DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005 - 11:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MAYOR


II. DIRECTORS

HEALTH

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Events Scheduled For Women’s Health Month - (See Release)

PLANNING

1. Letter from Jean Walker to Jason Thiellen, Engineering Design Consultants - RE: Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 05012, Annexation No. 05005, and Change of Zone No. 05020, Prairie Village North Planned Unit Development -84th & Adams Street - (See Letter)

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

1. Public Works & Utilities ADVISORY - RE: Alley Paving District No. 362-Project #554362-Alley between 48th & 49th Streets; Lowell-Meredeth -(See Advisory)

2. E-Mail & Response Letter from Randy Hoskins to Anne Marie Furasek - RE: Traffic at the intersection of 84th & Lexington -(See Material)

WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY


WOMEN’S COMMISSION

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Tabitha Honored For Establishing Lactation Room-(See Release)

III. CITY CLERK

IV. COUNCIL

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

JON CAMP

1. E-Mail from Paul Johnson to Jon Camp - RE: Downtown Hotel -(See E-Mail)

ANNETTE McROY

1. Request to Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director - RE: Skateboard Park in NW Lincoln - (RFI#165 - 5/05/05)

TERRY WERNER

1. Request to Personnel Department - RE: ‘M’ class employees - (RFI#143 - 5/02/05)

V. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Letter & Material from Russell Raybould, CEO, B&R Stores, Inc. - RE: Comments concerning “big box” style retail stores such as Wal-Mart - (See Material)

2. E-Mail from Dennis Mathias - RE: Trying to track down a mailing we received last week supposedly from an animal organization (Friends of Lincoln’s Cats and Dogs) - (See E-Mail)

3. E-Mail from John Baete - RE: Mr. Friendt’s negative attitude he shows during the election campaign -(Council received their copies of this E-Mail on 5/02/05)(See E-Mail)

4. E-Mail from Diane Kimble - RE: Extending the $5.00 bus passports -(See E-Mail)
5. E-Mail from Becky Carter - RE: Support for North Hills Comp. Plan Amendment #05005 -(See E-Mail)

6. E-Mail from Michael Schlautman - RE: Can the condition of the sidewalks in Lincoln be given better attention? - (See E-Mail)

7. E-Mail from Carol Brown - RE: Support for North Hills Comprehensive Plan Amendment #05005 -(See E-Mail)

8. E-Mail from Dave Marreel - RE: Support for North Hills Comp Plan Amendment #05005 - (See E-Mail)

9. Note Card from Ruth Mussmann - RE: Continue to pray you will not permit a Wal-Mart at 84th & Adams - I prefer the business of Havelock - (See Note Card)

10. Letter from Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) - RE: Believes that the new Lodging Tax funds will play an important role in the development of Lincoln’s future if used correctly -(See Letter)

11. E-Mail from Ryan Simpson - RE: I’m really not sure why so many people that get elected into office say that they are helping our City. -(See E-Mail)

12. E-Mail - RE: I now know the meaning of the phrase “Dirty Politics”!! - (See E-Mail)

13. 2 -E-Mail’s from Sharyn Marreel; & Stephanie Marreel - RE: Support for North Hills Comp Plan Amendment #05005 -(See E-Mail’s)

14. E-Mail - RE: Please vote “FOR” Prairie Lake Shopping Center Movie Complex -(See E-Mail)

15. E-Mail - RE: Children riding with drunk drivers from Lincoln Bars!! - (See E-Mail)

16. Letter from Stuen Sheffield - RE: The new Civic or Arena documents -(See Letter)(Original Letter & Material placed in Terry Werner’s file folder as Council Chair)

VI. ADJOURNMENT
Senate Begins Debate of TEA-21 Measure

Transportation

Senate takes up reauthorization bill. On April 26, the Senate began consideration of HR 3, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005 (SAFETEA), which would reauthorize federal transit and highway programs through FY 2009. The bill would authorize $283.9 billion in funding, including $51.6 billion for transit over six years.

Debate on the bill slowed during the week due to debate on the Senate floor over judicial nominations, supplemental FY 2005 appropriations, and the FY 2006 Budget Resolution. In addition, Senator Bayh (D-IN) offered an unrelated trade amendment to the highway bill, which tied up the bill for several hours on Wednesday to focus attention on America's growing trade imbalance with China. So far, only a handful of germane amendments to the measure have been introduced.

Senator Kit Bond (R-MO) offered the only amendment to come to a vote this week. Bond’s amendment would have stripped from the bill language setting aside two percent of a state’s highway allocation (about $900 million over six years) to deal with pollution caused by runoff from highways. Bond objected to diverting highway funds for non-transportation purposes, but his attempt to strip the provision from the bill failed by two votes.

The Senate will recess for one week and return May 9, to resume consideration of the highway bill. According to Senate sources, the transportation measure is expected to be completed that week. Of the amendments expected to be offered:

< Senate Finance Committee Chairman Grassley (R-IA) and Ranking Member Baucus (D-MT) are expected to offer an amendment to increase overall funding by about $10 billion, without increasing the gas tax or the federal deficit;

< Senate Banking Committee Chairman Shelby (R-AL) and Ranking Member Sarbanes (D-MD) continue to work with Senators Grassley and Baucus to increase transit’s share of total highway and transit funding; and

< Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) plans to offer an amendment to increase the donor state guarantee to 92 percent, without increasing the overall funding levels of the bill. Instead, funds would be shifted from various discretionary to highway construction.

On April 26, before the bill’s consideration began, the Bush Administration again threatened to veto any bill that includes funding above the Administration’s proposed level of $283.9 billion.

Budget

Congress approves FY 2006 budget resolution. After weeks of stalled negotiations, House and Senate leadership were able to craft a $2.56 trillion budget resolution for FY 2006 that was approved in the House and Senate yesterday by the narrowest of margins. The budget resolution provides a spending outline under which the congressional appropriations committees must operate when deciding program funding for FY 2006, and it also provides parameters for tax cuts and reductions in mandatory spending.

Senator Gordon Smith (R-OR) had been holding up completion of the House-Senate conference committee on the budget resolution with his objections to plans by the Republican leadership to allow for $14 billion in reductions to the Medicaid program. Smith finally agreed to a deal to allow for $10 million in savings from Medicaid (although no reductions would take place in FY
2006) and the creation of a commission to examine ways to reform the Medicaid system. The budget resolution would allow for a total of $34.7 billion in mandatory spending cuts, and although it does not specify exactly what programs would be cut, the conference report does recommend realizing savings of $3 billion from farm subsidies and $3 billion from food stamps.

The budget resolution also leaves room for $70 billion for tax cuts, which Senate Budget Committee Chairman Judd Gregg (R-NH) assumed would be used to extend expiring tax provisions. In addition, the budget resolution includes an assumption of gained revenue through the leasing of oil drilling rights in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR) in Alaska.

The budget resolution sets a $391 billion cap on non-Defense, non-Homeland Security discretionary spending, which represents a decrease of almost one percent from FY 2005. The conference agreement also includes language similar to that which was approved in the Senate that allows for $1.5 billion more than the President’s proposal for community and economic development programs so that programs such as CDBG can be maintained at their FY 2005 levels.

However, supporters of the CDBG program will have to continue to press their case with the Appropriations Committees, who will be hard pressed to remain under the $391 billion spending cap. In a related event, a bipartisan group of 52 Senators signed on to a letter this week to the Appropriations Committee urging that the CDBG program be funded at its FY 2005 levels.

The budget resolution does not require Presidential signature. Its approval by Congress represents a significant victory for the President in that it provides protections from filibusters for his proposals for mandatory spending cuts, extension of tax relief, and Alaskan oil drilling.

### Homeland Security

**House committee approves Homeland Security department authorization measure.**

The House Committee on Homeland Security approved legislation (HR 1817) this week to authorize programs at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for FY 2006.

This measure is separate for efforts by the same committee last week to alter the formulas through which DHS funds are allocated to states and local governments. In many ways, it is an effort by Chairman Christopher Cox (R-CA) to legitimate the Homeland Security Committee, which is in its first full year of existence after serving as a “select” committee following the September 11, 2001 attacks. The creation of a separate Homeland Security Committee has been a contentious issue, as leaders of other committees with traditional jurisdiction over agencies folded into DHS (such as FEMA and the Coast Guard) have fought to maintain their influence. Cox maintains that since DHS distributes more discretionary funds than any department other than Defense, its programs should be authorized each year, as are Pentagon programs.

While HR 1817 does not make any major changes to DHS operations, it would authorize adding an additional 2,000 border patrol agents, alter the current color-coded terror alert system, and provide additional resources for intelligence and cybersecurity programs.

Cox hopes to approve HR 1817 prior to the consideration of the FY 2006 Homeland Security appropriations bill, but he first must convince his colleagues in the Senate to consider the measure. Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee Chairman Susan Collins is said to be agreeable to an annual DHS authorization bill, but would prefer to begin that process next year, choosing to concentrate on formula reform this year.

### Telecommunications

**Key House panel hears from local officials.**

The Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee heard from an array of state and local officials this week on their role in a changing telecommunications marketplace.

In his opening statement, full Committee Chairman Joe Barton (R-TX) said that he plans to guide a comprehensive telecommunications bill through the House by August. His opening statement also appeared to lay down a gauntlet and make clear to state and local officials that he favors the industry position that the elimination of all state and local regulation and taxation of telecommunication services is the key to a competitive and robust telecommunications marketplace.

Testifying on behalf of local government organizations, Arvada, CO Mayor Ken Fellman deftly presented and defended the local government position. In his testimony, Fellman boiled the local government position down to three basic requests:

- Recognize the inherent police powers of local governments to manage and charge for the use of local rights-of-way;
- Take a deliberative approach towards the regulation of Internet Protocol (IP) services that recognizes the core social obligations of providers, and
- Appreciate the neighborhood-by-neighborhood expertise local governments bring to overseeing these social obligations, including public safety, broadband deployment and prohibiting economic redlining.

Fellman made a convincing argument that IP is simply a new way of delivering the same services and that the advent of new technology does not suddenly void the
importance of local government management of streets and roads nor does it remove the need for basic public safety, consumer protection and universal service protections.

Testifying on behalf of the American Public Power Association (APPA), Provo UT Mayor Lewis Billings made a compelling case for allowing local governments to provide broadband services. Billings compared broadband deployment to electrification over a century ago. He pointed out that municipal utilities arose when private utilities failed to provide electricity to small cities, focusing instead on large cities where profits were assured.

Comm. Development

House panel reviews CDBG formula. The Federalism and the Census Subcommittee of the House Government Reform Committee held a hearing this week dubbed “The 70s Look: Is the Decades-Old Community Development Block Formula Ready for an Extreme Makeover?”

The hearing was held in response to a study of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding distribution formula released earlier this year by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The primary witness was Deputy HUD Secretary and former Syracuse, NY Mayor Roy Bernardi. In his brief testimony, Bernardi reiterated the study’s findings, saying that while the formula has stayed the same since 1981, the country has changed significantly, resulting in what the study says is a formula that does a poor job of addressing need and unfairly rewards some communities at the expense of others. He did not take a firm position in favor of a formula change in general or in favor of any of the four alternatives specifically.

Testifying on behalf of a number of community development organizations, former Laredo, TX Mayor Saul Ramirez, the urged caution, saying that while ensuring that the CDBG formula accurately targets need, a formula fight could divide the coalition that supports CDBG and lead to the program’s demise in the current budget climate and in light of the Administration’s proposal. Ramirez also argued that the current formula works well.

A copy of the HUD formula study is available at: www.capitaledge.com/hudformulastudy.pdf.

Grant Opportunities

Department of Labor, April 22: The Employment and Training Administration is soliciting applications for the Responsible Reintegration of Youth Offender grant program under the Workforce Investment Act. There is approximately $15 million available for fifteen projects to prepare youth offenders to enter high growth and high demand industries. The deadline to apply is May 23, 2005. (Federal Register 21112-21124)
EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR WOMEN’S HEALTH MONTH

May is a time for remembering and honoring the special women in our lives through the celebration of Women’s Health Month. In observance, the Every Woman Matters program of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and several faith-based organizations will highlight the importance of annual health exams, healthful diets, moderate exercise, and quitting tobacco use as the best means of preventing and eliminating the health risks associated with breast and cervical cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and other illnesses. Every Woman Matters encourages women to be screened, to remind other women to receive regular health screenings, and to honor those whose lives have been affected by breast and cervical cancer.

During May, health screenings and diabetic assessment will be available on the Mobile Health Clinic at the following Lincoln locations: SunMart (17th & South St.) May 12, 1-3 pm, ALPS (27th & Y St.), May 18th, 12:30-2:30 pm, and Sun Mart (1340 W. O St.) May 24th 4-6 pm.

Every Woman Matters Program staff from the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department will be available with displays to provide information and assist with program enrollment at the following Lincoln locations:

- Russ’s Market (17th & Washington), May 9th, 3:30-5:30pm
- Village Market (3211 S. 13th), May 10th, 4-6pm
- ALPS (27th & Y), May 12th, 3:30-5:30pm
- Russ’s Market (4200 S. 27th), May 13th, 4-6pm
- Super Saver (27th & Cornhusker), May 19th, 10am-12pm
- Plaza Pharmacy (11th & G), May 19th, 1-3pm
- Super Saver (48th & O), May 20th, 10am-12pm
- Walgreen’s (815 N. 27th), May 23rd, 4-6pm
- Indian Center (1100 Military Rd.), May 26th, 9-10:30am
- Save-Mart (11th & Belmont), May 26th, 3:30-5:30pm.

The Every Woman Matters program at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, funded through Nebraska Health and Human Services, provides income-eligible women 40-64 years of age the opportunity to receive regular breast and cervical health screenings, mammograms, and Pap tests when they may not be able to afford the costs. Women may also receive additional

-more-
screenings on an annual basis that include blood pressure and cholesterol checks and a blood sugar (glucose) check. For more information, contact Every Woman Matters at 441-6264.

In Nebraska, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in women. Although breast cancer can happen to anyone, major risk factors include being a woman and getting older. Studies have shown that when detected early, a woman has a 96 percent chance of surviving the disease. Regular health exams save lives. To help ensure a healthy lifestyle, it is recommended that women over 40 years of age perform a monthly breast self-exam, have a yearly clinical breast exam by a health care provider, have a mammogram every year and be routinely screened for heart disease and diabetes. Remember your health for those you love!
April 29, 2005

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

RE: Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 05012, Annexation No. 05005, and Change of Zone No. 05020, Prairie Village North Planned Unit Development (84th & Adams Street)

Dear Jason:

On April 27, 2005, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission considered Peter Katt's request to rescind the Planning Commission previous action to recommend denial of the above referenced applications. A motion to rescind the Planning Commission's previous action taken on Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 05012 failed 2-7 (Krieser and Larson voting 'yes'; Carroll, Pearson, Marvin, Sunderman, Carlson, Taylor and Bills-Strand voting 'no'). There was no motion made on the annexation or change of zone/PUD request.

Peter Katt, on behalf of the applicant, has requested that Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 05012 be scheduled for public hearing before the City Council on Monday, May 23, 2005, 5:30 p.m. Mr. Katt has requested that the associated annexation and Prairie Village North Planned Unit Development applications not be forwarded to the City Council at this time.

The Factsheet submitted by the Planning Department to the City Council which contains the staff report, the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting, all correspondence and any other information submitted on the proposal, may be accessed on the Internet at http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/council/index.htm. The Factsheets will be linked to the respective Council agendas for introduction on May 16, 2005 and public hearing May 23, 2005. The Factsheet will also be available in the Planning Department.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information (402-441-6365) or plan@lincoln.ne.gov.

Sincerely,

Jean Walker
Administrative Officer

cc: Prairie Homes, 2045 S. Folsom, 68522
Regent Heights Homeowners Association
Peter Katt, 1045 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200, 68508
Tom Huston, 233 S. 13th Street, Suite 1900, 68508
Mark Hannemann, Sr. Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church, 8701 Adams, 68507
Charlie Humble, 301 S. 13th Street, Suite 400, 68508
Carol Brown, 2201 Elba Circle, 68521
Edward Stringham, 2231 N. 76th Street, 68505
Stuart Tietz, Principal, Faith Lutheran School, 8701 Adams, 68507
E-Mail and correspondence contact lists
Alley Paving District No. 362  
Project #554362  
Alley between 48th and 49th Streets; Lowell - Meredeth

The City of Lincoln, Department of Public Works would like to take this opportunity to inform you of an alley paving district in your area. Stephens & Smith Construction has been awarded the contract and they plan to begin construction Monday, May 2, 2005. The project should be completed in three to four weeks weather permitting. If you are interested in knowing more about the project, please feel free to call the contractor or Engineering Services.

Bill Dibbert, Project Manager  
Engineering Services  
402-441-8338

Stephens & Smith Construction, Contractor  
402-475-8087
May 2, 2005

Anne Marie Furasek
8620 Misty Blue Circle
Lincoln, NE 68505

Ms. Furasek:

The concerns you expressed to City Councilman Jon Camp regarding traffic at the intersection of 84th and Lexington, particularly during the Holdrege closure, were forwarded to me for investigation.

After receiving your request, the Engineering Services division counted traffic at the intersection of 84th & Lexington to determine if a traffic signal is warranted at that intersection. According to the counts that were taken, the amount of traffic using this intersection does not meet the number of vehicles that are required for the installation of a signal according the Federal standards we are required to follow. We have identified this intersection as a future signalized intersection, when development of the area has increased and sufficient traffic volume exists.

I realize that access to 84th Street is likely much more difficult without the benefit of using the signal at Holdrege. During the peak commute times, there are over 2,200 vehicles per hour on 84th Street. On the other hand, the peak number of vehicles counted on Lexington was 128 in one hour, or barely two per minute. Stopping the 84th Street traffic for the Lexington traffic would create the possibility for many rear end crashes. According to Police Department records, there have only been two crashes at this location since January 1, 2002.

If you are experiencing an unacceptable wait to get onto southbound 84th Street, I would recommend turning right onto 84th Street and going up to the traffic signal at 84th & Adams. This will mean a longer drive, but you may find the greater safety of having a controlled crossing outweighs the increased travel distance until Holdrege reopens later this year.

Sincerely,

Randy Hoskins, P.E.
City Traffic Engineer

cc: Jon Camp, City Council
    Darrell Podany
    Karl Fredrickson
    Karen Sieckmeyer
    Maggie Kellner
    Scott Opfer
Randy W Hoskins                                          To: Maggie Kellner/Notes@Notes
05/02/2005 11:34 AM  cc: Roger A Figard/Notes@Notes
Subject: Re: constituent / traffic situation near 84 and Holdrege

Maggie, please turn this into a letter. RH

84th & Lexington - Furasek.wpd

----- Forwarded by Randy W Hoskins/Notes on 05/02/2005 11:31 AM -----

Roger A Figard                                          To: Ann Harrell/Notes@Notes, Randy W Hoskins/Notes@Notes
04/21/2005 08:25 AM  cc: Darrell Podany/Notes@Notes
Subject: Re: constituent / traffic situation near 84 and Holdrege

Randy, please review the info below and respond. Let me know the details of your response.

..........................Darrell, do you have a phone number, e-mail for Ms Furasek? Roger
Ann Harrell

Ann Harrell                                            To: Darrell Podany/Notes@Notes
04/21/2005 08:15 AM  cc: Roger A Figard/Notes@Notes
Subject: Re: constituent / traffic situation near 84 and Holdrege

Sure. Roger, could you have an appropriate person get back to the constituent? Ann
Darrell Podany

Darrell Podany                                          To: Ann Harrell/Notes@Notes
04/20/2005 05:19 PM  cc: 
Subject: constituent / traffic situation near 84 and Holdrege

Re    Anne Marie Furasek
8620 Misty Blue Circle (05)

Hello Ann,

Ms Furasek contacted Jon Camp’s City Council Office re the situation of having to detour from their home while construction is taking place on Holdrege east of 84th. The Furasek’s and others in their neighborhood are having to access 84th street at Lexington. It is very difficult for west bound traffic to turn south onto 84th because of heavy traffic moving at high speeds on 84th. At a public mtng discussing this construction project Ms Furasek said a city employee acknowledged that it was likely accidents would occur at this location.

Can you please ask appropriate PW staff to respond to Ms Furasek regarding improvement of traffic safety at this intersection and include discussing the possibility of installation of a temporary traffic signal at 84th and Lexington for the duration of the closing of Holdrege St.

Please indicate this is at the request of Jon Camp’s City Council office and copy any correspondence to Jon Camp’s CC office. Please also provide a copy to Council Member Newman.

Thank you.
**Inspection Activity**

178 inspections on 177 sites were made during the month.

**Noxious Weeds**
- Made 178 inspections on 178 sites on 1,120 acres.
- Found 161 violations on 298 acres.
  - 150 musk thistle
  - 11 leafy spurge
- Found no violations on 15 sites.
- 2 sites controlled by inspectors.

**Sanitary Landfills**

Inspection of the 48th Street and Bluff Road Sanitary Landfill sites have been initiated and the contractor will soon begin control efforts.

**Weed Abatement**
- Inspections will begin May 2. 139 complaints have been received to date.

**Invaders Alert**

This billboard can now be seen along the Lower Platte River corridor.

**APRIL Activities**

6  Meeting with Cass County
11  Musk thistle inspections begin
14  Mgt Team Mtg
19-20  Spring spray seminar Hastings
21  Staff Meeting 8:45
21-20  LPWMA Meeting
26  Talk at Sunrise Kiwanis
30  Monthly activity report

**Planned MAY Activities**

2  Begin City Weed Abatement inspections
4  Cell phone meeting
5  Wireless data services meeting
12  LPWMA meeting
12  Mgt Team Mtg
16  Prepare leafy spurge roadside map
17  Employee Recognition Luncheon
16-31  leafy spurge roadside spraying
25-27  Vacation
-  Contract for landfill site spraying
-  Monitor public land managers control efforts
-  Musk thistle inspections
-  Budget preparation
TO: LLWC Commissioners  
Mayor Coleen J.Seng  
Lincoln City Council Members  
Lancaster County Board of Commissioners  
Lancaster County Towns/Villages/Boards  
FROM: Bonnie Coffey/Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission  
DATE: 4/29/05  
SUBJECT: Director's Report – April 2005

Notes
● I was on vacation April 1-5 (to visit my new granddaughter, Joyeaux Lythe in Cincinnati) and April 22.
● LLWC is delighted to welcome Margie Kniep as Senior Office Assistant. Margie is part-time at .5 FTE, representing a downsizing for LLWC in a cost-saving measure. Margie is a former city/county employee, having worked with Urban Development and the 911 Center; her first day was April 11 and she’s already an important part of our team.

Community Learning Center (CLC) Initiative
Background: The City of Lincoln was one of eight cities nationwide to receive a thirty-month technical assistance grant to engage the city in CLCs; I served as point person for that grant, and continue to serve on the management team for the CLC initiative in Lincoln. Community Learning Centers are partnerships that provide opportunities and support services that lead to improved student learning, stronger families and stronger communities. There are currently 15 CLCs in Lincoln funded by a blended stream of 21st Century, PEN and grant monies.

● Lincoln Public Schools has recently received a 21st Century federal grant through the State of Nebraska to initiate four more CLCs in Lincoln; these will include Arnold, Dawes, Norwood Park and McPhee.
● The Communications/Public Engagement Committee met on April 30, hearing a presentation from the Saratoga CLC and results of a recent survey on CLC name recognition.

Community Services Initiative (CSI)
Background: CSI is the implementation of plans developed through a community-wide survey of gaps in human services needs; due to a reconfiguration, oversight and clerical support of CSI was awarded to the Human Services Federation (HSF). This restructure combines the seven original coalitions into four (with two others being folded under Urban Development and the Health Department). The restructure provides for paid staffing of the coalitions and dissolution of the Steering Cabinet. Paid staff will now comprise the steering committee, removing the need for chairs and co-chairs. The Early Care & Education and Youth Development Coalitions have been re-combined and are being staffed by contracted personnel, Nancy Rosenow and Tracy Gordon. The group is now focusing on quality of early care and education standards.

● Planning continues for the Mayor’s Summit, “One Vision, One Voice” on the issues of
early care and education scheduled for June 17. United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County has agreed to cosponsor the event; attendance is by invitation only and all City Council and County Commission members can expect their invitation letters soon.

Women's Leadership
Background: During LLWC’s strategic planning following the “Women’s Voices” project that surveyed women in Lincoln and Lancaster County, focus is being placed on two areas, “Women’s Leadership & Public Policy” and “Women’s Health.”

● Exciting plans continue for the innovative and non-partisan “Ready to Run” workshop for women to provide vital information and resources to women in the Lincoln/Omaha area who are considering running for elected office. A steering committee comprised of women from Lincoln and Omaha has been formed; in addition to commissioners from LLWC, Kathie Uhrmacher, Danja Pegram-Siders and Nancy Intermill, the Lincoln contingent includes Kathy Campbell and Kim Robak. The Steering Committee met on April 12 to discuss the agenda, facilities and logistics and presenters. Originally, the event was scheduled for Mahoney State Park; an opportunity exists to hold the event at the SAC Museum; a task force will visit the museum on May 2. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 15 with each city (Lincoln and Omaha) reserving 50% of the possible openings for women to attend. This program is modeled after “Ready to Run” developed by the Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University, who has granted LLWC permission to use their logo and materials. CAWP is hoping to attend the October event, as we are the first state to initiate their program.
● April 19 marked the annual “Equal Pay Day,” highlighting the fact that women make less than men. The latest statistics show that nationally, women make 77¢ for every dollar a man makes; here in Nebraska, that rate drops to 71¢ for every dollar. LLWC’s president, Kathie Uhrmacher, wrote an op ed piece for the Lincoln Journal Star that appeared in the April 19 issue.
● Continuing the opportunity for local women to meet new contacts and for younger women to learn the art of networking, LLWC held its semi-annual “Council of Women Leaders” at the Holiday Inn Downtown on April 19. Over 70 women attended the informal, affordable dinner, had an opportunity to introduce themselves and hear Lincoln City Council members Annette McRoy read a proclamation commemorating Equal Pay Day and Patte Newman provide statistics on equal pay issues. The next event will be in October.

Women’s Health
Background: During LLWC’s strategic planning following the “Women’s Voices” project that surveyed women in Lincoln and Lancaster County, focus is being placed on two areas, “Women’s Leadership & Public Policy” and “Women’s Health.” LLWC Director Bonnie Coffey serves as a liaison to the Family Violence Council and Co-Chair of the Changing Attitudes Committee (a subcommittee formed to implement part of the FVC strategic plan to
LLWC is anxiously awaiting delivery of the patient rights tapes in Arabic; the project has been a difficult one to complete. Finding Arabic speaking women was easy, but the major contributor had to drop out, which made finding another difficult. Wishing to ensure that the tape was appropriate and correct, we have had it reviewed by more than one Arabic speaking woman, who has also ensured that the Arabic language on the tape is appropriate. We expect the tapes in mid-May; we will launch the entire Women’s Health Project in late May with a roll-out of the patient brochures and the tapes.

The Healthy Kids: 2010 Breastfeeding Task Force Media Subcommittee met on April 21 with committee members hot gluing Dove chocolate pieces to cards thanking nurses for their support in breastfeeding education. The cards were placed in baskets for delivery to hospitals in recognition of Nurses’ Day on May 5. The group is also designing and printing small posters in support of breastfeeding.

Lincoln-Lancaster Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Coalition (TPPC).

Background: For several years, LLWC has been an active member of TPPC. LLWC’s director has served as president and currently provides Communications/PR support.

"Sex, Drugs and Rock & Roll: What Parents Need to Know" is on track for Thursday, May 19 from 7-9 pm at BryanLGH West. Mayor Seng will present opening remarks. This presentation is designed to provide information on how parents can become good teachers of sex and sexuality to their children. The forum will be moderated and parents will have the opportunity to ask questions. Statistics indicate teens want to hear about such issues from their parents.

May is National Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Month, and TPPC is encouraging teens to take an online quiz to determine their risk taking quotient at www.teenpregnancy.org. The quiz is designed to help teens make good decisions about risky behaviors.

Locally, TPPC will mark National Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Month by sending twice-weekly postcards for the entire month to elected and appointed officials and policy-makers in Lincoln and Lancaster County. Each card will have facts and statistics on teen pregnancy and births. TPPC has been initiating this mailing for the past three years.

Media/PR/Speaking

Information was shared on My 106.5 FM on 4/6 the upcoming “Celebration of the Young Child” at Ag Hall on the State Fairgrounds and on 4/20 on the fundraiser for swimming lessons at the YWCA for Middle Eastern and Arabic women.

In continuing presentation in collaboration with the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights on increasing sexual and racial harassment occurring in Lincoln, I co-presented to career classes at Southwest High School on April 11 and to Lincoln East on April 13.

I spoke on issues impacting women to Nancy Intermill’s class at Union College on April
Nancy is an LLWC Commissioner who is an Adjunct Instructor.

Students from Southeast Community College made appointments for interviews for term papers; I spoke with four this month on April 13, April 19 and April 20. LLWC is always happy to provide contemporary information to students, who tell me that it’s frequently hard to find someone to talk with them on women’s issues.

Meetings/Public Contacts

The budget season has begun, and I met with Mayor Seng on April 7 to discuss LLWC’s budget. Indications are that LLWC will be included in the Mayor’s budget for 2005/06 and that budget will reflect a reduction of about $25,000 as LLWC replaces the 1 FTE with a .5 FTE.

I met with one of LLWC’s newest commissioners about her perceptions about the nomination process. She provided valuable feedback and we had a great conversation; we look forward to working with her and using her expertise.

I attended the Saturday, April 9 annual “Celebration of the Young Child;” LLWC has assisted in this event for several years in securing celebrity readers. This year, Lancaster County Commissioner Deb Schorr, City Council members Ken Svoboda and Terry Werner and LLWC Commissioner read books to the large and growing group of young children at this fun event.

I attended the YWCA’s annual awards ceremonies “Allies and Mentors” at BryanLGH East on April 20.

Rick Hoppe is the new aide to Mayor Seng and my liaison in the Mayor’s Office; while Rick and I have worked together in the past, he spent time at the LLWC office on April 25 to get an overview of LLWC and its projects.

On April 26, I had the opportunity to attend a jointly presented workshop by Nebraska Voices for Children and the Nebraska Appleseed Center, “Persuading Others.” I found important resources for crucial issues facing Nebraska, including Medicaid; fact sheets on the impact of cuts in Medicaid will be provided to commissioners in their May meeting packets. LLWC Commissioner Elizabeth Rodacker, an associate professor at Union College, prepared an op ed on the impact of Medicaid on the women in Nebraska; it appeared in the April 28 issue of the Lincoln Journal Star.

WomenTalk

Background: This unique television series addressing the issues that impact women was inaugurated in January 2000, and is the only one of its kind in the city/county; all of the programs since its inception have been underwritten by the Lincoln Journal Star and are at no cost to LLWC.

We are pleased to have received funding to have Art Kuhr, known for his set designs at NPTV and UNL design a set for the WomenTalk programs. It is hoped to have this set in place for the May 19 taping. I met with Art several times in April to discuss possibilities and
to get a timeline established.

"Perspectives: Muslim Women" was taped on 3/17, with LLWC commissioner Beth Rodacker as co moderator and guests Zainab Al-Baaj and Rachida Faid-Douglas as guests. Positive comments have already been received.

Upcoming programs include:

- **May 2005** – “Overexposed: Dangers of Tanning”
  - Guests: Dr. Ann Lott & a patient
- **July 2005** – “Invited In: Internet Predators”
- **September 2005** – “How to Get Ahead Without Going to the Golf Course”
- **November 2005** – “Crystal Catastrophe: Women and Meth”

A meeting will be held soon to establish program themes for the 2005/06 season and to approach the Lincoln Journal Star for continued funding.

**Regularly Attended Meetings**

- LLWC Staff Meetings are held each Monday at 9 a.m. to review the week, touch base and coordinate schedules and activities.
- Each Monday at 10:45 a.m., I attend the Directors Meeting held with City Council.
- Each Wednesday from 9-11 a.m., I attend the Mayor’s Cabinet meeting. Weekly reports are e-mailed to the Mayor each Monday morning.
- The LLWC monthly meeting was held April 13; minutes are provided separately.
- Friends of LLWC met on April 14.
- LLWC staff took advantage of annual “Clean Out Your Files” week to spend most of April 18 eliminating unnecessary files and publications. Annually, the city has a contest to see which department can produce the most recycling materials; as part of the Mayor’s Office, LLWC certainly did their part!
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 3, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Ann Seacrest, R.N., 402/423-6402
Bonnie Coffey, director, 402/441-8695

TABITHA HONORED FOR ESTABLISHING LACTATION ROOM

Breastfeeding: Healthy Kids 2010, a community work group, is pleased to honor Tabitha Health Care Services for their corporate leadership in establishing an employee lactation room. According to Breastfeeding: Healthy Kids 2010 member, Ann Seacrest, a registered nurse and board certified lactation consultant, women returning to work outside the home face challenges-unless their employers understand the value of feeding human infants human milk.

According to Ms. Seacrest, “The U.S. Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics both call for a united front from our community. Feeding our infants human milk protects their health and promotes brain development. But we must help women make it happen. When we don’t, acute and chronic illnesses increase and brain development is compromised. Health care costs increase and our entire community suffers the consequences.”

Tabitha’s new room is complete with rocking chair, sink, table and chairs for additional family members, a padded bench for changing baby or lying down while nursing. Educational materials have been supplied by La Leche League of Lincoln.

Lisa Kopecky, a registered dietitian, member of Breastfeeding: Healthy Kids 2010 and promoter of Tabitha’s corporate lactation room, “It is our goal at Tabitha to make transitioning back to work desirable and manageable for new moms. By providing a space for moms to comfortably pump milk or nurse their babies we are creating a more inviting work environment.”

Sara Furr, a La Leche League Leader and member of Breastfeeding: Healthy Kids 2010, explains, “Corporate lactation programs can be very short and sweet. Companies should value the health of children and the community as a whole. Employees are encouraged to breastfeed and when they return to work, they are assured appropriate, short breaks during the work day, and a private place to pump.” Furr explains that the impact to the corporation is positive, as new mothers can then return to the work force knowing they are providing optimal nutrition, tailor-made for their infant. Companies have found there is less employee turnover and less absenteeism when mothers continue breastfeeding after a they return to work. It is a win-win situation for everyone.

For more information on Tabitha’s program or corporate lactation programs in general, please contact Lisa Kopecky at 483-7671.

For more information about Breastfeeding: Healthy Kids 2010 please contact Ann Seacrest at 423-6402.
Joan--please share with the Council.

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council
City Council Office: 441-8793
Constituent representative: Darrell Podany

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul Johnson <jenpauljohn@msn.com>
To: jcamp@ci.lincoln.ne.us
Sent: Tue, 3 May 2005 20:09:22 -0500
Subject: downtown hotel

Why are we discussing 17th and Q streets for a hotel? Sell J.Q. the Pershing and the city will have money for the Hay Market auditorium. Just think of the business you will have downtown. It's a win win win. Paul Johnson
April 28, 2005

The Honorable Terry Werner  
City Council Office  
County-City Building  
555 South 10th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Council Member Werner:

I thought you might be interested in the enclosed editorial that appeared in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Friday, August 27, 2004. Also enclosed is a press release and letter from the State Controller of California, Steve Westly. These comments concern "big box" style retail stores such as Wal-Mart.

Wal-Mart has become known as a Chinese outlet. They do not push "Made in America" anymore like they did a few years back. Everything in their stores comes from China.

As a local retailer, I am asking your support in opposing Wal-Mart from building any more super centers in Lincoln.

Sincerely,

Russell Raybould  
CEO

Enclosures
Copyright 2004 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

August 27, 2004 Friday Home Edition

Editorial; Pg. 15A

721 words

How not to get boxed in:
First, don't think megastores won't locate near you

STEVE BROWN
For the Journal-Constitution

There are generally three camps when it comes to dealing with "big-box" style retail stores. One group welcomes the Wal-Marts, Home Depots, Targets and the like. Another likes to shop at big-box stores but prefers that they be located elsewhere. The third wants to do away with the retail behemoths altogether.

One thing that cannot be denied is that the big-box stores will have long-term effects on your community. Since they are a regional attraction, traffic is always an issue. In some areas, crime tends to be more significant in big-box store parking lots. The shoplifting caseload will escalate.

The stores commonly have no-frills architecture, with acres of asphalt that detracts from the character of the surrounding community. Next is the matter of the store moving to a better location and leaving a big empty building behind that will be leased to low-end users such as a Big Lots store that does not add a lot of value to the area. Even worse, the abandoned store could just be left vacant for an extended period of time, becoming an eyesore. There are many locations around metro Atlanta that have vacant big-box stores.

I receive many phone calls from people all over metro Atlanta asking how to stop a big-box development that is proposed in their area. Unfortunately, if you wait until an application for new development hits the planning commission, you do not have a lot of options.

If the property in question needs to be rezoned, you have a fighting chance. One of the biggest misconceptions people have is that the land around their subdivision will somehow not be a target of the big-box developers. I cannot tell you how many times someone has told me, "My real estate agent told me that the adjacent property was zoned residential."

I will offer you some straight talk and say that any parcel of land can be rezoned at any time and that all current commercial developments can be torn to the ground and redeveloped as a big-box store.

A prime example is in the city of Newnan, where an outlet store shopping center next to I-85 was completely demolished and a power center with a much greater impact (a shopping center with two or more big-box stores as anchors) took its place.

In most local jurisdictions, churches can be built under any zoning classification. Many churches are outgrowing their property and are becoming prime redevelopment sites. Quite a few of those sites are zoned for commercial use.

A big-box development needs about 15 to 25 acres. I can assure you that if you are living near the
recent fringe of suburban development and are close to a state highway or an interstate highway, you could be on the verge of big-box development. Even if there is a big-box store nearby, you must remember that they move quite often and prefer to saturate the market by building stores in close proximity to one another.

The answer to protecting your subdivision and the surrounding area is to be proactive and encourage your planning commissioners and local elected officials to create some ordinances that will defend you. In Peachtree City, we requested that a previous City Council pass a big-box ordinance prohibiting stores larger than 32,000 square feet. The ordinance was the first of its kind. Unfortunately, the same council passed an item allowing a Wal-Mart and a Home Depot prior to the passage of the new protective ordinance; politics at its best. For the longest time we didn't think that big-box retail would come to Peachtree City, but we were wrong. Even a recent Target store was grandfathered because a local developer turned in a piece of paper with a large rectangle on it before our big-box ordinance was passed.

Here are some suggestions for protecting your quality of life from big-box stores:

* Build a local coalition of homeowners associations or people of like mind from other organizations.

* Attend your local city council/county commission and planning commission meetings and get to know the elected officials and find out where they stand on big-box development.

* If you can rally the support of your local officials, ask them to impose a moratorium on big-box development (commercial building permits) to give everyone a chance to discuss the issue in the public forum and create an appropriate solution.

Photo: Steve Brown is mayor of Peachtree City.; Photo: Wal-Mart is making a new urban push, slinging up supercenters from Chamblee to Gwinnett County, down to Peachtree City. This one under construction in Woodstock is about 8 miles from another Wal-Mart. / FRANK NIEMEIR / Staff

August 27, 2004
Westly Issues Wal-Mart Caution

Retailer’s Low-Wage Policies Burden State, UC Study Shows

LOS ANGELES – Citing a new UC Berkeley study, State Controller Steve Westly called today for cities to consider the financial strain low-wage workers place on government before approving new Wal-Mart super centers.

“Wal-Mart may save its customers some money at the checkstand, but California taxpayers are getting the bill,” Westly said. “Local officials should keep that in mind when they decide whether to become home to the next Wal-Mart super center.”

The study estimated California’s additional costs at $86 million a year. Westly discussed the findings with Los Angeles City Councilmember Eric Garcetti, who has proposed requiring a thorough economic analysis before the city approves any future superstores.

“This study affirms what we have known for some time: accepting low-wage jobs at the local level has major consequences on the State’s budget and overall health of our economy,” Councilman Garcetti said. “The quality of the jobs we create is just as important as the creation of jobs.”

Westly praised Garcetti for addressing this issue, and sent copies of the study, “The Hidden Cost of Wal-Mart Jobs,” to mayors and city council members of California’s 25 largest cities, along with a letter urging them to consider the impact of low-wage jobs.

The study, by professors Arindrajit Dube and Ken Jacobs, found that Wal-Mart pays lower wages and benefits than other major retailers. As a result, workers must rely on state-funded programs like Medi-Cal and Healthy Families.

“As the state’s chief financial officer, I am concerned about Wal-Mart’s plans to open 40 new ‘super centers’ throughout California and the potential impact on workers and taxpayers,” Westly said in the letter. “As government leaders, we must weigh the benefits of potential new jobs and revenues against the likely drain of government resources.”

“Along with the direct impact on the state’s budget, I fear that Wal-Mart’s employment policies are fueling a race to the bottom among major retailers,” Westly said. “Other companies that once paid fair wages are now cutting wages and benefits to compete.”

Text of letter follows.

-More-
The Honorable James Hahn  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
200 North Spring Street, Room 303  
Los Angeles, CA  90012-4121

Dear Mayor Hahn:

I am writing to call to your attention a new U.C. Berkeley study estimating that Wal-Mart’s employment policies cost California taxpayers as much as $86 million a year. As the state’s chief financial officer, I am concerned about Wal-Mart’s plans to open 40 new “Supercenters” throughout California and the potential impact on workers and taxpayers.

The Berkeley study found that Wal-Mart pays lower wages and benefits than other major retailers. Consequently, these workers rely on state-funded programs -- Medi-Cal, Healthy Families – to sustain themselves and their families.

In addition to the direct impact on the state’s budget, I fear that Wal-Mart’s employment policies are fueling a race to the bottom among major retailers. Other companies that traditionally have paid fair wages are now cutting wages and benefits to compete with Wal-Mart.

The Los Angeles City Council this month is considering an ordinance that would require large retailers seeking city approval to submit a comprehensive economic impact analysis, evaluating the new store’s effect on jobs, wages and local businesses. I believe this is the kind of balanced approach we all should pursue.

As government leaders, we must weigh the benefits of potential new jobs and revenues against the likely drain on government resources. I urge you and your colleagues to carefully consider the information in the Berkeley study as this issue comes before you.

Sincerely,

STEVE WESTLY  
California State Controller

###
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Dennis Mathias
Address: 545 North 26th St.
City: Lincoln, NE 68503
Phone: 402-475-7035
Fax:
Email: dennis@mathiaslink.com

Comment or Question:
I'm trying to track down a mailing we received last week supposedly from an animal organization (Friends of Lincoln's Cats and Dogs) stating that 'Terry Werner has personally stonewalled a valid, competitive contract with the Humane Society'. It's my understanding that Mr. Svoboda or his agents obtained an client list from Lincoln Animal Control. A quick check indicates that anyone who has had contact with LAC received one of these mailings. Can you confirm that Mr. Svoboda or his organization did in fact purchase this list from Animal Control? We're not finding a plethora of information for Friends of Lincoln's Cats and Dogs. Do you know who chairs the organization?
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: John Baete
Address: 2700 North 65
City: Lincoln, NE 68507
Phone: 402-525-2551
Fax:
Email: bears1343@excite.com

Comment or Question:
Mr Friend is a example of why lincolnites have little respect for the city council. The negative attitude he shows is disgusting. His adds on radio and tv as well as the republican party are the very reason I will vote democratic. The council should, in my mind, not even affiliate themselves with any party in order to work together for the betterment of Lincoln and its citizens. The constant bickering on the council is becoming "old hat" and needs to change. In my mind Mr Friend, since he is not running again, has an agenda against others on the council. The common thinking man in Lincoln doesn't have a chance at running for office, only the wealthy with business ties, thus NO down to earth thoughts from the everyday tax paying person. I hope the negative adds and attitudes STOP!
Dear Ms. Kimble: 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
Diane Kimble <dkimble3457@yahoo.com>

Thank you for pursuing an extension of the grant so Startran can continue to offer the discount bus passports. I am one of the many bus riders who do not have a car so the bus is my transportation most of the time. Although I walk as much as possible, I have rheumatoid arthritis so the weather sometimes limits how much walking I can do.

Thank you, again.

________________________________________________________________________
Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com
Dear Ms. Carter: 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  
"Becky J. Carter" <bcarter2@unl.edu>

---

To: Lincoln City Council  
Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission  
Cc: Colleen Seng, Mayor

Dear Government Official:

I'm writing to call your attention to Comprehensive Plan Amendment #05005. This amendment has been introduced by Councilperson Annette McRoy on behalf of the North Hills Neighborhood. The main intent of this amendment is to reduce the negative impact our neighborhood will have by the construction of a four plus one lane arterial street. We believe this amendment reaches an acceptable compromise between all interested parties.

I am asking for your full support in approving this amendment and this very important neighborhood issue.

Sincerely,

Becky J. Carter  
1610 Kennedy Dr.  
477-0075
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
   General Council

Name:     Michael J. Schlautman
Address:  8650 Lexington Ave., Apt 508
City:     Lincoln, NE  68505-3684
Phone:    402-327-8652
Fax:       
Email:    iketenten@hotmail.com

Comment or Question:
Can the condition of the sidewalks in Lincoln be given better attention?  I've noticed some improvements, but there is quite a bit to still be done.

I was born and raised in rural Nebraska, became disabled about 25 years ago while living in North Carolina, and returned to Nebraska about two years ago to be nearer to family.

I've managed to see too much of Lincoln from the ground looking up after tipping over while trying to get somewhere.

One of the conclusions that I have come to about Nebraskans is that too many of us won't humble ourselves enough to even consider the life circumstances of others unless/until we are forced to.

Please do what you can to change this.
Carol: Your message has been received and will be forwarded to Council Members for consideration. Thanks for your continued input on behalf of the community.

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

To: Lincoln City Council  
   Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission  
Cc: Colleen Seng, Mayor

Dear Government Official:

I'm writing to call your attention to Comprehensive Plan Amendment #05005. This amendment has been introduced by Councilperson Annette McRoy on behalf of the North Hills Neighborhood. The main intent of this amendment is to reduce the negative impact our neighborhood will have by the construction of a four plus one lane arterial street. We believe this amendment reaches an acceptable compromise between all interested parties.

I am asking for your full support in approving this amendment and this very important neighborhood issue.

Sincerely,

Carol Brown  
2201 Elba Circle  
402-435-8932
Dear Mr. Marreel: 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  

"Dave Marreel" <yankee2002@alltel.net>  

To: Lincoln City Council  
Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission  
Cc: Colleen Seng, Mayor  

Dear Government Official:

I'm writing to call your attention to Comprehensive Plan Amendment #05005. This amendment has been introduced by Councilperson Annette McRoy on behalf of the North Hills Neighborhood. The main intent of this amendment is to reduce the negative impact our neighborhood will have by the construction of a four plus one lane arterial street. We believe this amendment reaches an acceptable compromise between all interested parties.

I am asking for your full support in approving this amendment and this very important neighborhood issue.

Sincerely,  
Dave Marreel  
5511 Rockford Dr  
402-489-8665
City Council Office

I continue to pray you will not permit a Walmart east of 84th & 10th. Also, I prefer the business in Haskell - much better quality and I also am not interested in shopping in big stores - I live west of 24th. Traffic is already difficult when wanting to make left on 34th or crossing it.

R. Mussmann

God Bless America

Ruth Mussmann
2319 Nancy Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68507-3369

City Council Office

March 15 2005

City Council Office

MAY 2 2005

City Council Office

23 USA
Custer Caverns National Park, ND

RECEIVED
RECEIVED
The Lincoln Independent Business Association believes that the new Lodging Tax funds will play an important role in the development of Lincoln’s future if used correctly. It is possible that by allocating the funds in four or five directions, each entity would receive such a small portion, that the limited funds will not make a difference in any project.

LIBA believes it is time to identify the projects, see the project plans and evaluate the benefits to the community.

To truly identify the projects, we need to bring together the following:

- Nebraska State Fair
- Lancaster County Ag Society
- University of Nebraska
- Governor Dave Heineman
- Mayor Coleen Seng
- John Q. Hammons
- 2 or more City Council Members
- 2 or more County Board Members
- Lincoln Independent Business Association
- Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Lincoln Association

Then we need to ask the following questions:

1. What facilities are needed for Lincoln’s future?
2. How many locations and/or buildings are needed?
3. What is the benefit of each to the city as a whole?
4. What is the source of funding for each?
5. Should we combine locations and/or funds?

The City of Lincoln has an excellent opportunity for “smart” growth.

LIBA recommends that the County Commissioners maintain the new lodging tax funds in a separate account until the parties involved have an opportunity to truly assess the needs of Lincoln.
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
   General Council

Name:       ryan simpson
Address:    15900 n 40th
City:    davey, Ne

Phone:       
Fax:       
Email:       

Comment or Question:
I'm really not sure why so many people that get elected into office say that they are helping our city. Sure we get streets fixed, we get buildings put up, we get more hotels and condos, but what about the people. You republicans on the council should be for less government and the smoking ban is not about that. THAT IS MORE GOVERNMENT! Just because a majority of people that vote probably do not go to bars----it passes? Why didn't the city council consider a partial ban? Or leave it up to the bar owner? Who gives anyone the right to tell a business owner what to do or what not to do with their business? Just wandering, Ryan
Never was certain what it meant before the past few weeks--now I know. What bothers me even more is that Jon Camp is supposed to be the representative for my district! Of course, he never has been, so why expect any changes? He probably has some "shady" dealings, etc. in his past, and some day, hopefully they will jump up and bite him when he least expects it. What body of the government do you plan to bring disgrace to next--not that anyone can stop you, under the cloak of "mr. nice guy" that you operate? Maybe the grass would be greener in Scottsbluff or elsewhere in the panhandle where they haven't been privy to your underhanded tactics. The next council meeting should be interesting--but I'll bet you will have your head up high, just like you can do no wrong. Please don't run for local government again!!!!!
Dear Ms. Marreel: 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

"Sharyn Marreel" <smarreel@ameritas.com>
Dear Ms. Marreel:  Your message, too, 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  
"Stephanie Marreel" <stephie_1010@hotmail.com>  

To: Lincoln City Council  
   Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission  
Cc: Colleen Seng, Mayor  

Dear Government Official:  

I'm writing to call your attention to Comprehensive Plan Amendment #05005. This amendment has been introduced by Councilperson Annette McRoy on behalf of the North Hills Neighborhood. The main intent of this amendment is to reduce the negative impact our neighborhood will have by the construction of a four plus one lane arterial street. We believe this amendment reaches an acceptable compromise between all interested parties.  

I am asking for your full support in approving this amendment and this very important neighborhood issue.  

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Marreel  
5511 Rockford Dr  
402-489-8665
Please vote "For"
NOW THAT WE HAVE ADJUSTED TO THE SMOKING BAN HOW ABOUT BANNING CHILDREN FROM THE BARS OF LINCOLN SO THAT THEY ARE NOT RIDING HOME IN A CAR DRIVEN BY A DRUNK! WE ARE SEEING MORE AND MORE VERY YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE BARS SECOND HAND SMOKE MAY KILL OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME BUT GETING IN A CAR WITH A DRUNK DRIVER IS A FOR SURE QUICK AND BLOODY DEATH THINK ABOUT IT YOU ARE THE LEADERS OF THIS CITY SO WHY DON'T YOU ACT LIKE IT. WE WILL BE WATCHING AND HOPE TO SEE ACTION TAKING VERY SOON ON THIS!
To Whom it May or May Not Concern,

My Name is Leon Shaw.

I reside at 3707 Delaware Avenue, New York, New York. As you can see I have a Mental Illness.

I don't know much about politics but I have done some work in Labor Unions. I am also willing to do the work if you call me. I am a member of the C.I.O. and I believe in bread and butter. I am a Union Union. I am here to do some construction in My House.

I have never learned a trade.

Anybody else is willing to do this work.

Main issue is the Labor Unions to

We will call the Council Members. Vote

Sometime in May. A Special Day

Next Sunday which does include both the

Democrats, Republics

As I told you the last time, all the ELECTORIAL VOTES are not counted. You may get in contact with Myself at

W.W.W. - FERENITY - ENM.
With All-Due Respect and Dignity

M. D. A. Sheffield

AGAIN

(Happy Mother's Day to all Moms)

Men
ADDENDUM
TO
DIRECTORS’ AGENDA
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005

I. MAYOR

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Coleen Seng will unveil the repaired Cupid Fountain in the Antelope Rose Garden at a news conference at 10:00 a.m. Thursday May 5th - (See Advisory)

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Repaired Cupid Fountain Unveiled In Antelope Park - Plans announced for Rose Garden and Sunken Gardens - (See Release)

3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: 14th Street To Close North Of Court Street - (See Release)

4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Public Briefing Planned For Six-Year CIP - (See Release)

5. NEWS RELEASE - RE: City Recognized For After-School Initiatives - (See Release)

6. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Seng’s Public Schedule Week of May 7 through May 13, 2005 - Schedule subject to change - (See Release)

II. CITY CLERK

1. Letter from Larry Worth, Transit Manager, StarTran to Mr. James Bryan Wilson, Bel-Air Group Home sent to Council Office by City Clerk Joan Ross - RE: Request the opportunity to speak to the City Council regarding StarTran service hours has been forwarded to me-requesting the StarTran service hours be extended to 9:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday and that comparable service be provided on Sundays - (See Letter)

III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS - NONE

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Letter from Jerry Rabel - RE: Opposed-concerning the City Council’s consideration of canceling StarTran’s Handi-Van and City bus services to individuals with disabilities at various times of day - (See Letter)

daadd050905/jg
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

DATE: May 4, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Coleen J. Seng will unveil the repaired Cupid Fountain in the Antelope Rose Garden at a news conference at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 5 at the garden at about 27th and “B” streets. The Mayor also will discuss future plans for the Antelope Rose Garden and the schedule for the completion of the Sunken Gardens renovation.

Parking is available on the west side of the parking lot for the Folsom Children’s Zoo (enter off 27th Street). In case of rain, the news conference will be postponed.
REPAIRED CUPID FOUNTAIN UNVEILED IN ANTELOPE PARK
Plans announced for Rose Garden and Sunken Gardens

Mayor Coleen J. Seng today unveiled the restored Cupid Fountain in the Antelope Rose Garden near 27th and "B" streets. The fountain was vandalized in 2003, leading to a fund-raising campaign for its repair. Waitress Sandy Smith sparked community support by donating her tips to help fund the repair. She donated almost $950 of the total donations of $1,150. Private donations accounted for about 44 percent of the repair costs.

"Sandy wanted her granddaughter to be able to enjoy the fountain and rose garden as much as she has," said Mayor Seng. "That is an example of true community spirit – wanting to pass on to future generations the quality of life we enjoy in Lincoln."

The Mayor also announced plans for two park areas:

- A renovation is planned for the entire Antelope Rose Garden, which has been in Antelope Park since the mid-1990s. Prior to that, the display garden was in Woods Park for about 30 years. The vinyl edging around the plant beds is heaving and breaking due to exposure to the sun and the crushed stone walkways reflect heat onto the roses resulting in disease and insect problems.

The Parks and Recreation Department staff proposes to plant a collection of hardy landscape roses in the strolling garden area east of the Rotary Gazebo. The existing rose garden will be renovated for display of recent All-American Rose Selections and classic Hybrid Tea Roses. The existing walkways and planting beds will be replaced with rectangular rose beds bordered by turf. Private funds will be sought for the project.

- The preview of the renovated Sunken Gardens at 27th and Capitol Parkway will begin in July, and the re-dedication is set for August 21. About 100 trees and 1,000 shrubs are now being planted, and the annual flowers will be planted later this month.

The project to repair and update the aging infrastructure is the first major renovation of the Sunken Gardens since the park was built in 1930. The renovation includes a new handicapped-accessible entrance, an entry pavilion, a restored cascading water feature, new sculptural elements, restrooms, maintenance storage, renovated lily pools, an automated irrigation system and lighting.
Redevelopment of the Antelope Park Rose Garden

April 2005

History
An extensive rose display garden was located in Antelope Park beginning in the 1940’s. Roses were also included in the plantings in Sunken Gardens in the early years. During the 1960’s a rose display garden was established in the northeastern portion of Woods Park. This rose garden was relocated to the Antelope Park Triangle in the mid-1990’s.

What’s happening with the current rose display garden?
The current rose display garden is failing. Vinyl edging defining the planting beds is heaving and breaking up due to exposure to the sun. The crushed stone walkways reflect heat onto the roses and cause them to be more susceptible to disease and insect problems. Many of the rose plants have declined over time, despite the efforts and attention of gardening staff. The garden is demanding an increasing level of maintenance for declining returns in quality flower production. In short, the garden needs to be redeveloped.

What is proposed?
Parks and Recreation Department staff are proposing to establish a collection of hardy landscape roses in the strolling garden area east of the Rotary Gazebo. The focus of this display garden will be to provide visitors an opportunity to see and learn about hardy landscape roses well suited for growing in the typical home landscape. Groups of roses will be planted with complimentary ornamental grasses and flowering perennial plants. Examples of the types of roses to be planted in the Rotary garden include Hardy Canadian Roses (Canadian Explorer and Parkland Series), Rugosa and Rugosa Hybrid Roses, Meidiland Landscape Roses, and Modern Shrub Roses.

The existing rose display garden will be renovated for display of recent AARS (All American Rose Selections) award winning roses and classic Hybrid Tea Roses. The existing crushed stone walkways and planting beds will be removed. A series of rectangular rose beds bordered by turf will line the central walkway north and south of the existing knot garden. AARS roses will be displayed on a rotating basis of four to five years, with new roses replacing older plants on an annual basis.

When will the rose garden be redeveloped?
The first hardy landscape roses will be planted in the Rotary Garden in the spring of 2005. The existing rose display garden will be removed in the fall of 2005. The area will be reshaped, the soil will be amended, and the irrigation system will be modified. New roses are anticipated to the planted in the AARS rose display garden in the spring of 2006.

How will the project be funded?
The initial planting of hardy landscape roses in 2005 will be provided as the result of a generous donation from HWS Consulting Group. Grants and donations are being requested to support development of the AARS rose display garden. Donations can be made to:
The Lincoln Parks Foundation
Box 201, 2740 ‘A’ Street
Lincoln, NE 68502

*Contributions are tax deductible.

For more than 70 years Lincoln residents have enjoyed public rose display gardens. Your contribution helps to continue this tradition.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kelly Sjoeckmeyer, Public Works and Utilities, 441-7711

14TH STREET TO CLOSE NORTH OF COURT STREET

Beginning Monday, ongoing construction of the Antelope Valley Project will require the closure of 14th Street north of Court Street. Motorists traveling north on 14th Street will be detoured west on Bessie Street to Military Avenue. When motorists reach Military Avenue, they may turn east to access 14th Street. This closure will be in effect until about mid-August, at which time 14th Street north of Court Street will re-open to traffic.

Beginning Wednesday, the north leg of the 14th and Holdrege Street intersection will be closed for utility work and paving. This closure is scheduled to re-open June 1. Motorists are advised to use alternate routes to reach the University of Nebraska campus.

-30-
NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7491, fax 441-6277

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 4, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Duncan Ross, Planning Department, 441-7603

PUBLIC BRIEFING PLANNED FOR SIX-YEAR CIP

The public is invited to attend an informational meeting Tuesday, May 10 on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Lincoln for 2005 through 2011. The briefing is set for 3:30 to 5 p.m. in room 113 of the County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street. Citizens will be able to ask questions on the draft CIP for parks, urban development, water, wastewater and streets.

"The six-year CIP is an important document to guide the public investment needed to maintain, improve and expand Lincoln's infrastructure," said Marvin Krout, Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department. "We are offering this public briefing to raise awareness and interest in the community."

The City-County Planning Commission is scheduled to have a public hearing on the draft CIP at its meeting May 18 to determine if the proposed projects are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The Mayor will submit a final version of the CIP to the City Council in June with her proposed operating budget.

The draft CIP is available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: CIP) or at the Planning Department in the City-County Building.

- 30 -
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2005
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dave Norris, Citizen Information Center, 441-7547
Bonnie Coffey, Women’s Commission, 441-7716

CITY RECOGNIZED FOR AFTER-SCHOOL INITIATIVES

The City of Lincoln is one of eight U.S. cities spotlighted for its work with after-school issues in a publication released in April by the National League of Cities (NLC). "The After-school Hours: A New Focus for America’s Cities" recognized the community for its contribution toward establishing Community Learning Centers (CLCs).

CLCs provide safe, supervised, integrated and inclusive before- and after-school, weekend and summer enrichment programs and other supportive services through community-wide collaborative partnerships. The Lincoln CLC initiative is currently serving the community in 15 schools (12 elementary and three middle schools) with a recent grant to add four more schools. The goal is to provide support services and opportunities which lead to improved student learning and development, stronger families and healthier neighborhoods.

CLCs are one of the Mayor’s priorities to expand and improve the quality and efficiency of social services.

“CLCs in Lincoln are effectively providing a positive, proactive platform for the success of our students,” said Mayor Coleen Seng. “With Lincoln’s unique vision of CLCs also providing vital community services in neighborhoods, CLCs are also promoting the health, well-being and success of our families and our community.”

In March 2000, the Lincoln Public Schools Foundation initiated an effort to determine after-school program needs, and to see if CLCs could address those needs. The result has been the development of CLCs as an ongoing, sustainable program. Bonnie Coffey, Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women’s Commission, said the process and results have alleviated the concerns of providers who had feared that their programs would be lost within the CLC framework. Coffey was liaison for the National League of Cities 18-month technical assistance grant and continues to be involved as the City liaison for the CLC management team.

“Nebraska ranks third in the country for the percent of women in the labor force according to the Institute for Women’s Policy Research,” Coffey said. “Which begs the question, ‘who is taking care of our children before and after school?’ The CLCs provide not only a safe, nurturing environment for our children, but goes several steps further in reaching out to the community to address specific needs. Growing, thriving communities means that we’re growing healthy, thriving children.”

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The National League of Cities is the largest national organization for American cities. It serves as a resource and advocate for more than 18,000 cities, towns and villages of all sizes, which collectively serve more than 225 million people. Its published report can be downloaded from the NLC website at www.nlc.org or the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov.
May 6, 2005
Contact: Dave Norris, Citizen Information Center, 441-7547

Mayor Seng's Public Schedule
Week of May 7 through May 13, 2005
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, May 7
- Nebraska State Association of Parliamentarians, welcome remarks - 9:30 a.m., Country Inn & Suites (Beacon Hills) Convention Center, 5353 N. 27th St.
- Coddington Park Celebration and ribbon-cutting, remarks and dedication of new shelter with West "A" Neighborhood Association - 1 p.m., Coddington Park, West "A" and Coddington Avenue
- Lincoln Action Program, remarks and "Join Hands Day" proclamation - 2 p.m., Lincoln Action Program, 210 "O" Street

Monday, May 9
- Nursing Home Week proclamation, remarks - 2:30 p.m., Milder Manor, 1750 S. 20th St.

Tuesday, May 10
- Lancaster County Substance Abuse Action Coalition Legislative Breakfast - 7:30 a.m., Cornhusker Hotel, 333 S. 13th St.

Thursday, May 12
- Ground-breaking for Cooper YMCA expansion - 10 a.m., Cooper YMCA, 6767 S. 14th St.
- Families First & Foremost Appreciation Luncheon, brief remarks - 12:30 p.m., Hillcrest Country Club, 8901 "O" St.
- Neighborhood Roundtable - 4:30 p.m., County-City Building, Room 113, 555 S. 10th St.

Friday, May 13
- First Annual Chief Standing Bear Commemoration Celebration, brief remarks and proclamation - 11:45 a.m., State Capitol Rotunda
- Elevator Dedication at White Hall Mansion, Preservation Month proclamation - 5 p.m., White Hall Mansion, 5903 Walker Ave.
May 4, 2005

Mr. James Bryan Wilson
Bel-Air Group Home
2328 “A” St
Lincoln NE 68502

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Your recent letter to the Lincoln City Clerk in which you requested the opportunity to speak to the City Council regarding StarTran service hours has been forwarded to me. It is my understanding that you are requesting the StarTran service hours be extended to 9:00 p.m., Monday - Saturday and that comparable service be provided on Sundays.

I appreciate your need for additional transit services, particularly if such service would enable you to secure employment. However, such additional service would cost approximately $950,000 per year, which additional funds are not available in the current StarTran budget.

Extended evening transit services, and Sunday services, are included as potential additional transit services which could be as realized funding would become available in the future.

Thank you for your suggestions to improve transit services and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Worth
Transit Manager

cc: Joan Ross - City Clerk
May 5, 2005

Councilman Jonathan Cook
555 South 10th
Lincoln, NE 68503

Dear Councilman Cook,

My name is Jerry Rabel and I am writing to you concerning the City Council’s consideration of canceling Star Tran’s Handi-Van and city bus services to individuals with disabilities at various times of day. If they cut those services Lincoln’s citizens with disabilities will not be able to participate in the activities they currently enjoy. I am a person with disabilities and I know many people who depend on these services in their daily life. Please respect the needs of these citizens. Please take care and have a good day.

Sincerely yours,

Jerry Rabel
Concerned Voter