

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2005
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

- *1. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of August 22, 2005.
- **2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Parking Rates & Fees - August 22, 2005.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES

- *1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (Cook)
- 2. RTSD Meeting (Cook/Marvin/Svoboda)
- 3. JBC Meeting (McRoy/Newman)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced

V. MISCELLANEOUS -

- **1. Executive Session - (Requested by Patte Newman)
- 2. Discussion of the e-mail file? Do council members still need it? (Requested by Jonathan Cook)

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -

- 1. Leadership Lincoln's 5th Annual Celebration of Community Leadership-Annual Recognition Dinner on Monday, October 3, 2005 at The Cornhusker Hotel, A Marriott Hotel, 333 S. 13th Street, Grand Ball Room - 5:30 p.m., Social hour - 6:15 p.m., Dinner - 7:00 p.m., Program - RSVP by Sept. 19th - (See Invitation)

2. Pershing Elementary School-50th Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, September 29, 2005 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Pershing Elementary School, 6402 Judson Street - RSVP to Louise Kolle at 436-1160 - (See Invitation)
3. Celebrating our Name Change Neighborhoods, Inc. is now NeighborWorks Lincoln 2005 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at Lincoln Firefighters Hall, 241 Victory Lane - Complimentary Buffet - Famous Dave's served 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Entertainment 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Program 6:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. - (See Invitation)
4. Westfield Gateway invites you to permanently display your legacy on the wall leading to the Family Lounge of our new \$45 million redevelopment project. You may join them on Saturday, September 10, 2005 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. beside the Playtown outside of Dillard's and Younkers, or you may reserve your tile(s) by calling Kelly Maack, Westfield Gateway Marketing Director, at 464-3196 and they will be sent directly to you. -(See Letter of Invitation)
5. "You Are Invited" Council Bluff Energy Center Unit #4 Tour-Construction Tour of LES' next generating resource on Friday, September 23, 2005 from 10:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - (See Invitation including Agenda for the day)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

***HELD OVER FROM AUGUST 29, 2005.**
****HELD OVER FROM SEPTEMBER 5, 2005.**

ca091205/jvr/tjg

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Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Rick Hoppe (arrived late), Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney's Office; Bruce Bohrer, Chamber of Commerce; Steve Hubka, City Budget Director; Don Taute, Personnel Director; Joan Ray, Council Staff; Deena Winter, Lincoln Journal Star representative

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The Child Advocacy Center expansion had been discussed. The proposed expansion would double the size of the center. [Mr. Cook had pictures of the proposal which he shared with Council] He noted that some of the neighbors were unhappy because they felt they had an agreement with the City from the time that the Child Advocacy Center was first placed in that house. The agreement was that the Center would not expand. Now they believe the City is violating that pledge. Ms. Eschliman asked if that were true? Mr. Cook stated that he wasn't sure. He did not know if there was anything in writing, or if there was an initial oral agreement. The street was closed and connection between Memorial Drive and 33rd with landscaping put in, including many trees. That is an issue that we will have to address.

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been brought forward for a new stage. They wanted to be able to do things that might be done at a regular theater where scenery is brought in from the side and backgrounds can be lowered from above. The plans reflected those possibilities. There was a lot of discussion about the appropriate size of a stage in the Pinewood Bowl setting. The issue was sent off to a sub-committee for more discussion to work out the details. Some felt a larger stage would not be appropriate to the venue.

Mr. Marvin asked if the tree at the Old Fed building would be cut down? Mr. Cook reported that it would not. There would be fountains built, but the tree would be spared.

2. RTSD (Cook/Marvin/Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda reported that they had reviewed the budget. They had a discussion regarding the whole transportation/pedestrian issue at 1st & "J" and 3rd & "F" Streets. Ms. Schorr had moved to have RTSD spend up to \$50,000 or \$60,000 for a study of the area from an RTSD standpoint for pedestrian traffic that include a pedestrian over-pass, upgrading and renovating the existing tunnels. Ms. Schorr had noted that with the multi-millions of dollars that RTSD expends on an annual basis, this would be \$50-60,000 well spent in order to review how we could best move pedestrians to and from and around the railroad tracks.

Mr. Camp had concerns that this was a lot of money for consulting uses. Mr. Marvin did note that Mr. Figard had come forward with a pretty good plan that should work as far as pedestrians are concerned. They have an underpass planned that will connect the bike trail that runs along Salt Creek. Currently, as it hits the bridge area, it dove-tails into this dark tunnel, then back through a graveled area to the bike trail. What they are planning, and would not cost a lot of money, would be to extend the bike trail underneath. They have coordinating funding from NRD, RTSD and, perhaps, a third source. This underpass would handle bicycle and pedestrian traffic fairly cheaply and efficiently. That seems like a pretty good plan and Mr. Marvin would support that.

The concept of the \$60,000 consulting fee was discussed further with a general consensus being reached among Council Members that it would be an expensive and, perhaps, unnecessary expenditure. The concept would require further consideration, but was not finalized.

3. JBC (McRoy/Newman) Ms. Newman reported that the bulk of the JBC meeting was taken up hearing about the six-months progress of the Community Service Initiative. The Human Services Federation had a representative in attendance. They talked about the indicators, and did a State of Caring Index that compared Lincoln to six other cities. In most of the categories, we ranked 5th of the seven. [See Attachment "A"]

The Community Services Initiative is much like a Comprehensive Plan for Human Services. This compares Lincoln with national data as well as local base-line data they've already tracked. Council Members agreed that a copy of the report would be helpful to them.

OTHER MEETINGS: - None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - Mr. Hoppe indicated that there was one appointment to the Community Forestry Advisory Board that would be coming forward for Council's consideration. He noted that appointments were few during the months of September and October.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen reported that Mr. Hoppe was late because he was at St. Marks church in a follow-up meeting for the proposed evacuee assistance program for the state of Nebraska. Lincoln received none in the first rotation. All of Nebraska's evacuees had gone to Omaha. The next rotation would be Wednesday or Thursday with Omaha as the probable destination. If Lincoln is designated as a destination, this meeting had provided finalization on a plan that would facilitate the process.

Mr. Bowen indicated that September 28th seems to be firm with the Omaha City Council for the Joint Meeting between the two Councils. They probably won't have everyone in attendance on the 28th, but they are getting confirmations from the majority of the members. The meeting will still begin at 1:00 p.m. at a location in Lincoln yet to be determined. Possible locations were discussed briefly.

Issues mentioned for Agenda Items for the Joint Meeting were the I-80 Commission; the financing of local infrastructure; further discussion about the MSA. Mr. Camp mentioned S.I.Ds and also the under funding of government pension plans. Ms. Newman asked if anyone wanted to bring up the smoking issue....this was taken under advisement.

Mr. Svoboda asked if there was any interest in having some type of 'Summit' shortly after the Legislative session begins which would include the Lincoln and Omaha Councils, Mayors' Offices, the two Chambers of Commerce and our Legislative representatives from both of the cities. Mr. Marvin suggested that the gas tax formula be included in that meeting. Mr. Svoboda felt the two cities should be lobbying their legislature jointly for greater impact.

The upcoming pre-council agendas were noted briefly. The Council determined after some discussion, that since the Council had no authority over the gas pricing, it would be unproductive to have a pre-council with Aquila. Since this would only be a courtesy informational meeting, Council agreed that an executive summary from Aquila to the Council would be sufficient.

V. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. Executive Session - (Requested by Patte Newman) After all other Agenda Items had been addressed, Mr. Dan Marvin moved to have Council go into Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Ms. Patte Newman. Mr. Dana Roper recorded the move into Executive Session at approximately 12:30 p.m.
2. Discussion of the e-mail file - Do council members still need it? (Requested by Jonathan Cook) After a brief discussion, it was decided to eliminate the .pdf e-mails of the Pre-Council Agenda, the Formal Agenda and the Directors' & "Noon" Agendas to Council members. Instead, the e-mail should have the website link where the Agendas are available and Council members could utilize the website documents.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - Mr. Cook asked about the 48th & "O" Street project, wondering if the thought is that it would go forward, even if for some reason the redevelopment project is slowed down on the north side. Mr. Bowen noted that the Mayor will have to make a decision sometime this month regarding the street project and whether or not it will be a one- or two-year project - which

decision would have an effect on that project as well. It was noted that the development on the south would be a separate project, which makes the whole issue more complicated. Ms. Newman asked how far the project would extend - would it go all the way to 48th & "R" Street. Ms. Harrell commented that the real urgency is to complete the street project before any redevelopment is open rather than having to close the street for work once the development is completed.

This discussion continued briefly with a recap of the issue: As Ms. Harrell explained, at some point something will have to be done to redevelop these sites. The timing is to NOT wait until that happens to finish the street project. What will be done, in light of this information on the New Market Tax Credit information, on the north side will have to be determined. The south side is a separate redevelopment and the street project still needs to accommodate that fact. Mr. Camp expressed concerns about "piece-mealing" the redevelopment of "O" Street. Mr. Bowen noted that he could have information to Council on this after further information was available. Mr. Marvin requested that as the whole project is being reviewed, to include a review of the access issue in a way to facilitate the development of the property on the north side.

Council expressed, again, [See comments below under DAN MARVIN] the need for more open communication between Council Members and the Administration. Mr. Svoboda suggested that the discussion on the 48th & "O" Street project be continued at a Pre-Council meeting early in October after the Mayor has had a chance to make some of the determinations necessary to continue the process.

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN - Ms. Eschliman asked Mr. Bruce Bohrer of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, what experience the new president of the Chamber of Commerce had in recruiting jobs. Mr. Bohrer indicated that he did not know any more than that the new president has been involved in running an economic development organization. That was a requirement that the Search Committee included in the request for applications for the position. Ms. Eschliman asked if his expertise was in technology or manufacturing? Mr. Bohrer did not know if he had a specific area on which he would be focusing.

DAN MARVIN - Before other Council Members made comments, Chair Svoboda called on Mr. Marvin, who brought forward for discussion the information they had received at the Directors' Meeting earlier in the day - that the New Market Credits weren't appropriate at 48th & "O" - Lincoln not being eligible. He asked when the Administration found that out? Mr. Bowen noted that it had been on Friday. Council members discussed the late notification on such an important issue, noting that this had not been the first instance that such non-notification had occurred. The entire Council requested that there be more open communication between Administration and Council members on issues of this importance to the City.

ANNETTE McROY - Absent

PATTE NEWMAN - No Further Comments

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

RICK HOPPE - No Further Comment

DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

JOAN RAY - Ms. Ray took a moment to bid the Council farewell, as this would be her last week as a member of the Council Staff.

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted without Significant Comment

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - The Council moved into Executive Session for discussion of personnel issues at approximately 12:30 p.m.

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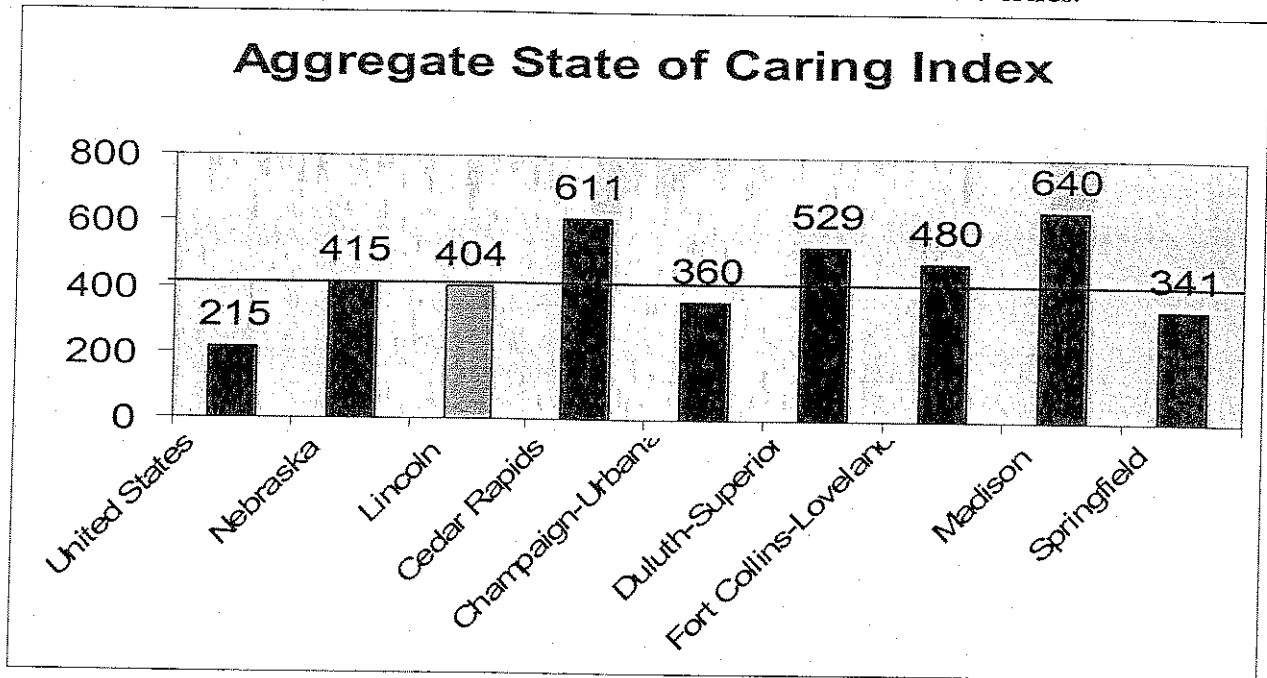
Lincoln / Lancaster County 2005 State of Caring Index- Summary Sheet

Replication of the United Way of America State of Caring Index

Attachment #A JBC 9/7/05

Comparison Cities: Cedar Rapids Iowa, Champaign – Urbana Illinois, Duluth – Superior Minnesota, Fort Collins – Loveland Colorado, Madison Wisconsin, Springfield Illinois, Lincoln Nebraska

Overall State of Caring Index: Lincoln's overall rank was 5th out of the 7 cities.



Economic Index (25% of aggregate index)

Lincoln ranked 4th Measures – effective buying income, rental affordability, unemployment rate, poverty rate, median household income

Education Index (20% of aggregate index)

Lincoln ranked 5th Measures – \$ public school expenditure per pupil, pupil teacher ratio, H.S. drop-out rate

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Lincoln ranked 2nd Measures – Voter participation, United Way per capita \$ giving

Safety Index (10% of aggregate index) *

Lincoln ranked 7th Measures – property crime rate, violent crime rate

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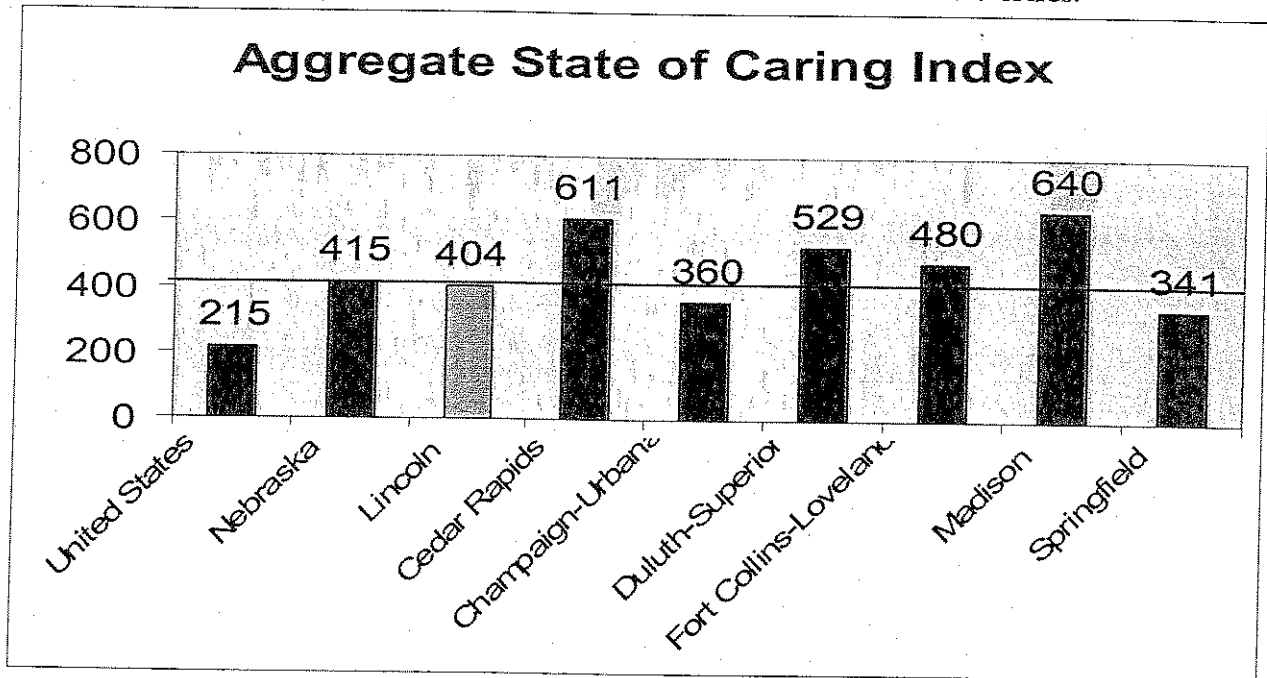
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