I. MAYOR
1. State of Nebraska Water Tests for Total Coliform and E. Coli Bacteria by the Colilert® Method of Analysis.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Presents April Award of Excellence to Officer Matthew Franken.
3. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler Will Begin Announcements on the 2008-2009 City Budget at a News Conference on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 10:00 am at 555 South 10th Street.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Beutler Says City to do More with Less.
5. NEWS RELEASE. Meeting Set for Improvements to N. W. 56th and West Adams Streets.

II. DIRECTORS

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Thompson Creek 6th Addition - Final Plat #08009. Generally Located at South 56th Street and Thompson Creek Boulevard.
2. Yankee Hill Townhomes, Final Plat #08017. Generally Located at South 84th Street and Yankee Hill Road.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES
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IV. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

V. MISCELLANEOUS
1. Letter from Kassandra Hill. Complaint Regarding the City of Lincoln Parking Department.
2. Community Health Endowment (CHE) Announces Annual Awards.
3. Email from Kristy Crouch. What is Plan for Children to Cross Highway?

VI. ADJOURNMENT
June 4, 2008

The Honorable Mayor and City Council

All of the drinking water samples were tested for Total Coliform and E. coli bacteria by the Colilert® method of analysis.

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Respectfully,

Sandra Irons
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory
Lab Manager

enc.

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**City of Lincoln**

**Total Collection**

- Utility Management System
- Revenue System
- Customer Service System
- Accounting System
- Payroll System
- Human Resources System
- Facilities Management System
- Information Technology System

**Other Sections**

- Finance Department
- Human Resources Department
- Operations Department
- Customer Service Department
- Information Technology Department
- Facilities Management Department
- Payroll Department
- Revenue Department

**Notes**

- Regular meetings with department heads
- Periodic training sessions
- Annual performance reviews
- Ongoing improvement initiatives

**Contact Information**

- City Manager
- Mayor
- City Council
- Public Defender
- Public Administrator

**Important Dates**

- May 1, 2023: Annual Budget Presentation
- June 1, 2023: Budget Approval
- July 1, 2023: Fiscal Year Beginning
- December 31, 2023: Fiscal Year Ending
MAYOR PRESENTS APRIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Mayor Chris Beutler today presented the Mayor’s Award of Excellence for April to Officer Matthew Franken of the Central Investigations section of the Lincoln Police Department. The monthly award recognizes City employees who consistently provide exemplary service and work that demonstrates personal commitment to the City. The award was presented at the beginning of today’s City Council meeting.

Franken has worked for the City since 1997. He was nominated by Sergeant Greg Sorensen in the categories of safety and productivity for his work to clear a rash of residential apartment burglaries that occurred last fall.

After Franken interviewed a suspect who had been apprehended at the scene of a burglary, the suspect agreed to cooperate and named additional suspects and locations. The movements of those suspects were tracked, and when they were seen trying to leave the state, Franken contacted outside police agencies and had them arrested. He obtained an arrest warrant for one suspect and a search warrant for another suspect’s residence, where stolen property was recovered. Franken interviewed several key players and gained a confession that led to other arrests.

Sgt. Sorensen said a great team effort led to the clearing of more than 100 burglaries and the arrest of five suspects, who are charged with multiple felonies. He said a large portion the credit in this investigation goes to Franken, who directed the other officers who worked on the case.

The other categories in which employees can be nominated are valor, customer relations and loss prevention. Consideration also may be given to nominations that demonstrate self-initiated accomplishments or those completed outside of the nominee’s job description.

All City employees are eligible for the Mayor’s Award of Excellence except for elected and appointed officials. Individuals or teams can be nominated by supervisors, peers, subordinates and the general public. Nomination forms are available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: personnel) or from department heads, employee bulletin boards or the Personnel Department, which oversees the awards program.

- more -
All nominations are reviewed by the Mayor’s Award of Excellence Committee, which includes a representative with each union and a non-union representative appointed by the Mayor. Award winners receive a $100 U.S. savings bond, a day off with pay and a plaque. Monthly winners are eligible to receive the annual award, which comes with a $500 U.S. savings bond, two days off with pay and a plaque.
Mayor Chris Beutler will begin a series of announcements about the 2008-2009 City budget with a news conference at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 12 in the reception area outside the Mayor’s Office, 555 South 10th Street.

The Mayor is scheduled to present his budget proposal to the City Council Monday, July 7.
MAYOR SAYS CITY TO DO MORE WITH LESS

Job cuts could total 105 over two years

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced his initial proposal for the 2008-2009 City budget will include at least 45 fewer City employees. The cuts were one of the efficiencies the Mayor outlined today in the first of a series of announcements on his budget proposals. Last year, the Mayor’s budget included about 70 job cuts, which means the Mayor has offered the Council a reduction of more than 115 jobs over the two budget years.

Beutler continues to work on his proposed budget, which he will present to the City Council Monday July 7. He said his budget will be consistent with the feedback received in the PRIORITY LINCOLN process to get public input on budget priorities to make government more efficient.

“One result that was clear was that people appreciate City services, and not just the ones they use,” the Mayor said. “But that does not mean they are willing to blindly endorse how City government provides those services. They want accountability, efficiency and value. They want us to do everything possible to make City Hall smaller and smarter. In short, Lincoln citizens want more bang for the buck. And that is where we start.”

About 2,000 people participated in PRIORITY LINCOLN this spring through a scientific phone survey, a follow up discussion, a non-random survey and a series of town hall meetings.

Other efficiencies cited by the Mayor:

- Restructuring efforts in Public Works and Utilities and other City departments.
- A savings of nearly $1 million in health insurance due to the City’s 2006 switch to a self-administered health insurance fund.
- Changes in the City employee retirement program. The Mayor said he is working with the Personnel Department and City unions on a way to reduce the City’s two-for-one match.
- A $589,000 cut to StarTran along with smaller buses and more price incentives to encourage ridership during a time of record gas prices.

- more -
Mayor Beutler said he and the City Council will face many tough budget decisions. “The unfortunate fact is that past City government decisions to put off the tough choices on the budget has dug our fiscal hole very deep,” he said. “If the City Council decides that this budget must be balanced without any revenue increases, the cuts will be deep and in some cases very severe.”

Beutler said even public safety may not be immune from cuts. “At this point in the budget process, reductions in the number of police officers and firefighters cannot be excluded from the discussion,” he said. More than 50 percent of City tax dollars go to fund public safety services. When you consider that fact in light of the budget deficit we face, it’s nearly impossible to leave police and fire off the table.”

Beutler said his goal is to find the “right balance” in his proposed budget. “Lincoln residents told us they want a smaller and smarter City government, but not at the expense of the qualities that make Lincoln a great place to call home,” he said.
MEETING SET FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO N.W. 56TH AND WEST ADAMS

The public is invited to an open house Tuesday, June 17 on roadway improvements for the area of N.W. 56th and West Adams streets. The meeting is from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the gym/multi-purpose room at Arnold Elementary School, 5300 West Knight Drive. Those attending should use the front doors, which are closest to the west parking lot.

The roadway improvements currently being designed include N.W. 56th Street from West Partridge to West Adams streets, and West Adams from about N.W. 48th to N.W. 59th streets. The project will pave existing gravel roads, upgrade roads to current standards and accommodate future traffic demand in this growing area of northwest Lincoln.

The project is expected to begin by the end of June and is scheduled to be completed in August 2009. Representatives from the City Public Works and Utilities Department and Olsson Associates will attend the open house to discuss the project schedule, construction phasing and detour plans.

For more information, contact Holly Lionberger, Public Works and Utilities Department, at 441-8400 or visit the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: westadams).
CLIMATE CHANGE
Senate sets aside cap-and-trade bill. By a vote of 48-36, the Senate this morning rejected a procedural motion to advance legislation (S 3036) that would create a cap-and-trade regime designed to drastically reduce the nation’s greenhouse gas emissions over the next half century.

The procedural motion did not receive the required 60 affirmative votes to succeed and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) pulled the bill from the Senate’s schedule after the vote, essentially ending formal Senate debate on the issue until next year. (See the May 23 Washington Report for a detailed description of S 3036.)

Seven Republicans joined 39 Democrats in voting to advance the bill, 4 Democrats and 32 Republicans voted no and 16 Senators, many of them facing tough reelection efforts this fall, skipped the vote. Of the 16 senators not voting, 6, including Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Barack Obama (D-IL), would have voted in favor of the bill, bringing its supporters to 54 senators — a majority but still short of the 60 needed.

Many observers expected a robust debate of the bill that would set the stage for the fall election campaigns and for consideration of a similar bill next year. However, in the end, the Senate instead spent much of the week discussing judicial nominations and opponents of the bill successfully created obstacles to its consideration (including a nine-hour reading of the bill on the Senate floor). It now appears that those hoping for a debate on the issue will have to look to the House or wait until next year.

In the House, Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming Chairman Edward Markey (D-MA) has unveiled a greenhouse gas cap-and-trade bill (HR 6186) that is considerably more stringent than the Warner-Lieberman bill that the Senate rejected this morning. However, given that neither party is entirely certain how cap-and-trade legislation plays out in the fall elections, a House debate on the Markey bill is unlikely.

BUDGET
Congress clears budget resolution; war supplemental continues to stall. Both the House and Senate approved the FY 2009 budget resolution this week, clearing the way for the respective Appropriations Committees to begin work on annual spending bills. Meanwhile, House and Senate Democrats continue to negotiate the contents of a FY 2008 supplemental appropriations bill for military operations.

While the budget resolution is technically non-binding and does not require Presidential approval, it does provide for $1.016 trillion in non-emergency discretionary FY 2009 spending. That figure, which is $24 billion more than was requested by President Bush, will now be split up among the 12 appropriations subcommittees to fund government agencies next year.

In response to the approval of the budget resolution, the House Appropriations Committee released a schedule for the consideration of their 12 spending bills on the subcommittee and full committee levels. Markups will begin next week and stretch into July. Some dates of note include (subcommittee and full committee dates in parentheses):

- Interior/EPA (June 11 & 18)
- Energy and Water (June 17 & 24)
- Transportation/HUD (June 20 & 26)
- Commerce/Justice (June 12 & 19)
- Labor/HHS (June 19 & 25)
In recent years, it has been a goal of House appropriators to secure floor approval of all of their spending bills prior to the August recess. However, House leadership would not commit to such a goal this year as they decide how far they want to take the all-but-certain showdown with the White House on spending. Most observers believe that congressional Democrats will ultimately approve a long-term Continuing Resolution that funds programs at or near FY 2008 levels until a new President is installed next year.

With regard to the FY 2008 supplemental appropriations bill for overseas military operations, Senate Democrats are bristling at suggestions by their House counterparts that spending on non-military items in the bill be offset. In particular, there is strong support in the Senate for an extension of unemployment benefits, as well as a provision to expand educational benefits to veterans.

While negotiators hope to complete their discussions by next week, the President has threatened to veto the measure if it contains any non-military spending that he did not request.

**CONGRESS**

Other matters attended to by Congress this week include:

**HUD Secretary**
The Senate this week confirmed Steven Preston to be the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Preston formally served as Administrator of the Small Business Administration and was chief financial officer of ServiceMaster, an Illinois-based home maintenance company. Former HUD Secretary Alfonso Jackson resigned in April amid allegations of political favoritism and a criminal investigation.

**School Construction**
The House approved legislation (HR 3021) this week that would authorize $6.4 billion over five years for local school construction projects. Projects must be conducted using widely recognized green building standards and workers on the projects must receive prevailing wages under the Davis-Bacon law. For additional information, please see the May 2 Washington Report.

**Food Donation**
The House approved legislation (S 2420) that would authorize federal agencies to donate surplus food to local food banks, clearing the measure for the President. The bill would require all federal food contracts over $25,000 to donate excess food and protect donors from liability if the food was determined to be given in good faith. The Senate approved the measure late last month. For additional information, please see the May 23 Washington Report.

**Farm Bill**
The Senate this week approved the $290 billion Farm Bill for the second time, as a drafting error during the enrollment of the previous bill resulted in 34 missing pages in the measure sent to and vetoed by the President. The House re-approved the measure prior to the Memorial Day recess. The President is expected to veto the measure again and both the House and Senate will again attempt what is expected to be a successful override. See May 16 Washington Report for additional details on the bill.

**GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Department of Health and Human Services**
HHS has announced it will accept applications for the Supporting Evidence-Based Home Visitation Programs to Prevent Child Maltreatment for FY 2008. Funding will be awarded for expansion and the enhancement of home visitation programs. There is approximately $8.5 million available and average projected award is $500,000 per annual year. The deadline for all applications is July 21, 2008. For more information, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HH-S-2008-ACF-ACYF-CA-0130.html

**Department of Justice**
DOJ has announced guidance for the FY 2008 Latino Youth Mentoring Program. DOJ will fund programs that through peer mentoring will target Latino youth with prevention and support to increase protective factors from recruitment by gangs. Up to 4 awards for up to $500,000 each will be made to support this 3-year project. All applications are due by June 20, 2008. For more information see: http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2008/LatinoMentoring.pdf
Bring Excess Yard Chemicals to Collection

Many homeowners have excess weed killers and pesticides in their garages, sheds, and basements. In the last three years, residents of Lancaster County have brought nearly 80,000 pounds of Pesticides and Poisons to the Hazardous Household Waste Collections sponsored by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD). There are two upcoming opportunities to safely dispose of unwanted lawn and garden chemicals, along with other household hazardous waste: Friday, June 20, at Union College (52nd & Cooper) or Saturday, June 21, at Nebraska Wesleyan (56th & Huntington). Both events will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dan King, Environmental Health Specialist with LLCHD, noted that, even though many lawn and garden chemicals and household pesticides were banned years ago by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, “people still have them in their garages, or find them when cleaning out the home of a late relative.” EPA-banned chemicals include DDT, Silvex, Dursban, Diazinon, and Chlordane, among others, many of which were banned because of serious human health effects and their long-term effects on the environment.

The June collections are an opportunity to get these and other potentially dangerous chemicals out of the home and garage so they won’t be around during outdoor summer activities and when children are more likely to be playing outdoors.

King reminded residents to use yard and household chemicals safely and to carefully read the instructions about use or application. “Homeowners commonly use up to ten times as much pesticide per acre as farmers,” noted King. “It’s important to buy the least toxic alternative for the job, buy only the amount needed, follow the application directions carefully, and store it safely.”

Only Lincoln and Lancaster County households and individuals (no businesses) can bring household hazardous waste to the collections. For a list of other items accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste Collections, residents can contact the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8021, or check the health department website at www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: “household”). Items that can be recycled or disposed of locally will not be accepted at the HHW collections, including motor oil, gas grill cylinders, pharmaceutical waste, electronics, computers and batteries. Additional 2008 Household Hazardous Waste Collections are scheduled in September, October, and November.
June 6, 2008

Pam Dingman
EDC
2200 Fletcher Avenue, Ste 102
Lincoln, NE 68521

RE: Thompson Creek 6th Addition - Final Plat #08009
    Generally located at South 56th Street & Thompson Creek Blvd

Dear Pam,

Thompson Creek 6th Addition, generally located at South 56th Street & Thompson Creek Blvd was approved by the Planning Director on June 6, 2008. The plat and the subdivision agreement must be recorded in the Register of Deeds. The fee is determined at $.50 per existing lot and per new lot and $20.00 per plat sheet for the plat, and $.50 per new lot and $5.00 per page for associated documents such as the subdivision agreement. If you have a question about the fees, please contact the Register of Deeds. Please make check payable to the Lancaster County Register of Deeds. The Register of Deeds requests a list of all new lots and blocks created by the plat be attached to the subdivision agreement so the agreement can be recorded on each new lot.

Pursuant to § 26.11.060(d) of the Lincoln Municipal Code, this approval may be appealed to the Planning Commission and any decision of the Planning Commission to the City Council by filing a letter of appeal within 14 days of the action being appealed. The plat will be recorded with the Register of Deeds after the appeal period has lapsed (date + 14 days), and the recording fee and signed subdivision agreement have been received.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Brian Will
Planner

xc: Roger Baumgarner, 5447 South 82nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68521
    City Council
    Dennis Bartels, Public Works & Utilities
    Terry Kathe, Building & Safety
    Sharon Theobald, Lincoln Electric
    File
June 5, 2008

Robert Dean
6801 Crooked Creek Drive
Lincoln, N 68516

RE: Yankee Hill Townhomes - Final Plat #08017
Generally located at South 84th Street and Yankee Hill Road

Dear Bob,

Yankee Hill Townhomes, generally located at South 84th Street and Yankee Hill Road was approved by the Planning Director on June 6, 2008. The plat and the subdivision agreement must be recorded in the Register of Deeds. The fee is determined at $.50 per existing lot and per new lot and $20.00 per plat sheet for the plat, and $.50 per new lot and $5.00 per page for associated documents such as the subdivision agreement. If you have a question about the fees, please contact the Register of Deeds. Please make check payable to the Lancaster County Register of Deeds. The Register of Deeds requests a list of all new lots and blocks created by the plat be attached to the subdivision agreement so the agreement can be recorded on each new lot.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Brian Will
Planner

xc:
Yankee Hill Townhomes, LLC, 8040 Eiger Drive, Lincoln, NE 68516
City Council
Dennis Bartels, Public Works & Utilities
Terry Kathe, Building & Safety
Sharon Theobald, Lincoln Electric
File
The week of June 9, 2008, Sapper Construction LLC of Lincoln will be starting construction of a replacement water main for the Engineering Services Division of the Public Works and Utilities Department. A completion date is estimated for late July 2008 barring weather or unforeseen conditions.

The contractor will be required to maintain traffic at all times on “S” Street in association with the water replacement portion of this project. However the contractor will be allowed to close “S” Street for seven calendar days for the wastewater work associated with the project. Notice will be provided a minimum of five days before closure of “S” Street. Temporary “no-parking” signs will be posted or meters will be hooded ahead of time to permit the contractor working room. The work areas will be barricaded and caution should be used when using the areas under construction. Pedestrian traffic will be maintained at all times during this project.

The City of Lincoln realizes this project may temporarily inconvenience you for parking and possibly loss of services (utility/water, etc.). Please be patient, and we will rectify the situation as quickly as possible.

If you have any problems or questions during the construction period, please contact:

City of Lincoln, Engineering Services
Charlie Wilcox, Senior Engineering Specialist
(402) 440-6067
EMail: cwilcox@lincoln.ne.gov

Sapper Construction
Tom Rogge, Superintendent
(402) 770-5728

June 9, 2008
Pre-Construction/Informational Meeting
Northwest 56th and West Adams Project
Project #701906

The City of Lincoln and Olsson Associates will be hosting a public information open house to discuss roadway improvements along Northwest 56th Street and West Adams Street. The project area includes Northwest 56th from West Partridge to West Adams and West Adams from approximately Northwest 48th to Northwest 59th.

This meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Arnold Elementary School, 5300 West Knight Drive in the Gym/Multi-Purpose Room. Please use the front doors which are closest to the west parking lot.

For more information, you can contact one of the following people:

Holly Lionberger  
City of Lincoln, Engineering Services  
Phone: (402) 441-8400

Eric S. Dixon  
Olsson Associates  
(402) 458-5678
June 4, 2008

Mayor Chris Beutler
555 South 10th Street, Room 208
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Public Parking Incident

Dear Mayor Beutler:

I am writing you today to express my displeasure of treatment by employees of the City of Lincoln (Republican) Parking Department.

On June 3, 2008, my van was unjustly towed at 10:20 a.m. from the city parking lot on 14th and Q Street. I respectfully request your patience as I explain the situation;

At approximately 8:30 a.m. on the morning of June 3, 2008 I parked in the flat parking lot on 14th and Q Street. I placed a $5.00 check into slot number 82. This is the daily rate for parking in this lot and covers 12 hours of parking.

At approximately 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening, after leaving the Mayor’s Arts Award Ceremony (By the way, I had a great time at the Arts Award. The food was wonderful. You and your wife may have a career in acting after all), I found my vehicle was not where I left it. In a panic, I went back to my office at the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center and called the number on the sign, which was Capital Towing. I was informed that my van had been towed at 10:20 a.m.. I then called the City Parking Office and was given a number to call of a manager named John. I spoke with him on Tuesday evening and was treated extremely poorly. I consider myself a reasonable and trustworthy person. This individual was stating that I was a liar and that I did not pay the parking fee or that I must have paid it at a later time. I take extreme offense at this, I pride myself on being truthful and dislike being treated and called a liar. John indicated that he would check the deposits on Wednesday but could not do it until after a meeting at 3:00 pm. He did in fact call me back on Thursday and indicated that they had found my check (surprise, surprise) but I must have put it there AFTER their 9:30 a.m. box collection. I asked who his superior was, he told me her name was Kathryn Donnelly; however, I did not wish to speak with her as she is the one who made the collection on that day and missed my check in the first place. He gave me the name of Ken Smith as the Director of City Parking. When I tried contacting Mr. Smith through the parking office, I was put on hold and given to Kathryn Donnelly, who again called me a liar, yelled at me, and hung up the phone.

The legal systems uses the “what would a reasonable person do” test and I consider myself a reasonable and intelligent individual. Yet these two individuals are accusing me of totally unreasonable behavior. I live in Bennet and my daughter had a softball game in Palmyra that evening at 9:00 (sorry I missed coffee for the awardees). I never miss any of her games; I knew I was on a tight schedule Tuesday evening. Yet these people actually believe that I parked my van at 8:30 a.m. and, at some point AFTER my van was towed at 10:00 a.m., I went back to the parking lot, put my check in the slot, and then waited until AFTER 8:00 in the evening to call
the City Parking Department. Now, I don't know what they consider ‘reasonable’ but to me this would be **TOTALLY** unreasonable behavior.

**I put my check there in the slot at 8:30 in the morning on Tuesday.** One of two things happened; either they missed collecting it OR it got stuck in the slot and did not fall down when they pulled whatever lever they pull to drop the money into their box. Their collection system is not infallible, three individuals who work at the Ross, including my Director, Dan Ladely, have parked in this lot in the morning; paid the $5 parking fee and still had “Waming” tickets on their cars when they left for the day.

I had to pay $121.25 to get my van back AND I had to pay someone to come into town on Tuesday evening to pick me up to take me home to Bennet (AND I missed my daughter’s game, for the first time ever). Then I had to get someone to bring me back to work the next morning and then to pick up my van after work. All this inconvenience not withstanding, I am very offended by being treated so poorly by city employees or by employees employed by a contractor doing business with the city. It is very poor public relations for any visitors who may come to this great City and make the mistake of parking downtown in one of the flat lots. In the past, when our patrons would ask where a good place to park is when they come to a movie at the Ross, I have recommended one of these flat lots however; I will not be making this mistake in the future as I do NOT wish this to happen to anyone else.

I respectfully request the refund of the $121.25 I had to pay to get my van back from Capital Towing, the return of my $5.00 check which they say was not there, and for serious consideration regarding the type of behavior allowed by City Employees or those employed by contractors doing business with the City.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Kassandra Hill
Business Manager
Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center
313 N. 15th Street
Lincoln, NE 68588-0253

cc: Ken Smith, City Parking
    John V. Hendry, City Attorney
    Jon Camp, City Council
    Jonathon Cook, City Council
    Doug Emery, City Council
    Robin Eschliman, At-Large Council Member
    Dan Marvin, At-Large Council Member
    Don Herz, Finance Director
    Lincoln Journal Star – Letters to the Editor
Media Release

To: Media
CC: Mayor's Office, Lincoln City Council
From: Lori Seibel, President/CEO, 436-5518
Community Health Endowment
Date: June 12, 2008
Re: CHE Announces Annual Awards

Community Health Endowment
Announces Annual Awards

The Community Health Endowment (CHE) of Lincoln has selected the recipients of their annual awards. These prestigious awards were presented at CHE's Annual Meeting with the Community.

Receiving the COMMUNITY HORIZON AWARD, which recognizes a person or group who is enriching the community by sharing their time, resources, and talents to make Lincoln the healthiest community in the nation, was A to Z Printing (Sue Quambusch, owner). A to Z Printing has always believed in community interdependence and their support of Lincoln area organizations reflects this belief. A to Z Printing regularly contributes time, talent, and resources to a wide variety of local charitable organizations. Through owner Sue Quambusch's leadership, community involvement is promoted and nurtured within the company.

Receiving the CLOSING THE GAP AWARD, which recognizes a person or program(s) that has made a significant contribution toward addressing health disparities in our community were Lincoln Literacy Council and the Good Neighbor Community Center. These
organizations were recognized for their partnership in the Health for Everyone Program, a health literacy program for refugees and immigrants in our community. Together, these organizations have made considerable contributions to the health and health knowledge of participants.

For more information or for print-ready pictures of the award recipients, contact CHE at 402/435-5516.
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Kristy Crouch
Address: 5640 NW 11th Cir
City: Lincoln, NE 68521
Phone: 402-477-4270
Fax:
Email: kcrouch@awsmed.com

Comment or Question:
I have been informed from the school board there are plans for an overpass on Hwy. 34. Could you give me more details as to where this will be placed and when? I have some obvious concerns with the opening of the new School Middle School and children crossing Hwy. 34 with cars going 60 MPH. Not all children will have the opportunity to be transported by car to school and will have to either ride a bike or walk. What is the plan for getting children across a highway of this nature?

Thank you.
ADDENDUM
TO
DIRECTORS' AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2008

I. MAYOR -

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule Week of June 14 through June 20, 2008 - Schedule subject to change.
2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Praises City Storm Response.
3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Haymarket Area Under Harris Overpass Scheduled To Reopen Friday.

II. CITY CLERK - NONE

III. CORRESPONDENCE -

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS -

HEALTH

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mosquitoes, A Sure Thing When It Rains... West Nile Virus Surveillance.

C. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. E-Mail from Barbara Arendt - RE: Van Dorn Redevelopment Item 08R-120 and Amendment 2.
2. E-Mail from Scott Baird - RE: Item 08R-140, Washington Square Redevelopment Agreement.
4. E-Mail from Kitty Fynbu, President; Alene Swinehart, Issues Chair, Irvingdale Neighborhood Association - RE: Van Dorn Redevelopment Project.
5. Letter with 6 signatures - RE: Encourages you to proceed with the Van Dorn Redevelopment Plan in the most expeditious manner possible.
DATE: June 13, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of June 14 through June 20, 2008
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, June 14
- Lincoln Central Labor Union picnic, remarks - 11:30 a.m., 4625 “Y” St.
- Juneteenth Celebration, proclamation - 12:30 p.m., Pentzer Park, 27th and Potter streets
- Waterfest, remarks - 5 p.m., Holmes Lake Marina, 70th St. and Normal Blvd.

Monday, June 16
- International visitor from China - 9 a.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
- Mayor’s Award of Excellence presentation - 1:30 p.m., Council Chambers, County-City Building

Tuesday, June 17
- LIBA luncheon - 11:30 a.m., Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 N. 9th St.

Thursday, June 19
- Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development economic development breakfast, remarks - 7:30 a.m., Cornhusker Marriott ballroom, 333 S. 13th St.

Friday, June 20
- News conference, green home ground-breaking with U.S. Senator Ben Nelson and HUD Home Ownership Month proclamation - 3 p.m., location to be announced
MAYOR PRAISES CITY STORM RESPONSE

Mayor Chris Beutler today said residents can be proud of how local government responded to last night’s severe weather incident. Lincoln officials report no injuries and no significant damage during the extended tornado warning.

“The Scout Camp tragedy in Iowa demonstrates again how dangerous these storms can be, and our hearts go out to all those families dealing with that disaster,” said Mayor Beutler. “I want to thank all the City and County employees who took action last night to keep our community safe.”

City and Lancaster County employees work together out of a joint Emergency Operations Center during potentially dangerous events. Emergency Management, 911, Police, Fire, Public Works and Utilities, Health and Parks are all involved.

Fire Chief Niles Ford said Fire and Rescue had a very busy night. Off-duty personnel were called in to respond to multiple fire alarms and other emergencies. Police Chief Tom Casady reports nothing too unusual. But public safety professionals stress that motorists should never attempt to drive into flooded streets.

The Lincoln Electric System reports that all customers had power restored by midnight.

Public Works and Utilities reports no power outages at the water treatment facilities. Additional employees were called in to inspect and verify the running status for remote wastewater and stormwater pumping stations throughout the City. Crews responded to high-level alarms at the 48th and Cornhusker and Havelock underpasses, but pumps were determined to be operating properly.

The City’s two wastewater treatment facilities are receiving and treating higher than normal flows. Early this morning, the facilities recorded peak flow rates that were two to three times higher than normal. Volumes are expected to be higher than normal for the new few days, and officials said the treatment facilities are capable of handling the increased flow. All wastewater received treatment, and no raw or untreated wastewater was discharged into streams in Lincoln.

- more -
City street crews were out early checking flooded locations and placing barricades. Most barricades had been removed by 2:30 a.m., but crews continued to check potential problem areas. No City streets are closed due to flooding at this time.

Parks and Recreation Director Lynn Johnson said City trees were spared another destructive night, but portions of some City trails are closed at this time due to water, silt and brush:

- Users of the Billy Wolfe Trail along Antelope Creek are encouraged to use at-grade crossings instead of the underpasses.
- Use of the Bison Trail between Wilderness Park and Pioneers Park is discouraged for the next several days. Underpasses are closed.
- On the Salt Creek Levee Trail, the street underpasses and the railroad underpass at South 1st and “J” streets are closed.
- Gravel surfacing on the Jamaica North Trail through Wilderness Park has been washed off, and users are advised to be careful.

Johnson said the trail underpasses will be open by late next week unless Lincoln experiences more significant storms.
HAYMARKET AREA UNDER HARRIS OVERPASS SCHEDULED TO REOPEN FRIDAY

With the first phase of the Harris Overpass project nearing completion, the Haymarket area under the Harris Overpass is scheduled to reopen Friday, June 13. Weather permitting, 7th Street and the parking area will be open to vehicles late Friday afternoon. The Lumberworks parking lot on the southeast corner of Seventh and “O” streets also will reopen as a gated lot.

The one-way frontage road along the north side of the bridge between 8th and 9th streets will open upon completion of the 9th and “O” Street intersection reconstruction. This construction is scheduled to take place over the next three weekends:

- Work on the three west lanes of the intersection is tentatively scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Friday, June 13. 8th Street under the Harris Overpass will reopen prior to the 9th and “O” work.
- The east two lanes of the 9th and “O” intersection are scheduled for construction beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, June 20.
- The center lane of the intersection is scheduled for construction beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, June 27.

Each weekend phase will be completed and open for traffic by 6 a.m. the following Monday, assuming good weather and no unforeseen conditions.

During reconstruction of the 9th and “O” Street intersection, westbound “O” Street will be closed between 9th and 10th streets. Pedestrians will not be able to cross the intersection and will be rerouted on 9th Street to either “P” or “N” streets. During reconstruction of the east two lanes of the intersection, eastbound “O” Street between 9th and 10th streets will also close.

The original Harris Overpass was built in 1950 and had deteriorated. The project is using federal bridge replacement funds. The one-year project began in November of 2007, and the overpass is on schedule to reopen in November 2008.

For more information, visit the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: Harris) or contact Kris Humphrey or Larry Duensing, City Public Works and Utilities Department, at 441-7711.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 12, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Leon Marquart, 441-8146, John Chess, 441-8027

Mosquitoes, A Sure Thing When It Rains...
West Nile Virus Surveillance

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) has started the summer surveillance for West Nile Virus. As part of the surveillance program, mosquito trapping will be conducted every two weeks.

“Over the last month the area has received significant amounts of rainfall, which has contributed to breeding areas for mosquitoes,” says Leon Marquart, Environmental Health Specialist at LLCHD. Marquart indicates that these conditions along with the increasing temperatures of early summer means conditions are favorable for large number of nuisance mosquitoes and could increase the risk of West Nile Virus.

The LLCHD is asking the public to take actions to prevent mosquitoes:

- Dump small wading pools daily, and maintain swimming pools properly.
- Clear debris, weeds and litter from drainage ways.
- Change water in birdbaths weekly and pet bowls daily.
- Store tires, buckets and containers where they cannot collect water.
- Fill in yard low spots.
- Maintain garden ponds and fountains and always keep the water flowing.

In addition to taking steps to reduce the mosquito breeding areas the public is encouraged to take the following steps to avoid being bitten:

- Avoid outdoor activity at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active. This is usually ½ hour before sunrise to about one hour after sunrise and ½ hour before sunset to about 2 hours afterwards.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, shoes and socks.
- Use an EPA-registered insect repellent such as those with DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Marquart states, “The public often asks, ‘what is the best mosquito repellent?’ and my response is ‘the one that is used’. It is important to follow repellent directions and do not use any kind of insect repellent on babies under 2 months of age.” A complete list of recommendations for repellent use on children can be found at www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: “wnv”).
LLCHD Animal Control program is accepting dead birds to test for the presence of West Nile Virus. The LLCHD is interested in blue jays, crows or raptors such as hawks and owls that have been found acting strangely or dead with no evidence of decomposition. Call Animal Control at 441-7900 to report these dead birds.

People with questions about West Nile Virus, mosquito control, and standing water or mosquito breeding site complaints should contact LLCHD at 441-8022.

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I am writing to you today to emphasize my support personally and on behalf of the Indian Village Neighborhood Association for the Van Dorn Redevelopment Project as proposed to the City Council on June 2, 2008. Having lived in the this neighborhood for eight years and forced to view daily this city eyesore (comprising the park, the median, the forlorn clump of land north of Van Dorn), I can not understand why this project is getting stalled in your area. Having read the amendment (#2) and visiting with other concerned neighborhood advocates, I can only think that TIF financing is stalling your consensus on the project. Is this not a blighted area? Does it not qualify under state guidelines for TIF? Did not a developer sign off they would not challenge the assessments? I personally am not in favor of another Starbucks, that is another issue, another battle. I am in favor of a qualified developer entering into an agreement that would provide much needed funds (derived through TIF) for the improvement of Van Dorn Park and new trails. Have you personally visited this park? It is in dire need of attention. Its sorely underused due to parking, lighting and accessibility issues. And I don't see a miracle happening in the money department between now and July 7 (new proposed budget). I see more dollars and personnel cut, particularly in the area of Parks and Recreation. This is economic development and preservation of park land in a blighted area. This isn’t Cabellas bullying over Ft. Worth, Texas. Please put this project in perspective. Each and every project presented with TIF financing tools should be viewed with a microscope, I agree. But this one is a no-brainer. Sincerely, Barbara Arendt
402/432.7350
I am writing to support the Washington Square Redevelopment Agreement. As someone who lives in the Near South, I am excited to see developers investing in owner-occupied housing in this neighborhood. I think it is exactly what our neighborhood needs, and I hope that this project will be a harbinger for future owner-occupied developments in the heart of Lincoln.

Scott Baird

1) **08R-140** Approving the City of Lincoln Redevelopment Agreement (Washington Square) between the City and Washington Square LLC relating to the redevelopment of property generally located at 1531 S. 19th Street and 1541 S. 19th Street for construction of 16 single family dwellings for owner occupancy.

Attachment (673K)

scottbaird@aya.yale.edu
June 14, 2008

Dear City Council Chair Eschliman and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding item 08R-140, the Washington Square Redevelopment Agreement, on your agenda this week. I am the owner of property, an apartment building, at 1528 S 19th St, across the street from the redevelopment property. The Urban Development Department has informed me that my property was included in the blight study of the area at the request of their consultant. It is, however, NOT part of the Redevelopment Plan, and NOT part of the Redevelopment Agreement, and NOT eligible to receive any TIF funds.

I did not request, nor do I have any interest in, the inclusion of my property in the blight study, and I would have no objection to its removal from the blighted area if the City Council so desired that it be removed. I have owned my apartments for five years and plan to continue renting them out for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Jon Carlson
Dear City Council,

The Irvingdale Neighborhood Association is very concerned with the status of the the 9th and Van Dorn redevelopment project. The amenities that were proposed as part of the redevelopment will keep this commercial area pedestrian-friendly. Our neighbors have expressed the importance of pedestrian-friendly commercial areas combined with parkland that allows access to and from the neighborhood and a connection to the trail network. Tax Increment Financing is an ideal way to fund the amenities that will be a part of the redevelopment project. As we all know city budgets are tight and we are concerned that if the council rejects this funding source that this project will just simply be commercial; effectively severing our neighborhood from our parks and trails.

Respectfully-
Kitty Fynbu, President
Alene Swinehart, Issues Chair
Irvingdale Neighborhood Association
Members of Lincoln City Council

The organizations listed below encourage you to proceed with the Van Dorn Redevelopment Plan in the most expeditious manner possible.

We believe:

1. This project will significantly support and benefit our respective organizations and areas.
2. Given the other projects and enhancements in the area; this project will “piggyback” those efforts and create an even better outcome.
3. This project explicitly matches legislative intent of the Community Development law (TIF).
4. This project does not entail an economic adversity to either the private sector, or the City.
5. This project will significantly improve pedestrian access, park utilization, pedestrian and non motorized vehicle safety.
6. This project will support established neighborhoods and be an investment in our community.

Dated: 12/12/08

Barbara Areder
Indian Village Neighborhood Association

Alice Anderson
Ewing Ride NA.

Joan Tomlinson White
Indian Village Neighborhood Association

Russell Miller
Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance