IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2007

I. MAYOR
**1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents October Award Of Excellence.
**2. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: CHANGE - The time and date for the news conference on the Star City Holiday Parade has been changed from 10:00 a.m., Nov. 8th to 10:30 a.m., Nov. 15th.
**3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Open House Planned On Improvements To East Adams.
**4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Preliminary Statistics Show EMS To Finish Year With Small Profit.
**5. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Harris Overpass To Close Monday.
**7. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Chris Beutler will make two announcements on Thursday, November 8th at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
**8. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Lincoln Named Nation’s Top Digital City - Web site celebrates 12th anniversary ranked number one for comparable cities.
*11. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule. Week of November 10 through 16, 2007. (Sent to City Council via email on November 9, 2007)
*12. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler Will Present 2007 Gerald Henderson Human Right Award at 3:00 pm, Wednesday, November 14, 2007 in the Mayor’s Conference Room, 555 South 10th Street.
*13. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and Star City Holiday Parade Representatives News Conference, Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 10:30 am at the Float Factory in Waverly.
*14. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Presents Human Rights Award to Beatty Brasch.
*15. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Announces Plans for Star City Holiday Parade.

II. DIRECTORS

FINANCE/CITY TREASURER

PLANNING
**1. Letter from Tom Cajka to Lyle Loth, ESP - RE: Hartland Homes NW 6th Addition Final Plat #07067 - Generally located at NW 48th Street and W. Madison Avenue.
**2. Letter & Material from Brian Will to Property Owners - RE: Administrative Amendment #07104 to The Preserve on Antelope Creek - Use Permit #125.
*3. Bill #07R-229, Special Permit No. 07047, 10th and Military Road. Plan to Bring Parking Stalls up to 107 for Apartments.
*4. Memo from William J. Wayne Regarding Bill #07R-228, #07-171, #07-172 and #07R-229, 10th and Military Road.
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES
*2. Comp Plan Conformance 07022, Special Permit 07047, Change of Zone 07055 REVISED. Percentage of Allowable Fill of 60%, not 40%, for Area of Proposed Development.

III. CITY CLERK

IV. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

DAN MARVIN
*1. Email from Milt Schmidt, United Way Public Sector and Labor Campaign Specialist. Why is City Council trying to take away wages?

V. MISCELLANEOUS
**1. Email from Andrea Dickey - RE: LES rate increase.
**2. Letter from Wendy Birdsall, CCE, President, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce - RE: Our city living wage ordinance (Council received on 11/05/07 before Formal Council Meeting)
**3. Letter & Material from Diana McGinnis to L. Lynn Rex, Executive Director, League of Nebraska Municipalities - RE: Model Municipal Ordinance (For a Parallel Accounting of Municipal Finances in Constitutional Dollars).
**4. Letter from Glenn D. Johnson, General Manager, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District - RE: North 10th Street & Military.
**5. Email from Tammy Hanel - RE: Animal Control.
*7. Email from Vic Covalt. Reject Jon Camp’s attack on the right of all persons to receive a living wage.
*8. Email from Cookie Wittler. Reject Jon Camp’s attack on the right of all persons to receive a living wage.
*9. Correspondence through InterLinc. Why is Council trying to take wages away from people who do not make enough money to support themselves now? From Milt Schmidt.
*10. Email from Jeanne Kern. Special Permit 07047 The location, on taking land in the 100-year flood plain and making low cost housing, is terrible. Deny request.
*11. Email from Robert and Phyllis Narveson. Oppose Bill No. 07r-229, Special Permit 07047. Development is located in the 100 year flood plain.
*12. Email from Joyce Coppinger. Deny plan approval to build low-income housing in the flood plain along Salt Creek.
*13. Email from Rosemary Thornton. Vote No on project for building on the 100 year flood plain of Salt Creek.
*15. Email from Karen Davis. Creekside Village doomed to failure. Do not approve in the flood plain.
*16a. Email from Bill Wayne. Reconsider request for housing construction on the Salt Creek flood plain.
*16b. Statement from William J. Wayne, Professor Emeritus, Geology on flood plains.
*17. Correspondence on Lincoln InterLinc from Bill Crawford. Concerns regarding homeless population in Lincoln.
*18. Email from David Wasson. Vote against Creekside Village Development, Bill No. 07R-229, Special Permit 07047.
*19. Email from Mary Rauner. Questions regarding the flood plain housing proposal. Other proposals should have been considered.
*20. Email from Susan Samson. Opposed to location for proposed Creekside Village.
*21. Letter from Robert Boyce (Sent to each Council Member individually). Vote against requested exception to the Comprehensive Plan permitting the building of Creekside Village.
*22. Email from Nancy Shelley. Find better site for Creekside Village.
*23. Email from Arlys Reitan. Building should not be done in flood plains. How are certain groups able to obtain waivers and exceptions to the rule?
*24. Email from Sue Wurm. Opposition to Bill No. 07R-229, Special Report 07047.
*25. Email from Cindy Weiss. Proposed housing on a floodplain in Lincoln is total madness.
*27. Letter from the Multicultural Advisory Committee. MAC voted to opposed exempting nonprofit organization from Lincoln’s Living Wage Ordinance. Supports present Ordinance 2.81 as is.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

ALL HELD OVER UNTIL DECEMBER 3, 2007.

**HELD OVER FROM NOVEMBER 12, 2007.
Date: November 9, 2007
Contact: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of November 10 through 16, 2007
Schedule subject to change

Sunday, November 11
• Veterans Day Program, remarks - 11 a.m., Veterans Memorial Garden, Antelope Park (east of Auld Recreation Center, 3140 Sumner)

Tuesday, November 13
• Havelock Business Association - noon, Isles Reception Hall, 6232 Havelock Ave.
• Multicultural Advisory Committee - 3:30 p.m., Sheldon Art Gallery Board Room, 12th and “P” streets

Wednesday, November 14
• Presentation of Gerald Henderson Human Rights Award - 3 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.

Thursday, November 15
• News conference on Star City Holiday Parade - 10:30 a.m., float factory (map will be sent)
• Lincoln City Employee Association (LCEA) annual membership meeting, remarks - noon, Barry’s Outback, 9th and “P” streets

Friday, November 16
• Lincoln Area Agency on Aging Seniors Foundation donor reception, remarks - 5:30 p.m., Nebraska Club, 233 S. 13th St. (20th floor)
Mayor Chris Beutler will present the 2007 Gerald Henderson Human Rights Award at 3 p.m. Wednesday, November 14 in the Mayor’s Conference Room, 555 South 10th Street.
Mayor Chris Beutler and representatives of the Star City Holiday Parade will discuss this year’s December 1st parade at a news conference at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, November 15 at the parade’s float factory in Waverly.

The 23rd annual parade is presented by Verizon Wireless and produced by Updowntowners, Inc. and the City of Lincoln. More information is available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov or at www.updowntowners.org.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Lincoln Comm. on Human Rights, 440 S. 8th St., Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7625, fax 441-6937

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2007
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Larry Williams, LCHR Exec. Director, 441-8691, TDD 441-8398

MAYOR PRESENT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD
TO BEATTY BRASCH

Mayor Chris Beutler today presented the 2007 Gerald Henderson Human Rights Award to Beatty Brasch, Executive Director of the Center for People in Need. The award is presented by the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (LCHR) to recognize outstanding achievements in furthering human relations in Lincoln.

After serving 14 years as Director of the Lincoln Action Program (LAP), Brasch opened the Center for People in Need in 2003. The Center is a non-profit organization serving high-risk and low-income families. Its mission is to help families and young people address socio-economic barriers limiting their paths to success.

"Beatty has been a force in Lincoln for many years, inspiring many with her energy, enthusiasm and hard work," said Mayor Beutler. "She has helped countless individuals and families meet their basic needs. Even more importantly, she has provided hope, helping those in need to see the opportunities that exist in their futures."

Helen Traudt nominated Brasch for the award, calling her "woman of compassion and integrity." She wrote, "Beatty believes that all persons deserve the right to food, shelter and health care and to be valued as human beings. She is committed to providing care and support to at-risk populations, including low income, elderly, Native American, Black-African Americans, Hispanic/Latino and refugee populations."

"Beatty has had many roles in our community – Lancaster County Election Commissioner, LAP Director and now Director of the Center for People in Need," said LCHR Director Larry Williams. "In all those roles, she has committed herself to making this piece of the world a better place for everyone, especially those who are less fortunate."

LCHR established the annual Human Rights Award in 2000. In 2003, the award was named for the late Gerald Henderson, who was the first director of LCHR and a longtime civil rights activist. Nominees are judged on their achievements in improving human rights based on activities implemented, services performed, or programs operated in the City.

- more -
Human Rights Award
November 14, 2007
Page Two

Previous award winners are Dan Williams; Cecilia Olivarez Huerta; José Soto and the Division of Affirmative Action, Equity and Diversity of Southeast Community College; Milo Mungaard and the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, Inc.; Judi M. gaiashkibos; and Florine Joseph.

LCHR is the primary City agency responsible for the remediation of discrimination complaints brought by individuals. The Commission also provides community education and technical assistance to help people know and understand their rights and responsibilities under law.

- 30 -
Mayor Chris Beutler today announced plans for the 23rd annual Star City Holiday Parade December 1 in downtown Lincoln. The theme for this year’s event is “Tis the Season.” The parade begins at 11 a.m. and will again be televised live statewide by KOLN-KGIN-TV. It is presented by Verizon Wireless and produced by Updowntowners, Inc. and the City of Lincoln.

“I’m a huge fan of the parade and believe this will be one of the most exciting parades in years,” said Mayor Beutler. “The production team and an army of volunteers have created two new floats sponsored by Verizon Wireless and the Community Blood Bank. I hope we have the largest crowd in parade history downtown to enjoy the results of all that hard work.” Mayor Beutler and his wife, Judy, will travel the parade route in a horse-drawn carriage.

Deb Johnson, Executive Director of Updowntowners, Inc., said the parade attracts about 85,000 people to downtown Lincoln, making it the largest parade of its kind in the five-state area. Verizon Wireless is sponsoring the new float for Major Drummond, the parade mascot.

“Being new to Lincoln we feel it’s important to get involved in the community,” said Karen Opp, Human Resource Manager for Verizon Wireless. “The parade is a great event and one that our employees have the opportunity to participate in. Verizon Wireless is proud to be part of the excitement.”

The Community Blood Bank (CBB) is sponsoring a new float for Santa and Mrs. Claus. Johnson said the parade has always used old vehicles to move the floats down the route, but this new float will be powered by a custom-made chassis.

“Santa is a long-time blood donor, so he’s looking forward to helping us promote the great work the Community Blood Bank has been doing in Lincoln for 40 years,” said Joyce Halvorsen, Public Relations Director for the CBB. “Santa will even make a special trip to Lincoln to donate blood the week of the parade, making him a 10-gallon donor.”
Johnson said other parade highlights include:

- Sixteen marching bands, including the 43rd Army Band and bands from all the Lincoln Public High Schools, Pius X and Parkview Christian;
- Six giant helium balloons; and
- New community floats created by the Indian Center and the Southwest High School Department.

Other annual favorites include animal units, clowns, costumed characters, the Star City Sweets, the Lincoln Federal Savings giant piggy bank and Rudolph with Bugle the Elf. Children are encouraged to bring their letters to Santa with a return address. U.S. Postal Service employees will pick up the letters during the parade, and Santa will write back to them before the holidays.

Pre-parade entertainment will begin at 10 a.m. along the parade route. Following the parade, the awards ceremony will begin at about 12:45 p.m. in the Lancaster Ballroom at the Cornhusker Marriott. A panel of band professionals will judge the bands in competition. All other judging will be done by a panel of children ages 8 through 14.

More information on the Star City Parade is available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov and at www.starcityholidayparade.org.

Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful is promoting the parade as litter-free event, and volunteers will be along the parade route to help collect trash and educate the public on the proper disposal of trash.

The parade will be re-aired Dec. 2 on My TV, Time Warner Cable channel 110. It also will be re-aired throughout the month of December on 5 CITY-TV, the local government access cable channel. (See lincoln.ne.gov for 5 CITY-TV schedule.)
BUDGET

FY 2008 picture remains unclear. With the fiscal year over a month old, Congress cleared the first two FY 2008 spending bills this week.

The first measure, which would provide funds for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS) and Education, now goes to the President, who will veto it because it spends $10 billion more than he requested, mostly on medical research and social services (see related stories). The President will sign the second measure, which would provide $459 billion for the Defense Department.

The Defense bill also includes a Continuing Resolution, or stopgap funding measure, that will keep the government running until December 14. The current Continuing Resolution keeping government operations running expires next week.

Also this week, House-Senate Conference Committees completed work on a $106 billion spending bill for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (see related stories). The Democratic leadership had hoped to couple the Transportation-HUD measure with the Department of Commerce, Department of Justice and Science Appropriations bill, but conferees backed off that approach after the Senate this week voted to decouple the Military Quality of Life-VA bill from the Labor-HHS-Education bill.

The House and Senate are expected to clear the Transportation and HUD measure next week. The President says he will veto the bill when it reaches his desk because it spends $5 billion more than he requested. With the congressional leadership appearing to lack the votes to override this and other vetoes and with both sides so far refusing to budge, the end game for FY 2008 spending remains unclear.

WATER RESOURCES

Congress overrides veto of WRDA. The House and Senate both overwhelmingly voted to override President Bush’s veto of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the first time Congress has overridden a veto since 1998. The House voted 361-54 and the Senate 79-14 to override, a reflection of the bill’s popularity and of the demand for projects that had built up since Congress last enacted water resources legislation in 2000.

As enacted, HR 1495 would authorize approximately $23 billion for a wide variety of Army Corps of Engineers flood control, navigation, environmental restoration and water and wastewater infrastructure projects. In vetoing the bill, President Bush pointed to the bill’s cost and its failure to impose the stringent controls on the Army Corps of Engineers project selection process that he wanted. Bill proponents, including many fiscal conservatives, countered that the bill only authorizes funding for projects and that it will require peer review of all Corps projects costing more than $45 million and will allow governors to request peer review for any Corps project they find controversial.

Although enactment of HR 1495 is a milestone for projects and communities throughout the country, it also means that the Army Corps of Engineers will now add hundreds of new projects to its already long backlog of projects waiting for funding.
Transportation spending bill

House and Senate conferees complete work on transportation spending bill. House and Senate appropriators completed work on FY 2008 spending for the Department of Transportation this week, clearing the way for final action by the House and Senate next week.

The Conference Report would fully fund highway and transit programs at the levels outlined in authorizing legislation despite the ongoing drop in gas tax revenues and the likelihood that the Highway Trust Fund is on pace to reach a negative balance as soon as FY 2009. Although a congressionally-created commission is looking into other methods of financing highway and transit programs, they have yet to issue their report. House Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey (D-WI) has already fired a rhetorical shot across the bow, telling his authorizing counterparts that he will not address future Highway Trust Fund shortfalls by dipping into the General Fund.

As approved by House-Senate conferees, the bill would provide $41.2 billion for highways, a $2.25 billion increase from FY 2007, including $1 billion above the authorized level to repair deteriorating bridges. It would increase funding for transit programs by $640 million from FY 2007 to $9.65 billion. The bill would also provide $1.45 billion for Amtrak, $156 million more than FY 2007, including $75 million for state matching grants for upgrades on intercity corridors.

Both chambers are expected to approve the measure and send it to President Bush, who says that he will veto it. The bill, which also funds the Department of Housing and Urban Development, would spend $106 billion in FY 2008, $5 billion more than he requested.

In addition, Congress is poised to pass a separate bill to keep federal aviation programs operating through December 31. The authorization for those programs expired on September 30 but Congress is still working on a long-term reauthorization for them.

Housing & CD

Conferees complete work on HUD spending measure. House-Senate conferees completed work on FY 2008 spending for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The House and Senate are both expected to approve the measure next week.

As approved by conferees, the final bill would provide level funding or modest increases to most programs for local government. The Conference Report would provide $3.79 billion for Community Development Block Grants, $100 million more than FY 2007 but still $400 million below the FY 2001 level, the program’s high water mark.

The bill would provide $22.8 billion for Section 8, $852 million more than FY 2007, including $135 million for 15,500 vouchers for vulnerable populations such as homeless veterans and disabled individuals. Public Housing Operating assistance would receive $4.2 billion, $336 million more than FY 2007. The HOPE VI Program, targeted for elimination by the Administration, would receive $120 million, $21 million more than FY 2007.

Other highlights include $735 million for elderly housing, the same as FY 2007, $237 million for disabled housing, the same as last year, and $145 million for the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, $6 million less than FY 2007.

President Bush will veto the bill once it reaches his desk. The bill, which also funds the Department of Transportation, would spend $5 billion more than he requested.

Finance

House tax extenders bill includes one-year delay of vendor withholding tax.

The House approved legislation (HR 3996) today that would stop the expansion of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) for one year and extend a number of expiring tax provisions.

The bill would also delay for one year the implementation of a law that requires state and local governments to withhold three percent of all payments to vendors.

It would also extend a number of expiring tax provisions, such as those to taxpayers who live in a state without an income tax to deduct state and local sales tax from their income; a tax credit for creating conservation easements on environmentally sensitive land, and the New Markets Tax Credit, which is designed to spur investment in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

The bill now heads to the Senate, where it faces difficult prospects because of concerns over the cost of the AMT “patch.” If agreement cannot be reached on that front, the popular tax “extenders” are likely to be pulled out of the bill and considered as a stand-alone bill.

Human Resources

House approves employment discrimination measure. By a largely party line vote of 235-184, the House approved legislation (HR 3685) this week that is designed to protect gays and lesbians from workplace discrimination. Thirty-five Republicans joined 200 Democrats in favor of the bill. Twenty-five Democrats, a combination of conservatives opposed to the bill’s goal and liberals upset that it does not extend workplace protection to transgender individuals, joined 159 Republicans in opposition to the bill.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) of 2007 would make it unlawful to refuse to hire or to terminate an individual based on “actual or perceived sexual orientation.” It defines sexual orientation as “homosexuality, heterosexuality or bisexuality.” The bill would also prevent attempts to “limit, segregate or classify” workers or applicants in any way that would affect their work status.

An employee alleging discrimination would be required to demonstrate that it was intentional. Employers (including local governments), employment agencies, labor organizations, training programs, and associations with 15 or more employees would all be covered under the legislation. Only religious organizations and the military would be exempt.
The bill that as approved by the House is narrower than the original legislation, which would have also protected transgender individuals. House Democratic leadership decided to narrow the bill when it became clear that the measure would not be approved with the transgender language.

During its debate, the House approved an amendment to expand the bill’s exemption for religious groups and to specify that the bill would not alter the federal definition of marriage as between a man and a woman in an effort to expand Republican support for the bill. They also approved an amendment that would clarify that employers could condition employment on marital status. Despite Democratic unease with that proposal, bill sponsors urged support for it on the grounds that its approval would stymie Republican efforts to kill the bill procedurally.

In the wake of the House approval of the bill, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chairman Edward Kennedy (D-MA) took to the Senate floor to vow action on the bill next year. However, the bill faces a steep climb in the Senate and President Bush says he would veto the bill if it reached his desk.

JOB TRAINING
Labor Department spending stays largely the same in FY 2008 proposal. Congress sent its first FY 2008 appropriations bill to the President this week, the measure funding the Departments of Labor, HHS, and Education. While the President is expected to veto the bill, it is not because of spending at the Employment and Training Administration, where programs remained largely the same as FY 2008.

Block grants for adult training ($864 million), youth training ($941 million), and dislocated workers ($1.19 billion) remain at their FY 2007 levels in the House-Senate conference report that reconciled the differences between the two measures. The Job Corps program would receive $1.66 billion in FY 2008, a boost of $82 million, while a program for Ex-Offenders would jump $10 million in FY 2008 to $78.7 million.

The Youthbuild program would receive $62.5 million for FY 2008 in the conference report, an increase of $12.5 million, while the Community Service Employment Program for Older Americans program would jump $48 million, to $531 million.

If Congress is ultimately able to negotiate a Labor-HHS-Education spending bill with the President, it is unlikely that the funding levels for job training will change much, as the White House objections are mainly with spending increases at HHS.

HUMAN SERVICES
Congress sends FY 2008 HHS budget to President for expected veto. The FY 2008 Department of Health and Human Services appropriations bill was approved by Congress on Thursday, but the measure is expected to be vetoed by the President because it exceeds his proposed spending cap.

Some of the programs that would experience an increase over FY 2007 levels include the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which would receive $2.411 billion, an increase of $250 million over FY 2007 levels. However, the increase would be directed toward the LIHEAP contingency fund, rather than the state formula program, which would actually remain at its FY 2007 level of $1.98 billion.

Funding for other programs of interest include $652 million for refugee assistance programs, an increase of $64 million, and $1.45 billion for Older Americans Act programs, up $70 million.

The Community Services Block Grant program would jump $35 million to $665 million in the bill, while the Social Services Block Grant ($1.7 billion) and Child Care and Development Block Grant ($2.1 billion) programs would remain at their FY 2007 levels.

Congress will almost certainly have to revisit the FY 2008 HHS appropriations, as the President has threatened to veto the measure on the grounds that the overall bill (which also funds programs at the Departments of Education and Labor) is approximately $10 billion above his request.
Memorandum

To: Sara Hartzell, Tom Cajka - Planning Dept.

From: Dennis Bartels - Engineering Services
       Ben Higgins - Watershed Management

Subject: Comp Plan Conformance 07022, Special Permit 07047, Change of Zone 07055
         REVISED

Date: November 13, 2007

cc: R. Figard, R. Hoskins, N. Fleck-Tooze, S. Masters

Engineering Services in association with Watershed Management has reviewed the subject application for residential development at 10th and Military and has the comments listed below. *(This memorandum has been revised to correct the required flood storage volume referenced in Item 1).*

**Floodplain and Stormwater**

1. **Flood Storage Volume.** This area is in the 100-year floodplain of Salt Creek. The Comprehensive Plan includes the following strategy regarding surplus property in the floodplain:

   “*Retain City or County property in the floodplain in public ownership, and consider the purchase of easements of land when other publicly-owned property in the floodplain is proposed for surplus. Retain conservation easements to protect floodplain functions where unusual circumstances merit the consideration of surplus floodplain property.*” *(P. 80)*

   Due to the public involvement in this site through the surplus property declaration, and as noted in a memo to Urban Development dated August 8, 2006 and stated earlier to the applicant, we continue to recommend that the development strive to meet a “no loss of flood storage” standard so as to have no adverse impact on flood heights or flood storage. However, at a minimum, the development is required to meet a “60% allowable fill” standard where no greater than 60% of the flood storage volume is lost to fill or structures. Specific information regarding the flood storage volume has not been provided in the submittal.

2. **Compensatory Flood Storage Areas.** The plan as submitted does appear to show compensatory flood storage in Hayward Park west of the development. However, information documenting this (e.g. cut and fill calculations) has not been submitted. This grading and excavation creates stormwater ponding areas that overtop the city's 78" and 48" sanitary trunk sewers. Wastewater strongly recommends against storm water cells being built in the area of these trunk sewers and their easements. Options to consider for alternate
flood storage locations include reducing the number of units, relocating the picnic shelter in Hayward Park to shift flood storage south (while addressing the associated cost), and/or consideration of flood storage areas (outside the sewer easement) in the southwestern-most portion of Hayward Park near I-180 at approximately Claremont Street. As noted in the August 2006 communication, excavation in Hayward park should be done only to the extent that it results in no adverse impacts to the park.

3. **Land Use.** As noted in August 2006 (and as recently noted in a letter from the Department of Natural Resources to Nebraska Housing Resources) we continue to have concerns about the appropriateness of this location for housing for the severely mentally ill. The 100-year flood elevation is 1150.3' in this area, which means flood depths of 1 to 5 feet for areas that are not elevated.

4. **Building and Street Elevations.** The application is showing creation of lots and therefore should meet submittal requirements per Chapter 26.24.020 of the subdivision ordinance. No reference is made to the subdivision ordinance requirements. The townhouse lots are shown to be graded below the floodplain. The ordinance requires all areas subject to flooding after grading to be limited to open space, streets and parking. Adverse impacts are required to be considered and mitigated. All the existing and proposed streets in the vicinity of the subdivision appear to be well below the 100 year flood surface and access will be limited to this plat even if residential structures are raised above the flood plain. Streets are required to be no lower than 1-foot below the 50-year flood elevation (1148.9').

5. **Drainage Study and Calculations.** No drainage study or calculations have been submitted for this application so the drainage plan cannot be reviewed. Elevating the townhomes to meet subdivision ordinance requirements will change the grading plan and the plan must show that the grading will not adversely affect adjoining property. In addition, zoning design standards require the parking lots be designed to drain to a parking lot storm sewer system. The required drainage system and grading needs to be shown with a revised drainage study and calculations, including the stormwater elevations in the flood storage areas.

6. **Missing Information.** Missing information that must be shown includes the following:
   - 100-year flood elevations
   - Floodplain cross-sections
   - Percentage by volume of fill and compensatory storage (cut and fill calculations)
   - Elevation of streets relative to 50-year flood elevations per subdivision requirements and waiver request and justification if not meeting requirements
   - Lowest finished floor elevations for buildings
   - Drainage study and calculations
   - Drainage system and grading to meet design standards

7. **Salt Creek Levee Requirements.** The grading of the compensatory flood storage and other portions of the development are within 500 feet of the centerline of the Salt Creek dikes.
Any grading in the vicinity of the dikes will require approval of the Army Corps of Engineers (review generally takes four to eight weeks). Their approval may not be given, even if the City Council approves this plan.

8. **Park Drainage.** Based on existing contours on the plan, the park property does not have adequate surface drainage. The proposed grading does not improve it and potentially makes the park drainage worse. Revisions should be made to the plan to ensure that the park property is not adversely impacted.

9. **Stormwater Detention.** A waiver to the stormwater detention requirements is acceptable given the proximity to Salt Creek.

**Streets and Sidewalks**

1. **Access and Intersections.** Tenth Street in this vicinity is an arterial street. By design standards access to arterial streets should be at approximately one quarter mile spacing. The plat as submitted shows platting Court Street intersecting 10th Street 600’ from the existing 10th and Military Road intersection. Tenth and Military is a potential signalized intersection identified in the Antelope Valley project. The plan also shows a private alley intersecting 10th Street. Public Works recommends that the plan be revised to eliminate both accesses to 10th Street and meet City design standards by extending Military Avenue to 9th Street. This concern was raised in Public Works report on February 8, 2006 concerning the Comprehensive Plan conformity of the amendment to the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan for this same project.

2. **Street Paving and ROW.** The subdivision ordinance requirement is that all streets adjacent to a plat be installed. The plan submitted shows paving only a portion of 9th Street and none of Military Road. If Military Road is built it will likely be required to be a minimum of 3 lanes wide at its intersection with 10th Street. The plan shows a 60’ right-of-way for the entire frontage which does not meet subdivision ordinance requirements for right-of-way for the 3 lane portion of Military.

3. **Sidewalks.** Sidewalks are not shown or acknowledged in the notes for the ordinance required sidewalks for this plat.

**Utilities**

1. **Wastewater trunk sewers.** No dimensions are shown on the easements for the 78" and 48" sanitary trunk sewers. Building envelopes are shown adjacent to these easements. These sewers need to be accurately located and dimensioned and all building envelopes including overhangs outside this easement. Note 6 must be revised to exclude overhangs or other building appurtenances from the sewer easement.
A floodplain exists so that when more water enters a channel than it can carry there is a place for the excess water to go. It is both the creation and the domain of the stream that formed it. Whenever possible, it should remain open land so that it is available for the stream to use when it is needed. This is a natural process, and when people get in the way they are likely to get hurt. A planner who understands this will not authorize construction of permanent buildings, especially housing, on an active floodplain such as that of Salt Creek west of 10th street and north of Claremont in Lincoln. This land, mostly still open, should remain that way and not be converted into residential uses. Please keep it available for Salt Creek to occupy when necessary.

William J. Wayne, Professor Emeritus, Geology
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
NOTIFICATION

TO : Mayor Chris Beutler
     Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Walker, Planning

DATE : November 8, 2007

RE : Special Permit No. 07049
     (On-sale alcohol - 710 Hill Street)
     Resolution No. PC-01087

The Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission took the following action at their regular meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2007:

    Motion made by Larson, seconded by Cornelius, to approve Special Permit No. 07049, with conditions, requested by Dan Lesoing d/b/a DJ's Bartending, for authority to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises generally located at 710 Hill Street.

    Motion for conditional approval, carried 8-0: Moline, Esseks, Sunderman, Cornelius, Larson, Gaylor-Baird, Francis and Carroll voting 'yes' (Taylor absent).

The Planning Commission's action is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a Letter of Appeal with the City Clerk within 14 days of the date of the action by the Planning Commission.

Attachment
cc: Building & Safety
    Rick Peo, City Attorney
    Public Works
    Dan Lesoing, 901 Oak Street, 68521
    Steve Miers, Down Home, Inc., 6000 S. 56th Street, 68516
    Danny Walker, South Salt Creek Community Org., 427 E Street, 68508
    Gary Irvin, South Salt Creek Neighborhood, 645 D Street, 68502
    Danelle Catlett, Solid Rock Gymnastics, 610 Hill Street, 68502
    Steve Herrmann, 2651 S. 8th Street, 68502

\shared\wp\jlu\2007 ccnotice.sp\SP.07049
RESOLUTION NO. PC- 01067

SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 07049

WHEREAS, Dan Lesoing dba DJ’s Bartending has submitted an
application designated as Special Permit No. 07049 for authority to sell alcoholic
beverages for consumption on the premises generally located at 710 Hill Street, legally
described as:

Lot 149 I.T., located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 35,
Township 10 North, Range 6 East of the 6th P.M., Lancaster
County, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the real property adjacent to the area included within the site
plan for this permit to sell alcoholic beverages on the premises will not be adversely
affected; and

WHEREAS, said site plan together with the terms and conditions
hereinafter set forth are consistent with the intent and purpose of Title 27 of the Lincoln
Municipal Code to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lincoln City-Lancaster
County Planning Commission of Lincoln, Nebraska:

That the application of Dan Lesoing dba DJ’s Bartending, hereinafter
referred to as "Permittee", to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises
on property legally described above be and the same is hereby granted under the
provisions of Section 27.63.680 of the Lincoln Municipal Code upon condition that
operation of said licensed premises be in strict compliance with said application, the
site plan, and the following additional express terms, conditions, and requirements:

1. This permit approves the sale of alcohol for consumption on the
premises of the restaurant as designated by the cross-hatched shading on the site plan.

2. The construction plans must comply with the approved plans.

3. Before the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises:
   i. The Permittee shall submit five copies of the final site plan to
      the Planning Department for review and approval; and
   ii. All development and construction must conform to the
       approved plans.

4. The site plan approved by this permit shall be the basis for all
interpretations of setbacks, yards, locations of buildings, location of parking and
circulation elements, and similar matters.

5. The terms, conditions, and requirements of this resolution shall be
binding and obligatory upon the Permittee, its successors, and assigns. The building
official shall report violations to the City Council which may revoke the special permit or
take such other action as may be necessary to gain compliance.

6. The Permittee shall sign and return the City's letter of acceptance
to the City Clerk within 60 days following approval of the special permit, provided,
however, said 60-day period may be extended up to six months by administrative
amendment. The City Clerk shall file a copy of the resolution approving the special
permit and the letter of acceptance with the Register of Deeds, filing fees therefor to be paid in advance by the Permittee.

7. Special Permit 07003 is hereby rescinded.

The foregoing Resolution was approved by the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission on this 7th day of November, 2007.

ATTEST:

Chair

Approved as to Form & Legality:

Chief Assistant City Attorney
Harris Overpass to Close Monday, November 12, 2007
“O” Street; 2nd - 9th
Project #701781

Harris Overpass, which carries “O” Street over the rail yards and the Haymarket District, is scheduled to close at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 12, 2007 for demolition. Construction of a new overpass is expected to take about one year.

Detour routes have been established:

• North from Downtown: I-180 north to Cornhusker Highway, west on Cornhusker to 1st Street, south on 1st Street (which curves into Charleston Street) to Sun Valley Boulevard, south on Sun Valley to West “O” Street.
• South from Downtown: Rosa Parks Way west to Highway 77, then north to West “O” Street.
• Pedestrians: Salt Creek Trail (just east of Sun Valley) north to Haymarket Park, south on the pedestrian bridge into the Haymarket area.

West “O” Street will remain open to businesses between Sun Valley Boulevard and 2nd Street.

StarTran’s weekday and Saturday routes for #12 - Arnold Heights will be adjusted during construction and an additional bus will be added to the route. Detour route schedules are available: on the buses, at the StarTran office at 710 “J” Street, at various local agencies, and on the City Web site www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: StarTran).

More information, including the detour routes and updates during construction, is available on the City Web site www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: harris) or contact a project representative.

Larry Duensing
Construction Project Manager
City of Lincoln, Engineering Services
(402) 441-8401

Kris Humphrey
Design Project Manager
City of Lincoln, Engineering Services
(402) 441-7592
Memorandum

To: Sara Hartzell, Tom Cajka - Planning Dept.
From: Dennis Bartels - Engineering Services
       Ben Higgins - Watershed Management
Subject: Comp Plan Conformance 07022, Special Permit 07047, Change of Zone 07055 REVISED
Date: November 13, 2007
cc: R. Figard, R. Hoskins, N. Fleck-Tooze, S. Masters

Engineering Services in association with Watershed Management has reviewed the subject application for residential development at 10th and Military and has the comments listed below. *(This memorandum has been revised to correct the required flood storage volume referenced in Item 1).*

Floodplain and Stormwater

1. Flood Storage Volume. This area is in the 100-year floodplain of Salt Creek. The Comprehensive Plan includes the following strategy regarding surplus property in the floodplain:

   "Retain City or County property in the floodplain in public ownership, and consider the purchase of easements of land when other publicly-owned property in the floodplain is proposed for surplus. Retain conservation easements to protect floodplain functions where unusual circumstances merit the consideration of surplus floodplain property." (P. 80)

Due to the public involvement in this site through the surplus property declaration, and as noted in a memo to Urban Development dated August 8, 2006 and stated earlier to the applicant, we continue to recommend that the development strive to meet a "no loss of flood storage" standard so as to have no adverse impact on flood heights or flood storage. However, at a minimum, the development is required to meet a "60% allowable fill" standard where no greater than 60% of the flood storage volume is lost to fill or structures. Specific information regarding the flood storage volume has not been provided in the submittal.

2. Compensatory Flood Storage Areas. The plan as submitted does appear to show compensatory flood storage in Hayward Park west of the development. However, information documenting this (e.g. cut and fill calculations) has not been submitted. This grading and excavation creates stormwater ponding areas that overtop the city's 78" and 48" sanitary trunk sewers. Wastewater strongly recommends against storm water cells being built in the area of these trunk sewers and their easements. Options to consider for alternate
flood storage locations include reducing the number of units, relocating the picnic shelter in Hayward Park to shift flood storage south (while addressing the associated cost), and/or consideration of flood storage areas (outside the sewer easement) in the southwestern-most portion of Hayward Park near I-180 at approximately Claremont Street. As noted in the August 2006 communication, excavation in Hayward park should be done only to the extent that it results in no adverse impacts to the park.

3. **Land Use.** As noted in August 2006 (and as recently noted in a letter from the Department of Natural Resources to Nebraska Housing Resources) we continue to have concerns about the appropriateness of this location for housing for the severely mentally ill. The 100-year flood elevation is 1150.3' in this area, which means flood depths of 1 to 5 feet for areas that are not elevated.

4. **Building and Street Elevations.** The application is showing creation of lots and therefore should meet submittal requirements per Chapter 26.24.020 of the subdivision ordinance. No reference is made to the subdivision ordinance requirements. The townhouse lots are shown to be graded below the floodplain. The ordinance requires all areas subject to flooding after grading to be limited to open space, streets and parking. Adverse impacts are required to be considered and mitigated. All the existing and proposed streets in the vicinity of the subdivision appear to be well below the 100 year flood surface and access will be limited to this plat even if residential structures are raised above the flood plain. Streets are required to be no lower than 1-foot below the 50-year flood elevation (1148.9').

5. **Drainage Study and Calculations.** No drainage study or calculations have been submitted for this application so the drainage plan cannot be reviewed. Elevating the townhomes to meet subdivision ordinance requirements will change the grading plan and the plan must show that the grading will not adversely affect adjoining property. In addition, zoning design standards require the parking lots be designed to drain to a parking lot storm sewer system. The required drainage system and grading needs to be shown with a revised drainage study and calculations, including the stormwater elevations in the flood storage areas.

6. **Missing Information.** Missing information that must be shown includes the following:
   - 100-year flood elevations
   - Floodplain cross-sections
   - Percentage by volume of fill and compensatory storage (cut and fill calculations)
   - Elevation of streets relative to 50-year flood elevations per subdivision requirements and waiver request and justification if not meeting requirements
   - Lowest finished floor elevations for buildings
   - Drainage study and calculations
   - Drainage system and grading to meet design standards

7. **Salt Creek Levee Requirements.** The grading of the compensatory flood storage and other portions of the development are within 500 feet of the centerline of the Salt Creek dikes.
Any grading in the vicinity of the dikes will require approval of the Army Corps of Engineers (review generally takes four to eight weeks). Their approval may not be given, even if the City Council approves this plan.

8. **Park Drainage.** Based on existing contours on the plan, the park property does not have adequate surface drainage. The proposed grading does not improve it and potentially makes the park drainage worse. Revisions should be made to the plan to ensure that the park property is not adversely impacted.

9. **Stormwater Detention.** A waiver to the stormwater detention requirements is acceptable given the proximity to Salt Creek.

**Streets and Sidewalks**

1. **Access and Intersections.** Tenth Street in this vicinity is an arterial street. By design standards access to arterial streets should be at approximately one quarter mile spacing. The plat as submitted shows plating Court Street intersecting 10th Street 600' from the existing 10th and Military Road intersection. Tenth and Military is a potential signalized intersection identified in the Antelope Valley project. The plan also shows a private alley intersecting 10th Street. Public Works recommends that the plan be revised to eliminate both accesses to 10th Street and meet City design standards by extending Military Avenue to 9th Street. This concern was raised in Public Works report on February 8, 2006 concerning the Comprehensive Plan conformity of the amendment to the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan for this same project.

2. **Street Paving and ROW.** The subdivision ordinance requirement is that all streets adjacent to a plat be installed. The plan submitted shows paving only a portion of 9th Street and none of Military Road. If Military Road is built it will likely be required to be a minimum of 3 lanes wide at its intersection with 10th Street. The plan shows a 60' right-of-way for the entire frontage which does not meet subdivision ordinance requirements for right-of-way for the 3 lane portion of Military.

3. **Sidewalks.** Sidewalks are not shown or acknowledged in the notes for the ordinance required sidewalks for this plat.

**Utilities**

1. **Wastewater trunk sewers.** No dimensions are shown on the easements for the 78" and 48" sanitary trunk sewers. Building envelopes are shown adjacent to these easements. These sewers need to be accurately located and dimensioned and all building envelopes including overhangs outside this easement. Note 6 must be revised to exclude overhangs or other building appurtenances from the sewer easement.
please include in the directors packet

-----Original Message-----
From: Milt Schmidt [mailto:mschmidt@unitedwaylincoln.org]
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 10:59 AM
To: dmarvin@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Living Wage

Dan

Why is the City Council trying to take away the wages of employee’s that can’t make it on the salary that they receive now? As you know you all are supposed to be for the people of the City of Lincoln not against them.

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can.

____________________________________
Milt Schmidt
Public Sector and Labor Campaign Specialist
United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County
206 South 13 Street, Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone 441-6167
Fax 441-6088
www.unitedwaylincoln.org

Credit Card Donations Accepted Online!

[IMAGE]

Please remember United Way in your will and let us know when you do!
This information in this email is confidential and if you are not the intended recipient be advised that you have received this email in error and any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing or copying of it is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error you should notify the sender by return email and delete this message from your computer system. It is the responsibility of the addresses to scan this mail and any attachments for computer viruses or other defects. The sender does not accept liability for any loss or damage of any nature, however caused, which may result directly or indirectly from this email or any file attached.
To: Lincoln City Officials  
From: Mark A. Brohman, Executive Director, NE Environmental Trust  
Date: November 8, 2007  
Re: 07R-227, 07R-228, 07-171 and 07-172

I would like to weigh in on the four proposals (07R-227, 07R-228, 07-171 and 07-172) pending before the City Council’s November 19th meeting. After serving on the Mayor’s Floodplain Task Force and seeing the floodplain problems in and around Lincoln firsthand, it is unsettling that the City is proposing to surplus floodplain adjacent to Salt Creek and allow development to occur at this site.

There appears to be a number of other issues ranging from the loss of the shooting facility and hoping the City and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission can come up with funding to relocate the facility, relocating the Public Building Commission’s facilities and the County garage/storage facility, the neighborhood’s opposition to the plan, placing low income and lower functioning citizens in or adjacent to the floodplain, traffic concerns, and others.

I understand the City sees this “deal” as a great opportunity to make use of an underused site, get rid of an unwanted building with asbestos, improve a gateway into the City and use low income housing tax credit to provide much needed housing for low income and other disadvantaged citizens.

All City officials, especially the City Council must consider the long-term impacts of this proposed project. The only item I am qualified to speak on would be the floodplain issues. I think the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District Director, Glenn Johnson, made very good points when he noted, “The property is in the 100-year floodplain of Salt Creek. It is publicly owned property. Two-thirds is within a 500' critical area setback from Salt Creek. This is new criteria post-Katrina that the Corps has put in place on all federal levees throughout the United States, i.e. within that 500' setback there is a much more detailed review. We have spent a lot of money buying public right-of-way to preserve, acquire and protect floodplains. The NRD believes it is inconsistent when publicly owned property is considered for transfer or transfer into private ownership and it is no longer preserved. Secondly, if this proposal goes forward, the NRD certainly would encourage and hope that the “no net rise” requirement would be placed on this since it is already in public ownership – not just the 60%. This would compensate for the loss of already public-owned property. At any point before it goes forward for any type of construction, there is a process that needs to be followed for any impact upon the levee system. July 1993 was the last time that we had a very significant high water event. The flood control levees were built in the mid-1960’s after that flood in the 1950’s; however, the dams and the levees do not provide protection from a 100-year flood, so the water would be over the top of the levees operating basically as if the levees were not there. The 60% allowable fill takes into account the dams and the levees and the system that is in place today, so it is an accurate representation of the flood threat in the area.”
This site has provided some flood storage and if roof tops, parking lots, roads and other impermeable surfaces cover the site in the future, there will be a significant increase in run-off created during rain and snow events. This additional water will cause additional problems.

The Comprehensive Plan includes language for property currently owned by the City that is considered surplus property in the floodplain: "Retain City or County property in the floodplain in public ownership, and consider the purchase of easements or land when other publicly-owned property in the floodplain is proposed for surplus. Retain conservation easements to protect floodplain functions where unusual circumstances merit the consideration of surplus floodplain property."

This policy was adopted for a reason; it makes sense and tries to atone for past mistakes that have been made in the floodways and floodplains around the City.

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has pointed out that it is their "general policy to discourage floodplain development whenever possible." This is the standard I thought the City was maintaining. It would unfortunate to see all of the hard work of the Floodplain Task Force fall in a series of waivers. I do not see adequate safeguards in place for this proposal and I would ask each of you to step back and consider the full impact of this project on this community not only now, but into the future. The least that should be accepted is no adverse impacts to the floodplain.
I urge you to reject Jon Camp’s latest attack on the right of all persons to receive a living wage if the employer seeks public money as a part of their business.

I believe one of the gravest issues facing America is to ensure that all people who work are treated fairly and with respect. I do believe that the minimum wage should not result in a poverty level existence for people.

The 16th Century thinker Locke long ago said you cannot create a class of citizens who do not share a stake in society. To continue to allow people with jobs to be unable to feed their family is to slowly destroy our society and our form of government.

We do not need to retreat to a feudal system of serf labor. To do so will breed crime and revolution. We will need to build more jails.

I am sorry Jon Camp’s personal greed corrupts city politics.

I ask: Is Mr. Camp receiving funds from the city of Lincoln? How much?

Does Jon Camp have agreements with the city that require him to pay a living wage? Is he directly effected by this living wage deal?

I fully support a living wage for all persons, including City Council members for their service to our community.

Do not take a step back from the progress this City has made. We know that the actual impact of
Jon’s latest grandstand will effect only a hand full of people. But to do so will be a black eye for the City of Lincoln.

- 

Let’s address the real issues facing our city. Stop grandstanding for the press and get on with the work of the city.

Victor E. Covalt III

440 So. 13th St.Suite C
P.O.Box81229
Lincoln, NE68501-1229
Fax (402)436-3031
Tel. (402)436-3030
vcovalt@bsclawfirm.com
I urge you to reject Jon Camp’s latest attack on the right of all persons to receive a living wage if the employer seeks public money as a part of their business.

I believe one of the gravest issues facing America is to ensure that all people who work are treated fairly and with respect. I do believe that the minimum wage should not result in a poverty level existence for people.

Let’s address the real issues facing our city. Stop grandstanding for the press and get on with the work of the city.

Cookie Wittler
Ballew Schneider Covalt Gaines & Engdahl PC LLO
440 South 13th Suite C
Lincoln, NE  68508
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Milt Schmidt
Address: 5616 s 73
City: Lincoln, NE 68516

Comment or Question:
Why are we now trying to take wages away from people that don't make enough money to support themselves now? Living wages sure do help them with everyday living expenses. I guess if we do do this, we then put them back to the food lines that we all support within our city. Or with winter coming they won't be able to pay all of their heating bills for the winter. Living wages don't pay for the heating, food and other monthly expenses now. I thought that the City Council was for the betterment of the people of Lincoln?
The request for Special Permit 07047, Creekside Village, would take unbuilt land on the 100-year floodplain and make it low cost housing. The housing is a good idea, but this location is terrible. The developer has stated he can’t provide no net loss of flood storage. Please deny this request!

Jeanne Kern

2600 Cheshire North Court

Lincoln 68512
Please oppose Bill No. 07R-229, Special Permit 07047, Creekside Village. This development is located in the 100 year flood plain. The developer should and can find a location that is not in the flood plain.

Robert and Phyllis Narveson
1729 C St.
Lincoln, NE 68502
I encourage the Lincoln City Council to deny approval of the plan to build the low-income housing development project in the flood plain along Salt Creek in the North Bottoms.

1. Building any type of housing or other projects (convention centers, hotels, business sites, etc.) in a flood plain is questionable.

2. Building low-income housing in a flood plain is not only questionable but it's disconcerting. Does this city believe in and support building housing for low-income people in the least desirable sites available? I hope not. I've lived here since 1939 and have seen all types of housing in flood plain areas of the community destroyed or damaged because of floods which no one expected, so that's not an acceptable response to the developer's comments that the remediation of the creeks that flow through this flood plain makes the possibility of flooding less possible.

3. The proposed project is a commendable effort to provide low-income housing in our community. It's just being placed in the wrong place. The land is probably cheaper than in other parts or locations in the city; there is a lack of affordable land on which to build affordable housing. We need not use this as an excuse to make a poor decision about housing for poor people.

4. And why the fast-track consideration of this project over others past and present?

--
Joyce Coppinger
Lincoln, Nebraska
jc10508@alltel.net
402.483.5135, fax 402.483.5161
Dear Council Members,

It has come to my attention that a developer is trying to rush a plan through for building on the 100 year flood plain of Salt Creek. Please vote NO on this project for all the right reasons: it's publicly owned land and a flood plain; the comprehensive plan says it should be protected; the builder should observe the law and not be asking for special consideration.

Rosemary Thornton

Rosemary Thornton
3405 M Street
Lincoln NE 68510
402-477-7597
rthorn@alltel.net
I strongly oppose building permanent structures on flood plains. I don't want my future taxes used to rebuild those buildings after a flood and I'd like low income housing integrated around Lincoln ...built on bus lines and near shopping centers / schools.

Do you care so little about the less advantaged that you'd risk their losing their homes by building them on a flood plain? Would you build your home on a flood plain? Really? Such fiscal irresponsibility should be against the law.

Maribeth Milner
5151 Vine #608
Lincoln, NE
Absolutely NOT! This is a doomed to failure project for the city, for the taxpayers and for the residents. The only one who profits is the builder! RIDICULOUS!

Sincerely,

Karen L. Davis
5924 Wolff Lane
Lincoln NE  68521

402-770-7825
Please consider the request for housing construction on the Salt Creek floodplain very seriously. I deplore the construction of permanent buildings on floodplains, because they have the potential for serious damage and/or injury to those who use that space.

Very sincerely yours, William J. Wayne (professor emeritus, geology, UNL)

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments: Salt Creek floodplain0.wpd Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

- Salt Creek floodplain0.wpd
A floodplain exists so that when more water enters a channel than it can carry there is a place for the excess water to go. It is both the creation and the domain of the stream that formed it. Whenever possible, it should remain open land so that it is available for the stream to use when it is needed. This is a natural process, and when people get in the way they are likely to get hurt. A planner who understands this will not authorize construction of permanent buildings, especially housing, on an active floodplain such as that of Salt Creek west of 10th street and north of Claremont in Lincoln. This land, mostly still open, should remain that way and not be converted into residential uses. Please keep it available for Salt Creek to occupy when necessary.

William J. Wayne, Professor Emeritus, Geology
Dear Councilman Spatz,

My name is Bill Crawford and I am a constituent in your district. I am writing to you to express my concern about the homeless population in Lincoln. Many of these individuals have a significant mental illness and are currently living in the streets and alleys of our beautiful city. My concern is that there seems to be very little in the way of services provided to or for these individuals, such as connecting them to homeless shelters, medical services, medication, clothing, employment, etc.

Rather than instituting a widespread police crackdown which would just shift the burden and responsibility to the criminal justice system and other public institutions, the city of Lincoln should work to design a system to provide these individuals with necessary services so that their mental conditions are stabilized and they may become productive citizens. Simply rounding up persons with mental illness who are homeless and incarcerating them is an expensive and ineffective solution. A better approach would be to address the root causes of an individual’s homelessness and psychological state.

I have had relatives with significant mental illness. I know that when they received medication and services, they were productive citizens capable of holding down jobs and participating in their communities.

I implore you to examine this issue further and specifically in preparation for the upcoming Special Olympics to be held in Lincoln in 2010. Again, I would not recommend that the city begin to incarcerate, deport, or send away homeless individuals en mass, but rather take a more compassionate and humanistic approach to the problem—primarily addressing the acute needs and problems faced by persons who are homeless and have mental illness.

I appreciate the attention to this issue in the past, specifically Mayor Colleen Seng’s 2004 Mayor’s Task Force on Healthcare for the Homeless, and firmly believe that this issue needs to be addressed again in 2007. While much of this report provides insight to the healthcare needs and barriers experienced by individuals who are homeless, I do not see many recommendations or action items. I feel the time is ripe to follow up on this 4-year old report, and would strongly encourage you to do so. Furthermore, I would stress that while any approach to solving the problems faced by persons who are homeless and have mental illness may seem dauntingly expensive, it would be more expensive to put these people in jails, prisons, or institutions.
Providing necessary supports and services is a long-term human investment that specifically addresses the primary cause of the current situation.

Sincerely,

Bill Crawford
Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I oppose the Creekside Village development, Bill No. 07R-229, Special Permit 07047.

I have no problem with using public money to develop low-income housing but I have a big problem with public money being used to build in a flood plain.

Also I'm disappointed that an RFP process wasn't conducted so that other developers would have had a chance to make proposals.

Please vote against this project.

Thank you for your time.

David Wasson
1100 Rosewood Dr
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-484-0496
Mayor Beutler,

After reading about the housing proposal for the North Bottoms area, I decided that I needed to e-mail both you and the City Council. It was a real surprise to me to read about this development in the paper this morning, since I contacted the Urban Development office less than two years ago with a proposal for a low income independent housing development for the elderly. I was told by that office that there was no way such a proposal would be considered because of flood plain issues.

Imagine my astonishment to find out that this proposal had been fast-tracked through the system. I would ask simply, why? My proposal for this historic area would be a perfect fit. It is close to the bus lines, the University, the LIFE center, grocery stores and would be an asset to this community that has been associated with college party life for too long.

What is the difference between my proposal and that of the Hoppe's? Why was their's not only considered, but pushed at record speed through the system. Shouldn't I (and others like me) have the same opportunities afforded the Hoppes?

Thank you for any time and consideration concerning this matter. If you would like any further information, or have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail. I certainly would like to discuss it further.

Mary Rauner

1820 Surfside Drive

Lincoln, NE  68528

402-499-5069

e-mail address mrauner@unmc.edu
Dear Council Members,

I am opposed to the location for the proposed Creekside Village. Floodplains were designated for a reason, and I feel strongly that we need to protect these public lands and honor the planning process.

Has this been before the council previously? This just came to my attention, so I'm assuming it's a new issue.
I am hoping that you will table this special request and urge the developers to explore other locations.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Samson
3144 South 30th St.
Lincoln 68502
423-3556
ssamson91@msn.com
City Councilman Dan Marvin  
555 S. 10th St.  
Lincoln NE 68508

Subject: Invasion of Salt Creek floodplain—no exception to the comprehensive Plan!

Councilman Marvin:

Please vote against the requested exception to the Comprehensive Plan to permit the building of Creekside Village.

Creekside Village should NOT be built—no development should be built—in the floodplain beside Salt Creek! Any development there would have a major adverse effect on this natural resource, and increase the likelihood of flooding, and make worse the effects of any flood. The floodplain is a poor place to build housing.

Public ownership of that area should be maintained, without exception. The Salt Creek floodplain is an area like Wilderness Park, where our children and grandchildren can enjoy unspoiled nature. It has specific virtues for habitat, improved water quality, and public safety.

NO exception should be made to the treatment of floodplains in the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission has recommended against this development.

The public does not want it. Please vote against this exception to the Comprehensive Plan on November 19.

Thank you.

Robert Boyce
735 South 37th  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
475-0783
Council Members: It is my humble opinion that a better site can be found for a very worthwhile project. Thank you for your consideration!

Nancy M. Shelley
Office Administrator
Brooks, Pansing Brooks, PC, LLO
1248 O Street, Suite 984
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 476-3300

****
This message may contain confidential information intended only for the use of the addressee(s) named above and may contain information that is legally privileged. If you are not the addressee, or the person responsible for delivering it to the addressee, you are hereby notified that reading, disseminating, distributing or copying this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message by mistake, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and delete the original message immediately thereafter. Thank you.
****
TO: Lincoln City Council members

RE: Possible development of homes in a floodplain

I fail to see the point of so many people working on updating the Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan if only to begin eating away at it by making exceptions to the guidelines and regulations. Are those hundreds of hours of tedium to be wasted in the blink of a developer's eye?

If developers and bureaucrats would just keep this one elementary principle in mind when making these types of decisions: Asphalt, cement, and shingles do not soak up flood waters. Apartment buildings and parking lots are made of asphalt, cement, and shingles. Therefore, building should not be done in floodplains.

The very least that should be decided is that this matter not be ramrodded through for a vote this rapidly. Whenever there is a hesitation or uncertainty we have come to learn that taking time to study all the angles is the prudent thing to do.

In today's Journal Star Fred Hoppe is said to have admitted that "they began working on the development two years ago." Why would they have done that when floodplain standards were known to all? It is obvious once again that this group of folks just expects to be able to get waivers and exceptions to the rule. The rest of us have to follow the rules.

Arlys Reitan
2310 S Canterbury Ln
Lincoln NE 68512-1638
(402) 423-3540
Please note my opposition to same.
I know you are very busy, so this will be brief. My name is Cindy Weiss. I am with Woods Bros. Realty, Country Club Office. I am totally opposed to your building housing in a floodplain, any floodplain at all. Especially when you have land available to you such as Hallam, NE and other smaller communities that are starving for tax dollars. Hallam is trying to rebuild and would love the extra income that could be produced by additional housing. Why would you want to put people in an area that will someday flood? Has the Council lost its minds? I'm confused. Please reconsider this madness. Thank you.

Cindy Weiss
A very happy person!
Woods Bros. Realty
(402) 890-6408 or (402) 477-6505
cindy.weiss@woodsbros.com

If you consider this message a solicitation and prefer not to receive future messages from this sender, click 'reply' and add the text 'remove' to the subject line.
As a registered voter and member of the city of Lincoln, I want to let you know I am against Bill No. 07R-229, Special Permit 07047. This housing project would be located in the Salt Creek floodplain and is not in a good location. I believe the city should protect floodplains, not build in them. It is my understanding the proposed housing project would be for low income as well as mentally challenged population. If these units are built in a place that could be affected by a 100 year flood, lives could be lost which would be devastating.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Allen
November 14, 2007

Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th Street, Suite 103
Lincoln, NE 68508

Members of the Council:

The Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) of the City of Lincoln, at their committee meeting on November 13, 2007, took policy action on Item 07-168 scheduled for 3rd reading on the City Council’s November 19, 2007 agenda, amending Chapter 2.81 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to the Lincoln Living Wage Ordinance to exempt nonprofit organizations from the application of the ordinance.

The MAC, established and authorized in Lincoln Municipal Code 4.50 is charged with providing “advice and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council with regard to multicultural issues within the City of Lincoln and environs.” The committee’s scope of authority includes reviewing underemployment problems affecting racial minorities, women and disabled persons and to communicate recommended assistance programs to governmental agencies.

To that end, the MAC, acting on a motion by Thomas Christie and seconded by Colette Mast, voted to oppose the exempting of nonprofit organizations from Lincoln’s Living Wage Ordinance and support the present Ordinance 2.81 as it stands. The vote on this motion was unanimous with one abstention, Councilman Dan Marvin. The MAC further asked that this motion be taken under advisement by the City Council as you consider making changes to the Lincoln Living Wage Ordinance.

Sincerely,

Amir Azimi
Chair
Multicultural Advisory Committee

cc: Mayor Chris Beutler
ADDENDUM  
TO  
DIRECTORS’ AGENDA  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2007

I. MAYOR -

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule Week of November 17 through November 23, 2007 - Schedule subject to change.

2. NEWS RELEASES - RE: Small schedule of Snow Operation Reports & Small schedule CORRECTION (Council received the Release on Snow Operation Reports on 11/15/07 in their Thursday packet)

3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: South 27th Street To Reopen Friday-Delaying final work until spring allows for early opening.

4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Invites Public To Celebration Of America Recycles Day-Dr. R.E. Cycle to make first appearance.

5. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler will release the update of the wastewater facilities master plan at a news conference on 11/19/07 at 10:00 a.m.

6. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Star City Parade Seeking Marshals.


II. CITY CLERK - NONE

III. CORRESPONDENCE -

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS - NONE

C. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. E-Mail from Darryll Pederson - RE: Floodplain development Salt Creek.

2. E-Mail from Janine Copple - RE: Protect the floodplain, no exceptions.

3. Petition with 21 signatures - RE: NO Development in Floodplain!
4. Letter from Tracy J. Corr, Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance Chairman
   Pro-Tem - RE: The LNA opposes the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan to
   develop a housing project at 10th Street & Military Road.


7. E-Mail from Ingrid Kirst - RE: Keep our floodplains—the proposed development at
   10th & Military Road.


13. Letter & Material from Erin Ching, Staff Attorney, Nebraska Appleseed -
    RE: The Living Wage Ordinance.
Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of November 17 through 23, 2007
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, November 17
• National Adoption Day, remarks and proclamation - 10:45 a.m., Hall of Justice, 575 S. 10th St. (4th floor)
• America Recycles Day Celebration, presentation of prizes and the introduction of Dr. R.E. Cycle - 2 p.m., Midland Recycling, 440 “J” St.
• Paris Piano Trio concert presented by the Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music, present honorary citizen certificates at intermission - 8 p.m., Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery auditorium, 12th and “R” streets

Sunday, November 18
• Fifth annual Buffalo Dinner - 5 p.m., Lancaster Event Center, 4100 N. 84th St.

Monday, November 19
• News conference on wastewater master plan- 10 a.m., Room 113, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
• “Meals on Wheels” 40th anniversary celebration, remarks and proclamation - 1 p.m., Tabitha Lifequest Center, 48th and “J” streets

Wednesday, November 21
• KFOR - 12:30 p.m., Three Eagles Communications, 3800 Cornhusker Hwy.

Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 - City offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday
TO: Editors, News Directors, Reporters  
FROM: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center (CIC)  
DATE: Nov. 15, 2007  
RE: Snow operation reports

Thank you in advance for helping us relay the latest information on City snow operations to the public. The City’s goal is to keep the streets cleared and safe. Residents are encouraged to help by not parking on the street during any snow storm, and your assistance in getting this word out is greatly appreciated.

This memo clarifies a few points regarding City snow operations so that you can help us provide the most accurate information possible. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE COPIES OF THIS MEMO FOR YOUR ENTIRE STAFF. The City Web site (lincoln.ne.gov) and the Windstream phone book blue pages 49 and 50 also are good references. (In the new Windstream phone book, the information is expected to be on pages 48 and 49).

- The Mayor can declare two types of parking bans:
  * SNOW EMERGENCY: Parking is banned on both sides of emergency snow routes, arterial streets and City bus routes. A map can be found on the City Web site and in the Alltel/Windstream phone book. The ban is in effect until the Snow Emergency declaration is rescinded by the Mayor.
  * RESIDENTIAL PARKING BAN: Parking is banned first on the even-numbered (north and east) sides of the street. Once the Mayor has terminated that ban, parking will be banned on the odd-numbered (south and west) sides of the street, and parking is again permitted on the even side. This is the third year of this policy – in previous years, parking was banned on both sides of the street in residential areas.

- CIC will issue regular reports at 4:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and at other times as needed. We also will issue immediate reports when parking bans are declared or rescinded. All reports will be e-mailed and recorded on the media line, 441-7783. During regular business hours, reports also will be faxed. Check the time and date on these reports to make sure you have the latest information.
- CIC should be your first contact for snow reports. CIC has four people who handle snow information in shifts -- phone numbers and a schedule are listed at the end. We realize there are times when you need to contact the Snow Center directly at 441-7644. Please avoid calling the Snow Center before 7:30 a.m. Any information available at that time will be in 4:30 a.m. report that is e-mailed and recorded on the media line.
- Because weather conditions can change rapidly, please be cautious when using interviews...
that are more than a few hours old -- they may no longer be accurate.

- more -

Snow Operations
Nov. 15, 2007
Page Two

PHONE NUMBERS AND CIC SNOW SCHEDULE:

Diane Gonzolas (manager) office 441-7831 home 421-1247 cell 525-1520
Dave Norris office 441-7547 home 474-4061
Rick Koepping office 441-7317 home/cell 304-3799
Heather Bennett office 441-6801 home 742-0180

Diane will be snow duty from 5:30 p.m. Sundays to 5:30 p.m. Fridays unless noted below with asterisks. Below is the rest of the on-call schedule, which runs from 5:30 p.m. the first day to 5:30 p.m. the last day:

Nov. 16 - 18: Rick
*Nov. 21 - 27: Dave
Nov. 30 - Dec. 2: Heather
Dec. 7 - 9: Diane
Dec. 14 - 16: Rick
Dec. 21 - 23: Dave
Dec. 28 - 30: Heather
Jan. 4 - 6: Rick
Jan. 11 - 13: Dave
*Jan. 18 - 21: Diane
*Jan. 25 - Feb. 1: Dave
Feb. 1 - 3: Heather
Feb. 8 - 10: Diane
*Feb. 15 - 18: Rick
Feb. 22 - 24: Heather
Feb. 29 - March 2: Rick
March 7 - 9: Dave
March 14 - 16: Diane
March 21 - 23: Heather
March 28 - 30: Rick
Correction to schedule snow operations memo sent yesterday:

Diane is on duty Dec. 7 - 9 (not 19th)

PHONE NUMBERS AND CIC SNOW SCHEDULE:

Diane Gonzolas (manager) office 441-7831 home 421-1247 cell 525-1520
Dave Norris office 441-7547 home 474-4061
Rick Koepping office 441-7317 home/cell 304-3799
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Feb. 22 - 24: Heather
Feb. 29 - March 2: Rick
March 7 - 9: Dave
March 14 - 16: Diane
March 21 - 23: Heather
March 28 - 30: Rick

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.
BEGINNING FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 16, SOUTH 27TH STREET FROM SOUTH OF PORTER RIDGE TO NORTH OF YANKEE HILL ROAD WILL BE REOPENED TO ONE LANE OF TRAFFIC IN EACH DIRECTION. THE STREET IS BEING OPENED ABOUT FOUR WEEKS EARLY. ACTING ON REQUESTS FROM BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AREA, CITY OFFICIALS WORKED WITH THE CONTRACTOR TO OPEN THE STREET TO AT LEAST TWO LANES OF TRAFFIC BEFORE THANKSGIVING.

THE REMAINING WORK ON THE PROJECT WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT SPRING AND WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL LANE CLOSURES AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT THAT TIME. THE LANE MARKINGS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED, SO CONES AND BARRELS WILL BE USED TO DELINEATE DRIVING AND TURNING LANES. TAMARIN RIDGES WEST OF SOUTH 27TH WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL THE LAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER.


FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CITY ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION AT 441-7711 OR SEE THE CITY WEB SITE, LINCOLN.NE.GOV (KEYWORD: PROJECTS).
Mayor invites public to celebration of America Recycles Day

Dr. R.E. Cycle to make first appearance

Mayor Chris Beutler invites the public to attend the celebration of America Recycles Day from **noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, November 17 at Midland Recycling, 440 “J” Street.** At 2 p.m., the Mayor will make prize presentations and introduce Dr. R.E. Cycle, the new spokesperson for the City’s recycling efforts.

America Recycles Day is an annual nationwide event that encourages individuals, schools and businesses to recycle and buy recycled products. In Lincoln, the event will include tours of the City’s largest material recovery facility, educational displays and the making of recycled paper. Free hot dogs and refreshments will be available.

“Recycling is one of the easiest ways that all of us can conserve resources and make a difference,” said Mayor Beutler. “The celebration is a great way to learn more about recycling in a fun environment. I am especially looking forward to meeting the mysterious Dr. R.E. Cycle, Lincoln’s one and only professor of garbology.”

Dr. R.E. Cycle is being featured in the City’s newest recycling campaign, which will include public service announcements and billboards encouraging residents to “Do the Right Thing – the Recycle Thing.”

The celebration is the culmination of a month-long recycling effort in which local residents were asked to make pledges to increase their recycling efforts and buy recycled content products. Nearly 3,000 pledges were received by local recyclers, businesses and schools. The pledges served as entry forms into a local drawing for prizes. Two grand prizes are being presented this year:

- A computer system, valued at $1,500, donated by Schrock Innovations. This prize comes with a year’s work of Internet service from Husker Access, valued at $300.

Other local youth prizes are a $100 Wal-Mart gift card and one year of curbside recycling, courtesy of *Lincoln Journal Star* Recycling. Other local adult prizes are a $100 Russ’s Market gift card; one year of curbside recycling, courtesy of Recycling Enterprises and Star City Recycling; and Nebraska Lottery scratch tickets.

- more -
“The City works with partners in the community to encourage recycling and to make drop-off sites convenient, but the amount of material recycled is really up to each resident,” said Gene Hanlon, City Recycling Coordinator. “Since 2000, the amount of material taken to our recycling drop-off sites has increased by 14.3 percent. In the last fiscal year, 7,075 tons of recyclable material was collected, an all-time high for the program.”

Hanlon said local residents are still throwing away more than 307,000 tons of garbage every year. Since 1960, the amount of trash generated by the average American every day has increased from 2.5 to 4.5 pounds.

Local sponsors of America Recycles Day are the City of Lincoln, Lincoln Public Schools, WasteCap Nebraska, Midland Recycling and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ). The City receives funding for its recycling educational efforts from the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Fund of the NDEQ.

The Recycling Office opened three new drop-off sites last year:

- Super Saver, 27th Street and Pine Lake
- North Star High School, 5801 North 33rd Street
- A & J Recycling Center, 3520 N. 20th Street.

More information about recycling is available on the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: recycling).

(MEDIA NOTE: Dr. R.E. Cycle will be available for interviews Saturday between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. He is portrayed by local actor Scott Glen.)
Mayor Chris Beutler will release the update of the wastewater facilities master plan at a news conference at 10 a.m. Monday, November 19 in Room 113, County City Building, 555 South 10th Street. The master plan identifies future needs for pipelines, operations and treatment plants for all areas of the City.
STAR CITY PARADE SEEKING MARSHALS

Volunteers are still needed for the 23rd annual Star City Holiday Parade Saturday, December 1 in downtown Lincoln. The parade is presented by Verizon Wireless and produced by Updowntowners, Inc. and the City of Lincoln.

Parade Director Deb Johnson said about 80 more people are needed to serve as Parade Marshals. Marshals are stationed along the parade route to help keep spectators safe. They also assist with street closing and opening and provide information on the locations of restrooms and food. Volunteer marshals must be at least 18 years old and able to stand for three hours.

“The most important duty is to smile and be friendly,” said Johnson. “It’s a great way to be involved in the parade without a big commitment of time.”

Volunteers are required to attend a short evening training session the week before the parade. Volunteers age 12 and older also are needed to be banner carriers. Those who are interested in volunteering can sign up online at www.starcityholidayparade.org. For more information, call 434-6902.
WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN OUTLINES FUTURE NEEDS

Mayor Chris Beutler today released the five-year update of the master plan for the City’s wastewater facilities. The report recommends that construction of new treatment facilities in south Lincoln will not be needed before the year 2055. Previous studies indicated a new wastewater facility would be needed to meet growth in southwest Lincoln by 2025. Beutler said as future planning is adjusted for actual City growth and emerging technologies, the date when a new facility is needed may be delayed even more.

“This is excellent news for our community,” said Mayor Beutler. “Building a new wastewater treatment facility is a major undertaking with a big price tag. The new master plan provides us with some alternatives to handling wastewater in the rapidly growing parts of our community.”

The master plan identifies the future needs for wastewater pipelines, operations and treatment for all areas of the City of Lincoln. It recommends the City handle the increased need with two options that are more environmentally-friendly than building new facilities: expanding existing wastewater treatment facilities and using underground peak flow storage facilities at key locations in the system.

“This finding is just one example of how the master planning process helps the City make short-term and long-term decisions about capital improvements, operations and budgets,” said Beutler. “The plan will guide our discussions with prospective employers and developers as we work to open new areas for businesses to locate or expand. The most important factor is that we continue to protect public health and the environment as the City grows.”

Steve Masters, Public Utilities Administrator in the City Public Works and Utilities Department, said the update used new concepts in predicting pipeline flows and for the first time, incorporates the use of peak flow storage. He said it takes into account the current City-County Comprehensive Plan as well as the improvements that have been made in the wastewater system since the master plan was updated in 2003.

“About 200 miles of our 970 miles of existing sewers are more than 100 years old,” said Masters. “It is crucial to regularly study and plan for the future replacement and construction of new sewer capacity.”

- more -
Carollo Engineers worked with the City to complete the update, which also ensures the City’s compliance with State and federal operating permits, regulations and other requirements.

The operation and maintenance of the City’s wastewater system are funded by user fees and not taxes.

The master plan will be available in about 30 days on the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: wastewater).
Lincoln City Council Members:

I am writing regarding items 12, 12, 14, & 15 on the Council agenda for November 19th—regarding the development of 71 housing units on city owned land next to the Salt Creek levee. Approving this proposal would mean abandonment of principals of flood plain management. I cannot see how you could support this action in good faith towards the projected future residents of the area and the citizens of Lincoln who once again will be asked to correct the problems that will occur with this development.

I am member of the citizens advisory board for the Deadman’s Run watershed study. I am also a professional water scientist. I realize full well the problems that exist on the flood plain of Salt Creek in the general area where Oak Creek, Antelope Creek, and Deadman’s Run empty into Salt Creek. All designs for flood mitigation on the three tributary’s involve moving more water faster to Salt Creek. Unless the Council has decided to turn all city parks into holes in the ground (detention ponds like proposed for Taylor Park) there is no logical argument that can be made for allowing development of the 71 housing units, especially considering that flood problems will become more acute with time.

Salt Creek in itself has a large watershed with large areas undeveloped at this time. Development will only increase runoff in the Salt Creek watershed meaning the proposed development will have an increasingly higher probability of being flooded each year. You can forget the argument that development will be regulated so flows on Salt Creek will not increase if you approve the proposed development under consideration.

Do the right thing now and stop this development with your actions.

Darryll Pederson
527 Rockhurst Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68510
Dear Council Members,

Yes, we need more low income housing, but never in a flood plain. Allowing and even promoting development without following the city's own no net rise, no loss of compensatory storage, and no adverse impact guidelines is unconscionable. Flood plains must be protected and allowed to do their job when floods come. I have watched a frenzy of flood plain fill and development in the last 10 years in the South Salt Creek neighborhood. All this while more development continues upstream. Everyone lives downstream from someone else. This will all come back to haunt us in spades when the water rises next time. Also, neighborhoods should never be classed as flood storage, as a recently passed storm water management plan outlines. Are the developers offering to pay for future damages caused by lack of enforcement of policy on their behalf? I didn't think so.

Please vote down this ill-informed course of action involving the proposed Creekside Village and stop a disaster before it happens.

Respectfully submitted, Janine Copple
Floodplain, like prairie and wetlands, is identified in the Comprehensive Plan as one of the significant environmental resources of Lancaster County. It says, "floodplains provide multiple benefits to both the natural (flood storage, habitats, water quality) and built (recreation, public health and safety, economic) environments." That is, open floodplain can offer these benefits. A guiding principle of the Comp Plan is that "future urban development will be outside of the floodplain." (Utilities, p. 2)

The Comp Plan says city land in the floodplain should be retained in public ownership and held open. It calls for the acquisition and relocation of structures in the floodplain with special consideration to Salt Creek between Van Dorn and Superior. It says, "[r]etain City or County property in the floodplain in public ownership, and consider the purchase of easements on land when other publicly owned property in the floodplain is proposed for surplus. Retain conservation easements to protect floodplain functions where unusual circumstances merit the consideration of surplus floodplain property."

The Friends of Wilderness Park is in full support of the above Comp Plan Guiding principle.

We do not support the surplusing of floodplain land next to Salt Creek levee proposed in North Bottoms. This area should be retained as green space and compensatory storage.

We are adamantly opposed to allowing any fill in this area that would adversely impact properties nearby. We oppose special action of the Council to waive of the rules to allow the Council to approve this development.

Vera Mac Leit
Annette H. Lutz
Barbara van den Berg
Ronald E. Kinder
Mary E. Robbery-Brown
Janice Cooper
Michael J. Carlin
Roxanne Marcs

3915 Apple Street
1111 Van Dorn St.
3915 Apple St.
Barbara van den Berg 7510 Joe Place, Lincoln, NE 68506-3653
1113 Rose Street, Lincoln, NE 68505
1429 F Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
4 Sussex Place, Lincoln, NE 68506
928 54th St, 68505
2700 W. Paddock
1205 Hurl, Lincoln 68502
1411 Van Dorn, 68502

Adam Hintz
Friends of Wilderness Park
1423 F Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RECEIVED
NOV 1 6 2007
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

City Council
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
November 15, 2007

Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan

Dear City Council Members:

The Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance (LNA) opposes the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan to develop a housing project on approximately 10th Street & Military Road.

In the LNA candidate questionnaire for the Spring 2007 elections, Beutler, Camp, Cook, Emery, Spatz and Svoboda all agreed that the city should work to mitigate the adverse impact of development on floodplains and flooding problems. Camp, Emery, Spatz and Svoboda agreed to support enactment of ordinances for zero net rise, no adverse impact and compensatory storage standards within the city limits. The single councilman disagreeing stated that “we can’t run existing businesses out of business” as the reason.

Stormwater ordinances were not enacted to harass or prevent new businesses or development. They protect the many, many current property investments from further floodplain creep. Lincoln Industries (formerly known as Lincoln Plating) at 600 W. ‘E’ Street was built in 1976, expanded in 1980 and at that time was completely out of the floodplain. Today Lincoln Industries is entirely in the floodplain and has the added business expense of flood insurance. This is not efficient planning and is an example of the consequences of floodplain creep.

By federal law (which was adopted by our state and city), property owners can bring fill into the floodplain until the flood water level has been raised one foot from the base flood elevation (BFE). This means that a development whose buildings are “elevated” one foot above the floodplain will have flood water lapping at their door sill as their neighbors develop their properties; i.e. the developer is leaving no room for error and assumes all of the watershed basin calculations are correct and nobody cheats with extra fill.
What can be done with stormwater so that Lincoln Industries is removed from the floodplain or at least has a lower flood water level? (The flood insurance premium is based upon flood water height.) The answer is to develop many parks and open spaces for floodwater storage. That was tried a couple years ago with a parcel of privately owned land close to 1st & South Streets. The idea was dropped because the land’s assessed value was too expensive for the City to purchase. The City does own the land that we are discussing today. From a long term perspective it will be very efficient and cost effective for the City to retain ownership of this parcel because it is one small piece of the floodwater storage solution. If it is sold for development it becomes one small piece of the long term problem.

LNA appreciates your diligence in researching issues such as stormwater as they appear on your agenda and encourages our council to remember their campaign promises as they vote on this matter.

Regards,

Tracy J. Corr
Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance Chairman Pro-Tem

cc: Mayor Chris Beutler
    Deena Winter
I would strongly but respectfully urge that you, as Lincoln City Council members, to vote against the proposal that is on your November 19 meeting agenda on the proposed housing development in the Salt Creek floodplain at North 10th St. and Military Road. This proposal, if approved, would set a dangerous precedent for future development in the floodplain. What is objectionable is the location, not the project - low-income housing. The City should be protecting open floodplain—especially publicly-owned areas—not handing it over to be turned into rooftops, parking lots and streets. The Planning Commission, I understand, has said it would approve the project only if it would mean no net loss of flood storage as a result of the development. Finally, the Comprehensive Plan says city land in the floodplain should be retained in public ownership and held open. Please say "no" to this project until a new location off the floodplain is found.

Speaking for myself as an individual: Daniel B. Lutz, 3915 Apple St., Lincoln Neb. Phone number (night and day) - 464-3571
Preferred e-mail address: dlutz1@unl.edu
I don't know where to begin here. I emailed John Spatz about the problems down here. I have lived in the north bottoms for 10 years. There are people who were born down here and still live here and cannot imagine what they feel to be so disrespected by the citizens of Lincoln. First is the haymarket park area. The baseball traffic hinders our right to have a safe and quiet neighborhood. The trash that is left afterwards, every parking space taken so residents have nowhere to park. We have tried talking to fix this and no one takes any action. What are you in the position you are in if it is not to serve all residents of Lincoln, not just the select few? Next is the traffic. People do not adhere to the detour. I emailed Larry Duensing, but from a neighborhood association source, I was told the public works aren't going to do anything. I have spent money taking responsibility for the animals left behind by college students. Mainly cats. I am trying to stop the population down here. I feed and shelter these cats and the most hang on this side of the street, they do tend to cross Charleston. They are traffic savvy but that is to the usual traffic. I am appealing to you to do something about this traffic. John Spatz has the details on that. If nothing is done and one of these cats get hit, I will slow this traffic down and make it inconvenient for them to take this shortcut. Cather and sons and ABJ haulers who are hauling asphalt to the Hall of Fame are also driving up and down this street. Why? They come down cornhusker so why not use the 1st street detour? Now the idea of even putting housing next to the levee. Great, now only a matter of time and this area will flood. Put it on west 0. Most of this is also in J Spatz's email. I also have a plan to detour the baseball fans from parking down here. I am not the only one tired of all this, and it is your duty to provide citizens with a safe and quiet neighborhood. We are not getting that. We are inconvenienced by the citizens of Lincoln and don't get any respect from the public officials. Personally I think the gates should be closed. We in the north bottoms would rather be inconvenienced going around then what is going on now. For every action there is a reaction. Your actions are creating a monster. Have a nice Thanksgiving. [Traffic is continuing today, and there are bicycle riders out there in the street. It is just a nightmare waiting to happen. Nix the low income housing, that is just asking for trouble.]

Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free AOL Mail!
Dear Council Members and Mayor Beutler,

I have been reading a lot of information about the proposed development at 10th and Military Road. I think it sounds like a great idea and would provide needed housing for Lincolnites.

However, the location is a bad choice.

Floodplain land is valuable to our community to protect the city and its residents from flooding, and it should be kept as publicly-owned open ground. The importance of floodplain land is stressed in the Comprehensive Plan because of the need for it, and because of the many benefits of having such open land.

This project seems to be being pushed through without adequate time for review, and someone has to step in and stop this process so we don't make a mistake we will regret in 10 years.

At the very least the developer should meet the planning commission's requirement that there be no net lost of flood storage.

Thank you.

Ingrid Kirst
1666 Burr Street
Lincoln NE 68502
435-7722
ikirst@inebraska.com
Dear Council Members--

Please stop permitting developers to build in the 100 year flood plain!

Not only will your actions jeopardize the people who will live in these areas in the event of a flood, it reflects poor long-term planning for city growth and further degrades the natural environment. Also, systematic building in these areas puts present homeowners unfairly at risk that previously were not in the flood plain.

My neighborhood in north Lincoln, developed in the 1960s and 1970s, is now in the 100 year flood plain thanks to unwise development upstream. This costs all of us, because now we must carry flood insurance, and it affects the value of our homes, leaving us with less disposable income (read: lower city sales tax revenue).

Please do the smart thing and just say no to development in the 100 year flood plain!

Twyla Hansen
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Lincoln, NE 68504-1210
402/466-5839
TO: LincolnCityOfficials

FROM: Mary Roseberry-Brown  
1423 F Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
477-8282

DATE: November 18, 2007

RE: Development in the floodplain-Proposals 07R-227, 07R-228, 07-171, and 07-172

I urge you to vote no on the proposals 07R-227, 07R-228, 07-171, and 07-172. These proposals relate to a proposed 6.02 acre development in the floodplain at N. 10th Street and Military Road.

* Funding for this project will be by Tax Increment Financing. This approach, although greatly benefiting the developer, involves large amounts of public money, funded by tax dollars at a time when city budget is tight. There would be no tax revenue from this project for 15 years.

I maintain that the amount of damage that this development would cause does not warrant spending public money on it.

* The property is in the 100-year floodplain. Even though the proposed building’s foundations will be flow through, the loss of flood storage created by developing this site (from roof tops, parking lots, roads, and other impermeable surfaces) will cause the floodplain to move outward to the northeast of this site. This shift in the floodplain could allow for millions of dollars in damage not if but when a flood comes.

Planning Commission approved this project with the stipulation that there be no net loss of flood storage as a result of the development. However, the developer has introduced an amendment to remove that standard, saying he cannot meet that requirement. If he cannot meet that requirement, then he should not be building at that location.

The city does not have the millions of dollars which it would take to repair the damage which this development would cause. The damage would not just be structural damage but also damage to disrupted lives. Increase in property tax revenue after the 15 year tax free period is up would not begin to cover the cost of damage.

* This project is a disaster waiting to happen. Road access to the project is limited. In the event of a flood, road access would most likely be under water. The residents who would be low
income and/or mentally ill would have limited means of exit----visions of New Orleans come to mind. I for one do not want the city to face liability for approving such a project.

* This project, if approved, would set a dangerous precedent. Future proposals for floodplain development with an amendment excusing the developer from adversely impacting his/her downstream neighbor by not providing compensatory storage could be passed based on this one being passed. Such a situation would mean millions of dollars more in flood damage.

It would be not even penny-wise but just plain pound foolish to approve this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Roseberry-Brown
To All Members of the Lincoln City Council:

We realize that you all face a heavy workload in acting on behalf of the citizens of Lincoln, but right now your integrity is in question in even considering using a flood control project (Antelope Valley Authority) to build in the flood plain! How ironic!

Please preserve our faith in your good judgment by finding a legitimate location for this housing project.

George and Irene Alexander
4045 Woods Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68502

Phone 423-9495

See what's new at AOL.com and Make AOL Your Homepage.
Hello Counsel members,

Please stop John Camp and his latest attack on the working class of Lincoln. The living wage ordinance only provides for an already under poverty level of pay. John Camp and his ilk are always looking for another way to fatten their already bloated wallets--at any cost to families. Please stop this asinine idea before it hurts people that have nothing to begin with.

Thanks for your time,
Shane Rakow
Dear City Council Member,

We urge you to vote no on the Creekside Village proposal before the City Council on Monday November 19th. While the need for low-income and mental health housing may be real, meeting this need by building next to the Salt Creek levee is a terrible idea. This development will run counter to established Lincoln policy and all established flood plain science. This land has flooded before— with regularity before the levee— and will flood again. Lincoln already has too much development in the Salt Creek flood plain. We should be working to remove what we can from the flood plain, instead of deliberately adding more to it.

It is an insulting notion that next to the levee is considered a good place to locate low-income and mentally handicapped individuals. A geriatric center proposed for this site was rejected only a couple of years ago due to the flood plain issue. The land has not elevated itself since that time.

Please vote no on the current plan and make the developer find a more suitable site for this project.

Sheryl Burbach  
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November 19, 2007

Dan Marvin,
City Council Office
County-City Building
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Dear Mr. Marvin,

As you prepare to vote on the Amendment to the Living Wage Ordinance which would exempt nonprofits from the living wage requirement, I am writing to provide you with some additional information that pertains to the proposed amendment.

First, Nebraska Appleseed completed a study in the summer of 2006 which measured the effects of the Living Wage Ordinance in the two years following its enactment. The study showed that the living wage has not caused harm to taxpayers or employees. Some feared that the living wage would cause municipal contract costs to soar because contractors would have to increase the wages of their employees. The percentage of Lincoln municipal money that was spent on service contracts actually decreased by 1.8% during the two years following enactment of the ordinance. Another concern was that employers with limited resources would have to cut jobs in order to pay current employees a higher wage. The unemployment rate did not increase in the two years following enactment of the ordinance; in fact, the unemployment rate decreased from 4% in February 2004 to 3.4% in February 2006. A fact sheet with more detailed results from this study is attached.

Second, several groups in the nonprofit community support keeping the living wage as is and oppose the amendment that would exempt nonprofits. They believe that the nonprofit community should be leading by example and paying their employees non-poverty wages. An article that ran in the Journal Star on Saturday mentioning 3 of these groups is attached.

Third, those who support the proposed exemption and oppose the Living Wage Ordinance point out that the city of Los Angeles, which has also adopted a living wage, pays its city workers a slightly lower wage than the Lincoln living wage. However, the Los Angeles wage is not a true living wage because nearly half of the Los Angeles city workers require some form of public benefits in order to meet their basic needs. According to the Los Angeles Living Wage Study, 44% of L.A.
government workers rely on at least one government assistance program. An article summarizing the results of the LA Living Wage study is attached.

In summary, the Living Wage Ordinance has not been harmful to Lincoln, nonprofits oppose the amendment that would exempt them from the living wage, and other cities with lower "living wages" are subsidizing their low-wage workers through other government programs. I urge you to keep these facts in mind as you vote on the proposed amendment today.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Erin Ching

Erin Ching
Staff Attorney
Increased wages lift the standard of living at no cost to taxpayers

On March 1, 2004 the City of Lincoln enacted the Living Wage Ordinance. The law is ensures that taxpayer dollars are only awarded to businesses that compensate their employers to in the amount that meets the poverty level, which is $19,350 per year (2005-2006 figure). That figure equates to $9.30/hour with health benefits, or $10.23/hour without health benefits. A recent study conducted by Nebraska Appleseed regarding the impact of the living wage ordinance has found that the ordinance has resulted in no unwanted costs to taxpayers.

Service Costs
- While the number of dollars devoted to service increased between fiscal year 2003-2004 and fiscal year 2005-2006, the percentage of total expenditures committed to service payments decreased by 1.90%. Within the contractual service payments, budgeted costs actually decreased over the two year period.
  - This results in a .80% decrease in service payments devoted to contractual expenses, and a .25% decrease in the proportion of total costs used for contractual service expenditures.
  - These numbers would be more significant if they were inflation-adjusted.
- Service payments, as a percentage of the budget decreased over the past three finance periods.

Contract Costs
- While some contracts have seen increased costs, the aggregate cost to the city has not gone up.
- The fact that some contracts have seen increased costs demonstrates the need for the living wage ordinance. Employees for those entities whose contracts have seen increased cost are now either being paid a higher wage, or such businesses that were benefitting by underpaying their workers are no longer being subsidized by the city through their contracts.

Unemployment Rates
- The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that unemployment in Nebraska was at 4% in February 2004, just before the living wage was enacted, and has since declined to 3.4% in February 2006.
- There has been no significant increase in unemployment, as has been charged by critics of the ordinance.

Conclusions:
- The Lincoln Living Wage Ordinance has not caused an increase in service payments or contract costs for the government.
- The Lincoln Living Wage Ordinance ensures that the limited public dollars that are paid to public employees and employees of entities receiving city contracts are paid just wages and merely requires compensation to keep employees above the poverty line.
- The ordinance has had a positive effect on Lincoln’s working poor, at no additional cost to taxpayers.
3 nonprofits come out against living wage exemption

By the Lincoln Journal Star
Saturday, Nov 17, 2007 - 12:56:16 am CST

A group of nonprofit leaders has banded together to oppose changes the City Council will consider making to the city's living wage ordinance on Monday.

The ordinance requires companies with at least 10 employees and city contracts worth at least $25,000 to pay full-time employees a minimum hourly salary that's adjusted annually. This year, it's $9.93 per hour if the employer provides health insurance benefits, $10.92 if it doesn't.

Councilman Jon Camp introduced legislation that would exempt non-profits from the wage requirement.

On Friday, St. Monica's, Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach and Nebraska Appleseed came out against Camp's amendment, saying nonprofits should lead by example by paying "non-poverty wages."

In a press release, Mary Barry-Magesamen, executive director of St. Monica's, said they serve low-income families every day and believe in the ordinance for their clients and employees.

St. Monica's provides substance abuse and mental health treatment for women.

Matt Talbot doesn't get enough city funding to be subject to the living wage ordinance, but voluntarily pays all its employees a living wage, according to Executive Director Susanne Blue. In the statement, Blue said it's important for nonprofits to support a living wage because their mission is to improve the quality of life for all people.
For Immediate Release:  
June 2, 2005

Study Finds Significant Pay Raises, Minimal Employment Loss Under Living Wage

Groundbreaking Report by University of California Researchers Shows Most Benefits Go to Low-Income Workers

Los Angeles -- A new study by University of California economists finds that the Los Angeles living wage ordinance has raised pay for nearly 10,000 jobs -- with minimal employment loss.

Nearly 70 percent of workers affected by the law are low-income and only 4 percent are teenagers, according to the report, which was funded in part by the Ford Foundation.

Examining the Evidence: The Impact of the Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance on Workers and Businesses offers the most definitive analysis of any living wage policy in the country. It is the first such study to use random sample surveys of affected workers and businesses - the only method that assures accurate results.

More than 125 cities and counties across the country have enacted living wage policies over the past 11 years, but little research has been done to assess the effectiveness of these laws.

"This study offers compelling evidence that living wage laws can improve the quality of life for low-income workers," said David Fairris, a Professor of Economics at the University of California Riverside and a co-author of the study.

In 1997, Los Angeles became one of the first major cities to pass a living wage law. The city's policy currently requires city contractors, among others, to pay workers $10.03 an hour, or $8.78 plus a $1.25 contribution to health benefits (the wage is adjusted annually). It also provides workers with 12 paid days off and ten unpaid days off per year.

The total of 10,000 jobs in Los Angeles where pay was increased due to the living wage is among the largest in the nation, after New York and San Francisco. The majority of jobs were at Los Angeles International Airport and Ontario International Airport. The average mandatory pay increase was $1.50 per hour, or $2,600 per year.

Critics of living wage laws argue that these policies will lead to large-scale employment reductions, hurting both business and workers. They also contend...
that living wage laws do not benefit low-income workers.

The findings of *Examining the Evidence* contradict these claims.

"Our research shows that the Los Angeles living wage ordinance has provided significant wage increases to mostly low-income workers with minimal job reductions," said co-author David Runsten, Associate Director of the North American Integration and Development Center at UCLA. Employment reductions amounted to one percent of all jobs affected by the living wage.

The study also finds that businesses have experienced some positive results, including declines in employee turnover and absenteeism. On average, affected firms recovered 16 percent of the increased cost of the mandatory wage increase through turnover reductions.

Employers have adapted to the remaining costs in a variety of ways. These include cutting fringe benefits and overtime, hiring more highly trained workers, cutting profits and passing on costs to the city or to the public.

One objective of the living wage policy was not achieved: the law has not prompted firms to set up health insurance plans for their workers, although some firms have improved their existing plans or extended coverage to more workers, affecting 2,200 jobs.

While *Examining the Evidence* finds that workers and their families experienced measurable gains from the living wage, it also shows that many workers still struggle to get by. Thirty-one percent of affected workers lack health benefits, and 44 percent rely on at least one government assistance program.

Living wage laws have proliferated around the nation, partly as a response to the stagnation of state and federal minimum wages, as well as to the increasing privatization of city services as a means to cut costs. These laws are designed to remove the incentive for government to contract out jobs to low-wage employers, thus leveling the playing field for city contractors.

More than a dozen cities, including Miami, Phoenix, Memphis, Little Rock and Richmond, are currently considering living wage legislation.

*Examining the Evidence*, which also received funding from the University of California and Los Angeles World Airports, was co-authored by two researchers from the nonprofit Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy.

For more information on the report, please see

[www.losangeleslivingwagestudy.org](http://www.losangeleslivingwagestudy.org)