 medicore
city council members do not speak for me...I'm off to Omaha or wherever to
spend my money in a place I can have a smoke with my drink...Keep it up and I
think many people will do the same.

Sincerely

j Cohen
drink...
Dear Mr. Kaczmarczyk:

Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

"Michael Kaczmarczyk" <mkaczmarczyk@neb.rr.com>

---

"Michael Kaczmarczyk" <mkaczmarczyk@neb.rr.com>

To: <Council@ci.Lincoln.ne.us> cc: <morningshowmail@aol.com>
Subject: Smoking Ban-You lost my vote

06/30/2004 09:13 PM

Dear Council Members,

The recent smoking ban you passed (in the midnight hour) shows you do not represent the people that elected you.

You have lost all credibility with me and anyone I can influence. More importantly, you have lost my vote.

To show my disgust, I feel it is my duty to do what I can to have you thrown out of office. I can only hope your future business ventures will suffer as much as the businesses you just railroaded with this smoking ban.

A Lincoln Voter,
Mike Kaczmarczyk

P.S. Please ban automobiles in Lincoln, I am pretty sure the exhaust they produce cause numerous health problems!
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Jackie Rea
Address: 2701 north 70th st. Apt B43
City: Lincoln, NE 68507

Phone: 465-0158 home / 328-7038 work
Fax:
Email: jacs534@cs.com

Comment or Question:
The think the way you handle this smoking ban is horrible!!! I am not a smoker, but taking rights away from some to please others is wrong. And the way you passed this is extremely wrong. I hope - people remember this every time they vote. It is time people stop letting Government decide what is best for them. At some point parents even have to let their children grow up and make their own decisions in life. If I do not want to be around smokers, I certainly know where not to go. No body forces people to go to the places that allow smoking. And no body forces people to work in these places. The choice is theirs!!!!!!!! And now - that we have this self-righteous ordinance, surely you do not expect the non-smokers will be spending more time in these places??? It does not have anything to do with smokers and non-smokers; it has to do with my rights are more important than your rights. I understand keeping children out of smoking places. But then again - That should be the parents responsibility - not yours!!!!!!!!!!! The government is not the parent of the people to decide what is right for us and what is not!!!!!!!!!!! This ordinance was design to put some people rights above others and this was not what government was meant to do. Government was design to make laws for all people. Not just the self-righteous, who think they know what is best for everyone. I think - it is time that the people remind our Government what their responsibilities are and what our rights are. As I said before - I hope - we all remember the horrible way this ordinance was handled and passed, every time we vote!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Clinton D Dyer
Address: 540 W Carrine Dr
City: Lincoln, NE, 68521
Phone: 402-476-5790
Fax:
Email: cdyer1@neb.rr.com

Comment or Question:
Just want to let you know that I'm disappointed in the smoking ban. I enjoy going home not smelling like smoke like most people, but I believe that you are killing the spirit of Capitalism. The market could have fixed this. Thank you.
Dear J. Zoucha: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. Thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-6866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@cl.lincoln.ne.us

"Jaime Zoucha" <jaimemichaela@hotmail.com>

I had to email my opinion on the smoking ban. How is it that you think you should have control over who smokes where? It's one thing to smoke in any bldg, any where you want, but when there are designated areas that are away from non-smokers, it's one's own prerogative if they want to pollute their own lungs. No one forces cigs down anyones throats, no one forces non-smokers to even be around smokers.

Also, being an tax-paying resident of Lincoln, I don't appreciate the fact that you didn't have a public hearing over the issue. After all, it only concerns the other 230,000+ residents of Lincoln; yet 7 people feel that they can just make any decision they want and we're all going to just say, 'ok, whatever you say.' I don't pay taxes to have other people make decisions regarding things that affect me! Should there have been a hearing or a city vote, and smoking was still banned, that would've been different, atleast it would've been a composite result.

Good to know that the city council cares about what the Lincoln residents have to say. (Please take not of the sarcasm.)

Please pass this on to the other city council members, as I didn't have their email addresses. Thanks.

Jaime Zoucha
MSN 9 Dial-up Internet Access helps fight spam and pop-ups – now 2 months FREE!
Dear Mr. Oenbrinck: Your message has been received in the Council Office and will be forwarded to the Council Members for their consideration. We hope you'll reconsider your position, but we thank you for your input on this issue.

Joan V. Ray
City Council Office
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE - 68508
Phone: 402-441-8866
Fax: 402-441-6533
e-mail: jray@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Dave O <daoco@yahoo.com>

Please make this available as citizen comment at the next council meeting

I’m writing to express my very strong opposition to the holding of a special election for the purpose of voting on a bond issue. There is no credible fiscally sound reason to hold a special election less than two months prior to a Presidential general election.

Special elections always have very poor turnout whereas a Presidential election has the highest. A much broader cross section of voters will be available to decide the bond issue in November.

The reason offered up by the Mayor, that the issue “will be lost in the clutter” is about the lamest thing I’ve heard out of this administration and that’s saying a lot. Do you believe the citizens of Lincoln are too stupid to comprehend a bond issue in the midst of the other items on the ballot? Besides the extra two months will provide more time for us “ignorant voters” to get a clue.

Floating a 75 million dollar bond issue on a special election less than two months before the general is not only a waste of money it’s sneaky, devious and downright dishonest. In short something, I would have expected out of the prior administration.

This, from an administration that can’t pay $32,000 to insure the safety of our Vice President, but thinks nothing of wasting $35,000 on an unnecessary special election.

David Oenbrinck
2630 S 13th
Lincoln, NE 68502
Hello,

I am corresponding with you in advance of a phone call that you will receive from Priscilla Rivera and Raymond Strozier. It appears that housing approved of a place for them to live, inspected it and then allowed them to move in. Shortly therefore, they were informed that they had to move because housing didn't approve of the landlord. Both Rivera and Strozier were confused, wondering why they had not been informed of a problem with the landlord before they were told that they could move in. Now, because of housing's mistake, River and Strozier have to move again. They have no money to move and no money for another rental deposit. Housing Authority reps agreed to help with the new deposit and help with moving, but somehow, somewhere, something changed and the offer has been withdrawn.

You will get a call real soon. Just wanted to give you a heads up.

John Leonard Harris, President
Encouragement Unlimited, Inc.

"You don't have anything if you don't have hope."
Please reconsider the smoking ban.

It was unfair the way it went down, I am a voter. Michael Goldman

Please reconsider your vote on the non-smoking issue, it will hurt bartender-owners.

Vince Smith

Reconsider the smoking ban, I vote!

Vance Stone
Please reconsider your vote on the no smoking band.

Lawrence Resnick
1919 Reseda

Please reconsider your vote on the non-smoking issue.

Danelle Damian
Please address the smoking ban - it was done with out any input (other than 46). How will this be enforced? I am who pays for violations? I am a voter. Stephanie. 2543 B 6882

Please make your decision on the smoking ban based on facts. Reconsider your vote.

Robert Johnson

Ps I vote

THIS "NON" SMOKING ISSUE NEEDS TO BE RECONSIDERED
Dear Mr. Wernars,

Thank you for making Lincoln a healthier place to live. I would like to extend my gratitude to you for your work on getting a 100% smoking ordinance. I just wanted to express my gratitude to you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

[Name]
Terry,

Thank you for your "yes" vote on strengthening the city smoking ordinance. Your courage and willingness to place the public's health above economic concerns will improve the quality of life for all people in Lincoln.

Thank you too for your integrity and commitment to justice - not only on city issues - but all issues that affect human rights and peace. I admire your willingness to speak out when most remain silent, and for showing up when most remain home.

You are an honorable man.

Kate Allen
Dear Terry,

You did it! What a great achievement. I really appreciate your hard work and dedication in making Lincoln 100% smoke free. It feels a little like the 1980 Olympic Hockey Team. Thanks again.

Dave Holmgren

5700 Franklin Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
Dear Councilman Werner,

Thank you for your efforts in supporting a smoke-free Lincoln!

RECEIVED
JUL 01 2004
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

[Signature]
Thank you for making the healthy change. About this much needed change. People smoke, I am excited not come out speaking of other non-smokers or bars in Lincoln. Your message to be smoke to go to a regular citizen, I see that could be a healthier community. As a step this is towards recognize what a huge I work in public health and I smoke free workplaces ordinance. Thank you for voting for the 100.

Thank you.
Dear Mr. Werner,

Thank you for making Lincoln a healthier, cleaner place to live and work! I applaud the City Council's decision!

Brenda Wagoner
Dear Mr. Werner,

Thank you, thank you, for your decision to make Lincoln a healthier place to be with smokefree workplaces. What a wonderful example you've set for the rest of the state. It is people like you who are helping us win the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,
Leslie Jones
American Cancer Society
Public Relations Specialist
Councilman Werner,

Thank you!

for voting in favor of the
100% smoking ban
for Lincoln.

I appreciate your support of a
Clean, Safe,
Smoke Free
Capital City!

With appreciation,

Kathy Burkland

RECEIVED

JUL 01 2004

1700 40 H St

Raymond, NE

(801)78-5224
Thank you for the smoking ban! In the last few weeks we have left the Zoo Bar, Heidelberg's and Libations due to the smoke. After Nov 1 we'll be able to enjoy the Lincoln nightlife!

Thanks again,
Dear Jenny,

Thank you for voting for smoking ban.

I just came back from Oklahoma to visit my 68 year old niece who was having her third lung cancer surgery. She was a smoker for over 50 yrs.

I do not understand the reasoning of McKinley, Newman & Cook.

Thanks again.

Lela Shanks
Hard Evidence
Study: Secondhand Smoke Is Much More Dangerous Than First Thought

June 29, 2004 — The harmful effects of secondhand smoke may be much greater than previously thought, according to a new study released today. The research, published in the British Medical Journal, suggests that inhaling someone else's tobacco smoke may increase your risk of heart disease by up to 60 percent.

Some U.S. cities have banned smoking in bars and restaurants. But in most of the country, it's still legal.

Many communities insist there's not enough evidence that breathing in someone else's smoke does any harm, though this study is likely to change that.

"For the first time, we have hard evidence, physical evidence, of secondhand smoking getting into the bodies of nonsmokers and putting their health at risk," said Dr. Michael Fiore, professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

"The important thing for the public is to get across the message that passive smoking really is a health hazard," said study author Martin Jarvis, a professor of epidemiology and public health at University College London in England.

"The scientific evidence is strong. The notion that it is still a 'controversy' is put about by the tobacco industry and its defenders in the face of clear evidence," he added.

The study followed more than 2,000 nonsmokers for 20 years.

Instead of simply asking study participants how much secondhand smoke they were exposed to both at home and at work, this study measured how much smoke they were actually breathing.

Researchers checked their blood for levels of cotinine, a byproduct of nicotine found only in tobacco smoke.

"What they found is that those individuals who had cotinine in their blood stream, but who were not smokers, had a much greater risk of heart attacks," Fiore said.

Responsible for 80,000 Heart Attacks

They discovered nonsmokers exposed to secondhand smoke had up to a 60 percent greater risk of heart attacks — twice as much as previous studies had reported. It suggests secondhand smoke may be responsible for up to 80,000 heart attacks each year in the United States.

Another surprise from this study: You don't have to inhale much secondhand smoke to start experiencing the harmful effects on the heart, blood and blood vessels.

"Those heart attacks occur with low levels of exposure and they occur very soon after people get exposed," said Stanton Glantz of the University of California at San Francisco, one of the country's leading researchers on the effects of tobacco.

Glantz said the study should come as a wake-up call to many communities.

"In the past I had thought you had to get a lot of secondhand smoke. You had to be hanging out in a bar," he said. "And what this is showing is that just about any exposure you get is causing substantial increase in risk."
In short, Glantz said, just being near someone smoking a few cigarettes a day is almost like being a light smoker yourself. Secondhand tobacco smoke exposure can give you almost the same risk of a heart attack as if you smoked one to nine cigarettes a day.

**Communities Reduce Smoking, Reap Benefits**

Recent research has shown communities can reap immediate benefits from efforts to reduce smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke.

Another report published in the *British Medical Journal* showed heart attack rates dropped by 40 percent in Helena, Mont., after a smoke-free workplace law took effect in that city, said Andrew Hyland, an associate at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y. “Rates increased back to pre-law levels when the regulation was rescinded,” he said.

“Some of our most recent work shows that the level of indoor air pollution, a surrogate measure of secondhand smoke exposure, is about 85 percent lower in bars and restaurants that are required to be smoke-free by law compared to similar places where smoking is not restricted,” he added.

Hyland conducted a study of air quality in seven major U.S. cities and found that New York bars had the cleanest air. New York City bars have been smoke-free since 2003.

In contrast, Hyland said, "The air quality in Washington, D.C., bars and restaurants, where smoking is permitted without restriction, ranked last with levels of pollution nearly 16 times greater than in New York City."

Hyland hopes the new data showing the risk of heart attack almost doubled by exposure to secondhand smoke encourages more communities to follow New York’s lead.

*ABC News’ John McKenzie and Joanna Schaffhausen contributed to this report.*

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ED A. SCHNEIDER, O.D.
TED R. VORHIES, O.D.
MARK A. ARNESON, O.D.
BRENT E. PARSONS, O.D.
Doctors of Optometry
LINCOLN VISION CLINIC P.C.
651 N. 66TH, SUITE 300
P.O. BOX 5304
LINCOLN, NE 68505

Terry Wagner
June 30, 2004

City Council
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Re:  
Cardinal Heights Second Addition Annexation and Zoning Agreement
Resolution No. 04R-143

Dear Council Members:

I want to thank all of you for the extended time and courtesy you extended in connection with the above matter in an effort to fully understand and determine the merits of my client’s request that one-half of the cost of paving NW 56th Street be treated as a credit toward Hartland Homes arterial impact fee obligations for the Cardinal Heights Second development.

I am enclosing a copy of the email I received from the City Attorney’s Office along with paragraph 3.E. of the draft Agreement. This is the language in the Annexation Agreement that would implement my client’s request. I have hand-written in the amount of $200,000 as the current total estimated cost of the NW 56th Street paving. As I indicated to you at the hearing, I have advised the City Attorney’s Office that their proposed language was satisfactory. I had assumed it would be included in your packet of information. I believe the language drafted by the City Attorney is easily understood and clearly limits the City’s obligation to exactly what my client has requested.

Should any of you have any questions prior to taking action on this matter on July 12, please do not hesitate to call either myself or Mr. Hartman.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Katt
For the Firm
lawkatt@pierson-law.com

PWK:sb
Enclosure
cc:  Rick Peo
     Duane Hartman

Pierson, Fitchett, Hunzeker, Blake & Katt
Please find attached another version of the Cardinal Heights 2nd Addition Conditional Annexation and Zoning Agreement which would be approved by the City Council in the event the Council agrees that your pavement of N.W. 56th Street qualifies you to treat one-half of the actual costs of said construction as a portion of your arterial street impact fee facility contribution.

The language granting that contribution has been incorporated into paragraph 3E. This language is slightly different from the language you proposed.

Please review the same and let me know whether or not it is satisfactory language. Please also provide me with the total estimated cost to construct N.W. 56th Street adjacent to the property as that amount is presently left blank.

Please be advised that the City is still opposed to treating the pavement of N.W. 56th Street as an arterial street impact fee facility contribution.

Rick Peo
Chief Assistant City Attorney
575 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
441-7264
to the City’s Neighborhood Park and Trail Impact Fee Facilities attributable to the proposed development of the Property.

E. Arterial Street Impact Fee Facility Contribution. Owner agrees to contribute $88,576.00 toward the cost of making Impact Fee Facility Improvements to the City’s Arterial Street Impact Fee Facilities attributable to the proposed development of the Property. However, the City understands and acknowledges that Owner is constructing by executive order construction N.W. 56th Street adjacent to the Property ("Street"). The Street is an Arterial Street Impact Fee Facility. The total estimated cost to construct the Street adjacent to the Property is $200,000. The City and Owner agree that one-half of the total actual cost to construct the Street qualifies as Arterial Street Impact Fee Facility Improvement Contribution and is hereafter referred to as the "Street Contribution". The City agrees to apply the amount of the Street Contribution (except for the City’s fixed fee for engineering services) toward satisfaction of Owners’ Arterial Street Impact Fee Facility Contribution provided above in this paragraph. In addition, in the event that the Impact Fee Ordinance is finally determined to be valid and enforceable, the City agrees to pay Owner back for making said Street Contribution subject to the following conditions: (1) the reimbursement shall be repaid from arterial street impact fees collected from the same benefit district the Property is located in; (2) in no event shall reimbursement exceed the impact fees that would otherwise be due for the entire development of the Property; (3) Owner shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of Street Contribution in excess of impact fees actually received from development of the Property; (4) any reimbursement to be paid from the impact fee shall not constitute a general obligation or debt of the City; and (5) no reimbursement shall be made prior to and unless the Impact Fee Ordinance is finally determined to be valid and enforceable.

The Contributions for the above-described Impact Fee Facility Improvements reflect the amounts attributable to 100% development of the proposed development of the Property in 2004 based upon the 2004 Impact Fee Schedules for said Impact Fee Facilities.

4. Future Cost Responsibilities. Owner understands and acknowledges that it is the City’s position that the Impact Fee Facility Contributions by Owner under paragraph 3 of
JUNE 30, 2004

LINCOLN CITY COUNCIL
555 S. 10TH ST.
LINCOLN NE 68508

RE: TOTAL SMOKING BAN

DEAR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

I applaud your decision of a total smoking ban. First hand & second hand smoke are known killers.

My mother is 76 yrs. old & she started smoking when she was fifteen. She quit smoking approx. 10 yrs. ago. However, it wasn't quite soon enough. She is now battling lung cancer. They found a tumor in her right lung in April, 2004.

She underwent major surgery 6 weeks ago in an attempt to remove the tumor. However, it was unsuccessful due to the fact that the tumor had spread to her pulmonary artery & the sack surrounding her heart & they would have had to remove her entire right lung. However, due to her age, this wasn't an option. The surgeon said the tumor had been there for several years but because of its position was never large enough to show up on an x-ray or one of the numerous scans they have done over the years until now.

Now she is faced with months of radiation & chemotherapy treatments, loss of her hair, loss of her quality of life, risk of serious illness, & any number of complications that may arise from the treatments. Eventually, she will die from it. Lung cancer patients typically survive 1 to 1 ½ yrs. after diagnosis.

Since we grew up around her smoking, my sisters & I now may face the same fate. If your action prevents even 1 death, it was well worth it!

SINCERELY,

TERESA J. MEIER
June 28, 2004

Mr. Don Taute  
Personnel Director  
City of Lincoln  
555 So. 10th  
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Don:

I am in receipt of your June 23, 2004 letter regarding the City's last best offer. As required, I will take it to my membership for a vote. I wanted to let you know, however, how disappointed our negotiating team is with the negotiation process this year. As you know, we met only five times and there was essentially no negotiation due to the fact that the City was unable to proceed without retreating to the council each week.

As you know, the City never did alter their position for wages in the first year of the contract. You rearranged the way you would pay the money but did not alter the amount. We tried to accommodate you by agreeing to your 2¼ figure for that year but, we could not reach an agreement with regard to the next two years. We are asking for a total of only 1% more than you offered spread over the final two years of the contract. You state that the council would not allow you to agree to the additional 1% in wages.

This is very disheartening given the fact that we are working with an extremely low officer per thousand ratio. Furthermore, we are structured so that our sergeants function in a manner that would be considered lieutenants in other departments. Our officers do more investigative work than any department to which we compare. It is unfortunate that the City refuses to pay comparable wages for the work we do.

Finally, we agreed to hold some matters in abeyance until we reached an agreement. Since we have not reached an agreement, those matters are still on the table and unresolved. First and foremost in that list is the issue of reinstating the rank of lieutenant. We cannot finalize the contract and vote on all issues until we further negotiate the matters that were held in abeyance.

As I stated earlier, I will take your last best offer to my membership and respond to you after our next meeting. The matters that have not yet been discussed at negotiations are still on the table in our opinion.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Edmund Sheridan  
President of Lincoln Police Union
cc: Terry Werner, Chair
     Ken Svoboda, Vice-Chair
     Jon Camp
     Glenn Friendt
     Annette McRoy
     Jonathan Cook
     Patte Newman