DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2008
11:00 a.m.
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MAYOR
*1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Encourages Residents to Observe 25th Annual “National Night Out”.
*2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: South 56th Street to Close for Resurfacing (Council received on 08/04/08)
*3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Cheney Elevated Reservoir Nearing Completion.
  5. State Water Test Report.
  6. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Pleased With Council Budget Cooperation.
  7. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Public Invited To Dedication of Hamann Rose Garden.
  8. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler will announce his action on the Lincoln Electric System’s proposed 10.1% rate increase at a news conference TODAY Thursday, August 14th at 10:30 a.m. in the Mayor’s Conference Room. (E-Mailed to Council on 08/14/08)
  9. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: News Conference Postponed - Today’s news conference on the LES proposed rate increase has been postponed until tomorrow. (E-Mailed to Council on 08/14/08)

II. DIRECTORS

COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
1. Letter from David J. Shively, Election Commissioner to Don Tilley - RE: The Instant Runoff Voting or Ranked Choice Voting (IRV or RCV) and the possibility of changing the method that the City of Lincoln uses in electing it officials.

FINANCE/CITY TREASURER

LIBRARY

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES
WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY

III. CITY CLERK

IV. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

JON CAMP

*2. Response E-Mail to Maurice Baker - RE: Keeping the Safe Neighborhoods Program in budget.

JONATHAN COOK
*1. Letter from George E. Wolf - RE: Opposing any decrease in funding to the Stronger, Safer Neighborhoods program.

*2. Request to Public Works & Utilities Department - RE: Water and Gas service flagged - RFI#134-08/07/08. - - - 1.) Response from Randy Hoskins, Assistant City Engineer, Public Works & Utilities Department received on RFI#134-08/08/08.

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN
*1. Letter from Joan Ogren - RE: Train whistles continually through the night, consider an overpass for Saltillo Road as opposed to a Quiet zone.

DAN MARVIN
*1. E-Mail & Attached Letter from Paula Rhian, President, Everett Neighborhood Association - RE: In support of program funding and services to the neighborhood.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

*1. E-Mail from Jim Brandle - RE: Extremely disappointed in cuts to the CLC (Community Learning Centers), with email received from Mayor Beutler encouraging input.

*2. E-Mail from Sue Samson - RE: Parks budget cuts.

*4. E-Mail from Wilbur Dasenbrock - RE: In budget consider health and human services in community, and stop deterioration of city landscapes and park plantings.

*5. E-Mail from Tobias Pace - RE: Cutting Bennett Martin library hours not the best solution.

*6. E-Mail from Zach Garfield - RE: Need more investment into the bus system.

*7. E-Mail from Christine Muller - RE: Proposed bus hours makes it impossible to visit the library for people working non-traditional hours.


*10. E-Mail from E. Wayne Boles - RE: Congratulate the Mayor on forwarding balanced budget, work with him to maintain this level of fiscal responsibility.

*11. E-Mail from Mary Roseberry-Brown - RE: Dismayed on reading proposed cut back of the Bennett Martin Library hours.

*12. Letter & Attachments from Marian L. Malone - RE: Cutting mid-day StarTran service and cutting the library hours are not an answer for the budget.


*15. Letter from George E. Wolf - RE: Oppose any funding decrease to the Stronger, Safer Neighborhoods program.

*16. Letter from Gloria Pedersen - RE: Listing reasons why funding should not be cut to the Easterday Program.

*17. E-Mail from Lois Poppe - RE: Opposed to proposed bus changes with examples of people who want to, and need to, ride the bus between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
*18. E-Mail & Attachment from Karen Hand, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chair - RE: Urging No Cuts to the Parks and Recreation budget.

*19. E-Mail from Shirley Anderson - RE: Opposed to alcohol in our parks.

*20. E-Mail from Wilma J. Williams - RE: The City Budget.


*23. Letter from Richard A. Noyes, President, Downtown Neighborhood Association - RE: - The proposed City Council budget is draconian, lacks consideration for many downtown residents, and does not address the pressing needs of this growing community.

*24. Letter from Jean Ford - RE: Mayor Beutler’s proposal to eliminate StarTran bus routes and time frames of bus runs.


*26. E-Mail from Edith Meints - RE: Lincoln Budget-encourages you to maintain a substantial budget for City Parks & Rec.

*27. E-Mail & Attached Letter from Susan Epps, American Red Cross Cornhusker Regional Chapter - RE: Save the Safer Neighborhoods program.


*30. E-Mail from James R. Newell - RE: Bennett Martin Library services.


*32. 2 E-Mails from Amy Hanson - RE: Ride for Five.

*33. E-Mail from Betsy Bergman - RE: StarTran proposals.

*34. Letter from Nancy M. Russell - RE: The current rule to deliver the patient to the nearest hospital regardless of patient preferences will be amended to patient choice.
*35. Letter from Don Nelson - RE: Please leave the Bennett Martin Library like it is.


*37. E-Mail from Mary Pipher - RE: Bus service.

*38. 131 Post Cards - RE: ‘Leave My Bus Alone’.

39. Letter & Material from Mark A. Hunzeker, Attorney - RE: Acquisition of private property for storm water detention pursuant to the dead Man’s Run Master Plan.

40. E-Mail from Lorenz & Mary Ann Niemeyer - RE: Please vote against the rate hike proposed by LES, what LES wants is ridiculous.

41. Letter from Yvette Sanchez - RE: Please do not cut out mid-day buses.

42. E-Mail from Julie Shaw - RE: Thank you for saving the Easterday Program and keeping it at the same building for the rest of the year.

43. E-Mail from Barbara Kucera - RE: Thank-you, for voting to save Meadow Heights Pool!

44. E-Mail from Jill Jensen - RE: Hickman horse.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

*HELD OVER FROM AUGUST 11, 2008.
August 5, 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.

### Regulatory Tests during the month of July 2008:

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<tr>
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### Nonregulatory Tests during the month of July 2008:

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Respectfully,

Sandra Irons  
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory  
Lab Manager

enc.
MAYOR PLEASED WITH COUNCIL BUDGET COOPERATION

Mayor Chris Beutler issued the following statement about this morning’s City Council votes on changes to the City budget:

“With today’s Council actions, the 2008-2009 budget is nearly complete. It’s a budget of which Lincoln residents can be proud. It reflects a community-wide spirit of cooperation and City Hall’s commitment to new ways of doing business, while still protecting Lincoln’s quality of life.

City government has embraced a new dedication to budgeting for measurable results, rather than fighting to protect turf. We’ve reorganized and found the efficiencies that allowed us to cut nearly 115 jobs in a little over a year, making City government smaller and more efficient.

“The public was involved early on as part of our Priority Lincoln process. Citizen input continued, and the budget adopted reflects their priorities. My administration and the Council worked together to find compromises. We maintained StarTran service and library hours and kept our swimming pools open. I look forward to continued cooperation with Council as we finalize the Fast Forward Economic Development Trust Fund and the Homeowner Stimulus package. I congratulate and thank my City Council colleagues on a job well done.”

A summary of the Council’s votes will be posted on the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov, later today.
PUBLIC INVITED TO DEDICATION OF 
HAMANN ROSE GARDEN

Mayor Chris Beutler invites the public to the dedication of Hamann Rose Garden at 4 p.m. Sunday, August 17 at Antelope Park, near 27th and “B” streets. The renovated garden is named in honor of Don Hamann, who made a large contribution to the fund-raising campaign for the garden. Public parking is available at the Lincoln Children’s Zoo, and the event will be held rain or shine.

Renovation of the garden began in the fall of 2006. The new garden includes both a formal display garden of cutting roses and a strolling garden displaying hardy landscape roses with perennials and ornamental grasses. The garden features more than 1,500 roses, updated furnishings and ornamental lighting, a new fountain, original sculptures and a new pavilion at the south entrance. Tours of the informal strolling garden, the formal display garden and the Sunken Gardens will follow the dedication ceremony.

The garden was originally named “Goebel’s Rose Garden” after Fred Goebel, the first Parks floriculturist and original designer of Sunken Gardens. In 1945, roses were planted and observed under different conditions to determine their ability to survive our climate. At that time, the garden was renamed “Municipal Rose Garden.” After a 1972 renovation and the addition of the Woods Park Rose Garden in the mid 1990s, the garden was renamed “Antelope Park Rose Garden.”

The Lincoln Parks Foundation in cooperation with the Lincoln Rose Society raised more than $350,000 for the project, which included funding from the Lincoln Cares voluntary donation program. Donations are still being accepted, and those wanting additional information can contact the Lincoln Parks Foundation at 441-8258.
DATE: August 13, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will announce his action on the Lincoln Electric System’s proposed 10.1 percent rate increase at a news conference at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, August 14 in the Mayor's Conference Room, 555 South 10th Street.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

DATE: August 14, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

NEWS CONFERENCE POSTPONED

Today’s news conference on the Lincoln Electric System’s proposed rate increase has been postponed until tomorrow. More details will be announced later today.
August 11, 2008

Mr. Don Tilley
4533 Starr St.
Lincoln, NE 68503

Dear Mr. Tilley:

Thank you for contacting me regarding Instant Runoff Voting or Ranked Choice Voting (IRV or RCV) and the possibility of changing the method that the City of Lincoln uses in electing its officials.

I have visited with one of my contacts at Election Systems and Software (ESS) which is the vendor that we currently use for the programming and servicing of our vote counting machines (Model M650). According to my contact, there may never come a time when the M650 will be able to accommodate IRV or RCV due to the fact that it would be very costly for them to attain federal certification of the software and firmware updates to adjust the M650 to incorporate IRV. The Nebraska Secretary of State bases it state certification on that federal certification.

In addition to the vote counting machines, changes would also have to be made and certified to the federally mandated Automark vote marking machines which assist voters with physical or visual impairments in marking their ballots. We are required by both state and federal law to have one of these type of voting machines at each of our early voting and election day polling locations.

For your information, Election Systems and Software did provide a system for IRV in San Francisco; however, it was accomplished using a different model of their vote counting machines and a different version of programming software that are not currently certified by the Secretary of State for use in Nebraska.

Since the 2000 Presidential Election, the Election industry has been and will continue to change dramatically. Election Systems and Software and other election vendors are in the process of developing the next generation of voting systems and IRV may be a part of that development. However, when the State of Nebraska purchased the M650's in 2005 as part of the federal funds provided by Congress through the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), it is my understanding that the Secretary of State envisioned that the machines would be used for at least
ten years before any new vote tabulating equipment would be purchased.

I am sorry that I am unable to get a figure on the type of costs that may be associated in making our current system conform to IRV. However, it appears to me that making this change to our current system would be very costly. Since the City of Lincoln would be the only political subdivision using this method, any costs associated with the change would have to be charged to the City when and if they decided to change to this method.

Again, thank you for contacting me regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

David J. Shively
Election Commissioner

DS/s

c:    Rick Hoppe, Mayor Beutler's Office
     Lincoln City Council
     The Honorable John Gale, Secretary of State
August 13, 2008

Property Owners/Residents

RE: L-3732 and L-3734 - Elkcrest Drive East and West of 56th Street
Change of Parking

Dear Property Owners/Residents:

As Lincoln continues to grow, traffic volumes along our street system also increase. In order to accommodate the increasing volumes of vehicles within the developed areas of Lincoln and still provide for the growing community, we do our best to utilize the existing roadway. The City has installed some new pavement markings on Elkcrest Drive east and west of 56th Street. This should reduce congestion and improve safety in this area.

In order to implement these changes, it will be necessary to prohibit parking on both sides of Elkcrest Drive from Fawn Court to 56th Street. There will also be an extension of the existing parking prohibition on the south side of Elkcrest Drive from east of 56th Street approximately 300'. We recognize that this change may have some impact on you as an adjacent property owner, resident or potential user of the on-street parking. We anticipate the implementation of this sometime during the week of August 18, 2008.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the forthcoming parking prohibition, please do not hesitate to contact me at 441-6092 or alee@lincoln.ne.gov.

Sincerely,

Allen Lee
Engineering Services

cc: Mayor’s Office
City Council Office
Greg MacLean
Roger Figard
Randy Hoskins
Scott Opfer
Jim Tompsett
LETTERS SENT TO:

Helen Trotter and Faye Mullen
5024 Fawn Court
Lincoln, NE 68516

Peggy Shald
5607 Elkcrest Drive
Lincoln, NE 68516

Allan and Martha Feit
5615 Elkcrest Drive
Lincoln, NE 68516

Edward and Lisa Hively
5621 Elkcrest Drive
Lincoln, NE 68516
We are unaware of any additional work needing to be done at this location and we will have the signs down today. We will also contact Aquila and remind them that they need to ensure that their crews and their contractors take down the signs when they finish their work.

Randy Hoskins, P.E.
Assistant City Engineer
City of Lincoln, NE

Karen K Sieckmeyer/Notes

Karen K Sieckmeyer/Notes
08/08/2008 02:37 PM To Randy W Hoskins/Notes@Notes
cc
Subject Fw: JCookRFI#134

----- Forwarded by Karen K Sieckmeyer/Notes on 08/08/2008 02:37 PM -----

Tammy J Grammer/Notes
08/07/2008 03:43 PM To Greg S MacLean/Notes@Notes
cc Karen K Sieckmeyer/Notes@Notes, campjpon@aol.com, jcookcc@aol.com, robine@neb.rr.com, ksvoboda@alltel.net, dmarvin@neb.rr.com, dougemerypm@aol.com, jspatz@johnspatz.com, jspatz@nasbonline.org, Mayor/Notes@Notes, Rick Hoppe/Notes@Notes, Trish A Owen/Notes@Notes, Linda K Quenzer/Notes@Notes
Subject JCookRFI#134

From: Jonathan Cook - RFI#134
To: Public Works & Utilities Dept.

Please find Request For Information #134 from Jonathan Cook. If you will send your response to the Council Office at CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov, in a pdf format, I will distribute your response in the usual manner on the Directors' Agenda. The Subject line need only read JCookRFI#134.
Would you please respond to the attached Letter from Audrey Greve and send a copy of the response to the Council Office. Also, attached are pictures. (See Attachments)

Thanks,

Tammy Grammer
City Council
441-6867

**************************************
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**************************************
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.
July 22, 2008

Jonathan Cook
City Council

Sir:

More than a month ago, water and gas service were flagged near my house at 1331 S. 11. In fact, the flags went in so much ahead of that time that they had to be put in a second time. Then signs went in threatening towing for anybody that parked in the half block from the alley to A Street on or after June 29.

A week later, on July 1 if I recall correctly, Aquila was there for a couple of hours digging a hole and inserting new plastic pipe toward another hole across the street. They refilled the hole, put pieces of saved sod back in, and banged it heavily with something I could hear but did not go look at.

A week later and again two weeks later I made calls, hoping to have a shady place to park in front of my house. Nothing happened: “They still have work to do.”

Enclosed are pictures.

That’s issue #1. A second and much more important problem with Aquila is that they can and do legally require that customer charges be paid for the months that someone might have chosen to turn off their gas when they didn’t need heat. (In my case, all rentals now have electric stoves, but friends have tenants who only use their microwave.)

As a small landlord I can say that my dealings with Aquila are one reason my own home is all-electric. But also over the past couple of years I increasingly have tenants who cannot or will not use the gas furnace I supply, preferring space heaters or using space heaters out of financial desperation. This leaves me to wonder whether they’ll stay with a friend when it’s really cold, leading to thousands of dollars to repair frozen pipes.

Or conversely, they might leave the heaters on when they’re gone from home. Has the Public Service Commission thought about any increased threat of fire?

Enclosed are pictures.

Sincerely,

Audrey Greve
(402) 435-1182

Copy to Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 84853
Lincoln, NE 68501
Hey,

Thats a great idea!!! They should be doing hard labor anyway (sunup to sundown), other than sitting back relaxing and enjoying cable and the gym. I am all for that. These people must be the non dangerous ones, right. non-violent crimes and such? These people in the prison system could also get experience when doing maintence like this.

WOW creative is right. Way to go!!!

Michelle Schwab (I will vote for this one)

[IMAGE]

-- On Tue, 8/12/08, Robin Eschliman <robine@neb.rr.com> wrote:
From: Robin Eschliman <robine@neb.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Please mow secret fields
To: bones68516@yahoo.com
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2008, 11:58 AM

You probably aren't going to like this, but we might even use prison trustees (yes, when budgets get tough you get
From: Michelle Schwab  
To: reschliman@lincoln.ne.gov  
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2008 10:32 PM  
Subject: Please mow secrest fields  

To whom this may concern,
Instead of thinking about how much it will cost for the maintenance on these areas. (Secrest Field and surrounding area). How about finding or advertising for someone to bid in for the maintence and maybe you could get someone to do it cheeper. I know my husband and I were looking into starting and lawncare/landscaping business, what better way to get advertisement. We could do this for a cheeper cost because we wouldn't be paying wages, we would just do this ourselves. Just give other people a try.

Thanks for you time

Michelle Schwab
August 8, 2008

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

Elaine Hammer-Chair
Lower Platte South Nebraska Rural District
PO BOX 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581

Robin Eschliman-Chair
Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Ne 68508

RE: Acquisition of private property for storm water detention pursuant to the dead Man’s Run Master Plan

Dear Mayor Beutler, Members of the LPSNRD Board, and Lincoln City Council:

Recently, the Dead Man’s Run (DMR) Master Plan was discussed in the context of an application by Chateau Development for a rezoning and approval of additional apartment development.

Prior to the filing of the applications for Change of Zone and amendment to the Chateau Le Fleur CUP, we met with representatives of the NRD, and the City’s Watershed Management division regarding the Dead Man’s Run (DMR) Master Plan. The possibility of the NRD/City acquiring land from Chateau Development and Lincoln Christian School to implement the Plan was discussed. It was clear to us that the staff was very anxious to acquire the land in order to prevent the construction of additional apartments, which would probably foreclose the possibility of building detention facilities called for in the plan.
As we told all of you, both at the public hearings and in private, Chateau Development wants to develop additional apartments on its land. However, the right of the NRD and/or City to acquire the land for a public project is absolute; we simply asked that the Chateau project not be denied in order to "freeze" the property until funding for the DMR Master Plan projects could be found. As a gesture of good faith, Chateau offered to condition the CUP amendment upon a one year delay of building permits for new development in the area proposed for the DMR detention cell project. That condition was imposed, and we accept it.

On August 6, we attended a public hearing at the LPSNRD offices regarding the acquisition of land for the DMR detention cell project. In preparation for the meeting, our engineers reviewed the legal description of the easement area to be acquired, and did calculations based upon the design criteria set forth in the DMR Master Plan. It appears to be impossible to excavate from the easement area the amount of material called out in the DMR Master Plan.

Excavation of a detention cell on the Chateau property, if done according to the design standard set forth in the Master Plan, would result in 52,000 cubic yards of material removed, or 32 Acre-Feet of flood storage vs. 84,421 cubic yards (52 Acre Feet) estimated in the Master Plan. On the Lincoln Lutheran property, the result is not quite as dramatic, but still significant. We calculate 75,000 cubic yards of material removed, or 46 Acre-Feet of storage vs. 90,429 cubic yards (56 Acre-Feet) estimated in the Master Plan. Thus, it appears that the storage that can be provided on the Chateau property is less than 62%, and the storage available on the Lincoln Lutheran property is slightly more than 82% (cumulatively just over 72%) of what is called for in the Master Plan.

When we presented these calculations to Mr. Zelig at the public hearing, we asked for the engineering data supporting the proposed easement takings. To our surprise, he had none.

It is utterly amazing that taxpayer funds are being expended in a process of condemning private property for a public project with no plans having been prepared. In 30 years of representing property owners in eminent domain negotiations, I have never seen anything like this. There is no way for the appraiser being hired by the NRD to accurately assess the damages either property owner will suffer if the calculation of the quantities of excavation are this far askew. For example, if the project will require much steeper slopes or deeper cells to meet the storage requirement, it might create safety hazards, or a need to fence the detention areas, or drainage problems for the detention cells. More likely, it will require taking additional land.

We assume, of course that no one is interested in spending $50 Million on Dead Man's Run watershed projects which will only address 72% of the problem.

We urge the LPSNRD Board to stop the eminent domain process until such time as engineering work is completed. It will be a huge waste of taxpayer resources to condemn land which is insufficient for the intended purpose. If more land is needed for the project, you will have the ability to determine whether that is feasible. Don't rush this when you have information which calls into serious question the viability of the most important of all the proposed DMR projects.
We also urge the Mayor and City Council to require the Watershed Management division to justify any city participation in this project without engineering work being done in advance of land acquisition. It is our understanding that the city hired the consultants who made the estimates of the storage requirements and the land needed for the projects, and that those estimates form the basis for the NRD's proposed easements. Someone needs to exercise some supervision over this rush to acquire private property without engineering data to back it up. If private property is taken using taxpayer's funds there should be a high degree of confidence that the intended project will accomplish the goals set out in the DMR Master Plan. Pointing fingers and assessing blame will not fix the problem if it turns out the benefits of the Plan cannot be realized, and the taxpayers have paid a lot of money for nothing.

Finally, there is no need to rush! Chateau Development has given you a year before it starts construction on the west side of DMR. Use the time to do your homework. If it turns out the site won't work for the intended purpose, it's better to find that out before you buy it.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hunzeker
For the Firm
mahunzeker@bayloreyvnen.com

cc: Greg MacLean-Public Works
    Glenn Johnson-NRD
    All Members of the City Council
    All members of Planning Commission
    All members of LPSNRD
    Stefan Gaspar
    Mike Eckert
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<td>Overhead Profit and Insurance@15%</td>
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<td>$238,330</td>
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<td>Construction with Percent Allowances Subtotal=</td>
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<td>$1,954,303</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Contingency 25%</td>
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<td>$488,576</td>
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<td>Probable Cost Estimate=</td>
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<td>Engineering / Permitting / Survey / Geotech (Contingency 20%)</td>
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<td>Total Conceptual Cost Estimate=</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,932,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Rounded up to the nearest $1000)
I am not sure who the representative is in our district but am urging he or she to vote against the rate hike proposed by Lincoln Electric System. I can understand a rate hike but what LES wants is ridiculous. Let LES do what the rest of us is having to do these days, cut expenses SOMEHOW somewhere!

Lorenz and Mary Ann Niemeyer
4811 Elk Ridge Rd.
Lincoln, NE 68516
Dear Honorable City Council:

I'm writing in regards to your considering cutting out day buses. Please do not cut them out.

I know that there are very many people that do rely on the buses to go very many places including medical visits, even in the middle of the night. Many of them are unable to transport themselves or alter their schedules.

So very many people rely on the middle of the day buses. All of your buses including the elderly, the disabled, the mentally disabled, young people, students, some career people, people in cars, people who cannot afford cars, people taking the bus to save gasoline costs by not using cars, so much people that I think you need to take this into consideration.
poor enough to qualify for taxi vouchers, people use
to drive their own car
due to an illness or in but can't get a ride
someone else, etc.

I even rely on the buses even midday. So do
my husband. We don't have a car. We could not in
a car. We use the bus to get us everywhere. And
that I had 4 medications not quite bad enough for an
ambulance but still urgent
I've been able to rely on buses to get me to the
room or doctor. I use it to get me to all my doctors
even a midday very imp
routine appointments at St. Elizabeth hospital in the infusion
to get 3 injections every 2
weeks called Xolair which
the severe airborne allergy
I use it to get to appointments of any sort. My husband uses it to get to work. My husband and I use it to get to stores if all sorts of places at the beach & like. I said before everyday I also use it twice a week to get to my day group home in Arnold to visit with her. My husband & I are poor but not poor enough to qualify for taxi vouchers, so all the more reason that we are on the buses. My husband & I ride the buses & are totally ful for the buses. So, we begging you please do not remove the mid-day buses. Thank you. And please try to raise the bus rates. But
mid-day bus service the 50.

Thank you very much for everything!!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mrs. Yetter
P.O. Box 81
Lindon, UT 84042-2501
Thank you for saving the Easterday program and keeping it at the same building for the rest of the year. The program participants will be so glad to continue on there. I appreciate your attentiveness to this important issue.

Julie Shaw
Dear City Council members,

I would like to thank all of you for voting to save Meadow Heights Pool! You have definitely made our neighborhood feel as though we do matter.

((((((((((HUGS)))))))) from our neighborhood children.

Barbara Kucera
I was disappointed to see that the council intends to enforce the livestock law in this particular situation. I do not believe the intent of the law was to remove an old gelding from a pasture he was born in before the law was even created. Please allow the old guy an exception by using a Grandfather clause. Your going to turn yourselves into the public scrooges and a old gelding into a hero. If the horse dies in transit you'll be perceived as even worse.

Thank you so much for your time,
Jill Jensen
ADDENDUM
TO
DIRECTORS’ AGENDA
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2008

I. MAYOR -

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler will discuss developments regarding the LES’s proposed rate increase at a News Conference on Friday, August 15th at 10:00 a.m.

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Promotes School Safety.

3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Public Invited To West Haymarket Discussions.

4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Supports 9.1% Limit To LES Rate Increase.

5. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule Week of August 16 through August 22, 2008 - Schedule subject to change.

II. CITY CLERK - None

III. CORRESPONDENCE -

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE -

JON CAMP -


B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS - None

C. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. Letter from Alan M. Wood, Attorney - RE: Items #18, #19, & #20 on the Council Agenda for 08/18/08 - Commercial Development at 84th & Havelock - Bill Nos. 08-89, 08-90, 08R-161.

2. E-Mail from Tadd Delozier - RE: Say NO to another LES rate hike.

3. E-Mail from Jodi Delozier - RE: DO NOT approve the 9.1% LES rate increase.
DATE: August 14, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will discuss developments regarding the Lincoln Electric System’s proposed rate increase at a news conference at 10 a.m. Friday, August 15 in room 113 of the County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street.
MAYOR PROMOTES SCHOOL SAFETY

With school beginning Wednesday, August 20, Mayor Chris Beutler today promoted two efforts aimed at getting students to and from school safely:

- LPS and the City’s Public Works and Utilities Department and Police Department (LPD) are sponsoring the annual “Safe Walk and Safe Ride to School Night” from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, August 18. All 25 mph school speed zones will be in operation. (Some schools will have the “Safe Ride” event with school buses on Tuesday, August 19.)

- LPD will conduct its two-week “back to school” traffic enforcement project beginning Wednesday, August 20. Additional officers will be posted around schools to promote traffic and pedestrian safety.

“These two efforts are very important in reminding people that we all have a role to play in getting children to and from school safely,” Beutler said. “Families with students need to stress safety with their children, and all of us who drive our streets need to use extra caution this time of the year, especially in school zones.”

Voluntary one-way pick-up and drop-off driving plans and recommended walking routes are available from school principals; the LPS Web site at lps.org; and the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: schools). If a plan has not been developed for your school, please contact the principal.

Pedestrians are encouraged to walk, not run, when crossing streets. Motorists are encouraged to pay attention to the signage in school areas. (A list follows this release).

Residents also are reminded the UNL students will begin moving into the dormitories August 21. Some students and their families are not familiar with Lincoln, so traffic delay may increase in the main campus area.

- more -
LPD has a “no tolerance” policy for enforcing the 25 mph school speed zones, and fines are doubled for speeding in these zones. The fines (not including court costs) for speeding in a 25 mph school speed zone are:

- $20 for traveling 1 to 5 mph over the speed limit
- $50 for traveling 6 to 10 mph over the speed limit
- $150 for traveling 11 to 15 mph over the speed limit
- $250 for traveling 16 to 20 mph over the speed limit
- $400 for traveling 21 mph or more over the speed limit

SCHOOL AREA SIGNAGE

No Parking 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. School Days Loading Zone
These signs are installed in areas designated for picking up and dropping off students. Drivers can legally park in these areas for 10 minutes as long as they remain in their vehicles.

No Parking 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. School Days Bus Zone
These signs are installed in areas designated for school bus loading and unloading. Drivers should avoid using these areas when they are picking up or dropping off students.

No Stopping Anytime
These signs are installed in areas for safety reasons, and drivers should not stop in these areas to pick up or drop off students.

No Stopping 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. School Days or No Stopping 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. School Days
These signs are similar to the “No Stopping Anytime” signs except that they are only in effect during the times stated.

Authorized School Crossing
These signs are installed at locations where drivers should expect to see concentrations of children crossing the street. Crossings adjacent to schools also usually have “No Stopping Anytime” signs nearby to allow drivers to better see the children approaching or standing at the curb.
PUBLIC INVITED TO WEST HAYMARKET DISCUSSIONS

Mayor Chris Beutler invites the public to two presentations next week by the Mayors’ Institute on City Design (MICD), which is studying the proposed West Haymarket development. The Mayor presented the West Haymarket plans at a national conference in October 2007. The MICD then selected Lincoln as one of only four communities across the nation to participate in its follow-up program.

“As we prepare the plans for the potential West Haymarket area and conference center, it is important to hear as may ideas and viewpoints as we can,” Beutler said. “The Institute members who are visiting are all experts in this area, and we are very fortunate to have them in our community to offer their views on the latest conceptual site plans.”

The first public event, “Views From the Field: National Design Experts Present Best Practices in Sustainable Development,” will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 19 at the Lincoln Station in the Haymarket. The MICD members will discuss how communities can address contemporary urban design challenges.

The second event specifically with the Lincoln project. “West Haymarket Conceptual Plans: A Perspective from the Mayors’ Institute’s Design Professionals” will begin at 1 p.m. Wednesday, August 20 in the Council Chambers at the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th.

The visiting MICD members are Maurice Cox, Director of Design for the National Endowment for the Arts; Ray S. “Rip” Farris III, a real estate developer and urban designer; Charnelle Hicks, founder of a firm specializing in land use and environmental justice and planning; and Paul Okamoto, an expert in sustainable design.

The MICD is a partnership of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Architectural Foundation. The Institute was founded in 1985 as a way to help mayors find solutions to critical urban design challenges facing their cities. The MICD is covering most of the expenses for the Lincoln visit.

Those wanting more information can contact Kent Morgan or Michele Abendroth in the City-County Planning Department at 441-6164.
MAYOR SUPPORTS 9.1 PERCENT LIMIT TO LES RATE INCREASE

Mayor Chris Beutler said today he supports an amendment that would limit the rate increase proposed by the Lincoln Electric System (LES) to 9.1 percent. City Council member Dan Marvin will introduce the amendment at the Council meeting Monday, August 18. LES, a City-owned utility, originally proposed an increase of about 12 percent, and the LES board approved a 10.1 percent increase August 8.

“The increase proposed by Dan’s amendment represents a nearly 25 percent reduction from LES’s original proposal,” Beutler said. “This is great news for the working families of Lincoln. The compromise proposal allows LES to solve its short-term budget deficits without taking more money than necessary from Lincoln’s ratepayers.”

Beutler said he respects LES and appreciates the role the utility plays in Lincoln. But he said he is concerned about LES’s continued unwillingness to be transparent and to acknowledge the authority of the City of Lincoln.

“The partnership originally envisioned by the relevant ordinances no longer exists in the minds of LES officials,” Beutler said. “LES leaders have formally declared that the Mayor’s power to effectively veto is non-existent. They are mistaken, and I will ask the citizens of Lincoln to clarify that issue. LES must continue to be subject to the oversight and scrutiny of this administration and the City Council on behalf of the citizens. It is the law. It is, therefore, our duty.”

In addition to supporting the amendment, Beutler said he plans three courses of action:

- He will work with LES and the Council to clear up the oversight and governance issue.
- He will continue to push for a critical analysis of the current LES budget. “LES should do everything in its power to demonstrate to the Mayor and the Council it has made the tough choices before rates increases are sought.”
- He will call on LES to closely scrutinize the factors that determine electricity prices before seeking a further rate increase in March.

The Mayor said “compromise cannot mean capitulation,” and that City leaders would continue to advocate for LES customers. “LES is a respected organization and an example of why public power has been so successful for our state and our community,” he said. “But in an era of rising energy costs and proposed double digit rate hikes, the time has come for LES to join the other public entities in Lincoln in making the hard cuts and the hard choices that allow for smaller cost increases to the consumer.”
DATE: August 15, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of August 16 through August 22, 2008
Schedule subject to change

Sunday, August 17
- Hamann Rose Garden Dedication, remarks - 4 p.m., Antelope Park, 27th and “C” streets (south of waterfall, parking available in zoo lot)

Monday, August 18
- Mayor’s Award of Excellence - 1:30 p.m., Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.

Tuesday, August 19
- News conference on crash statistics - 10 a.m., location to be announced
- Presentation by Mayors’ Institute on City Design (MICD) - 6 p.m., Lincoln Station (Great Hall), 201 N. 7th St.

Wednesday, August 20
- MICD presentation on West Haymarket conceptual plans - 1 p.m., Council Chambers

Thursday, August 21
- KFOR Morning Show - 7:45 a.m.
- T. Boone Pickens presentation - 10 a.m., Lancaster Event Center
- Lincoln Chamber of Commerce “Celebrate Business” lunch, remarks - 11 a.m., Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, 333 S. 13th St.
- CEDARS annual dinner - 5:30 p.m., Embassy Suites, 1040 “P” Street

Friday, August 22
- UNL College of Law ribbon-cutting for Space and Telecom Law program, remarks - 11:30 a.m., College’s Schmoker Courtyard, 42nd and Fair streets
- Sprayground grand opening, remarks - 4 p.m., Trago Park, 22nd and “U” streets
Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council
City Council Office: 441-7515
Haymarket Square Office: 474-1838

-----Original Message-----
From: Steve Medill <capitalappraisal@windstream.net>
To: jcamp@lincoln.ne.gov
Sent: Mon, 21 Jul 2008 8:16 am
Subject: Housing Stimulus Proposal

Dear Jon,

I’m a member of the Realtors Association of Lincoln. The Realtors Association of Lincoln has recently sent me an email encouraging me to support the Housing Stimulus Proposal. I find this proposal NOT to be worthy of support. It is NOT market driven. It is political and will be used as a gimmick. Let the market sort things out. I have lived in several cities and have seen this type of government meddling of one form or another before. I learned long ago that the market will take care of itself. If developers and builders want to sell more of their produce, then lower the price. Tthe WIN will be the buyer!

Cordially,

Steve Medill, MAI
Capital Appraisal Company, LLC
301 South 70th Street, Suite 300-F
Lincoln, NE 68510

Office 402-488-5900

It's time to go back to school! Get the latest trends and gadgets that make the grade on AOL Shopping.
Lincoln City Council  
C/O Joan Ross, City Clerk  
555 S. 10th Street, Room 103  
Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Commercial Development at 84th and Havelock  
Bill Nos. 08-89, 08-90, 08R-161

Dear Members of the City Council:

As attorney for the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, (Ag. Society) and the Lancaster Event Center, I have been asked to provide a position statement concerning the Administration’s proposed language for Section 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Lincoln and the Ag. Society. It is the position of the Ag. Society that there be no provisions in Section 10 limiting the Ag. Society’s ability to develop an arena with fixed seating or establishing any coordinating commission or oversight board relating to possible conflicts in scheduling between the Lancaster Event Center and future arena facilities in the City of Lincoln.

There have been extensive discussions and substantial time and resources devoted to issues relating to the annexation and rezoning of approximately 14 acres of land owned by the Ag. Society at 84th and Havelock. This process began in 2005 and the Ag. Society is requesting the City to approve annexation, an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and rezoning of the Ag. Society’s commercial tract without further delay.

Agreement has been reached on all of the land development issues set out in the MOU relating to zoning, utilities, flood plain, offsite traffic improvements and related development issues. However, the Ag. Society is not willing to agree that Section 10 of the MOU restrict the Ag. Society’s future development of an arena with fixed seating at the Lancaster Event Center.

The following points serve to illuminate the position of the Ag. Society and why it is inappropriate to tie arena development to the Ag Society’s commercial corner:
1. The annexation, rezoning and commercial development at 84th and Havelock will allow for the development of hotel, restaurant and retail facilities, which will enhance the ability of the Lancaster Event Center to attract events having regional or national scope. This will bring a positive impact to Lincoln’s economy. Once under development, the commercial corner will be placed back on the tax rolls to provide additional revenue in the form of real estate property tax.

2. The departure of the Nebraska State Fair in 2010 provides the Lancaster County Fair and the Lancaster Event Center with the opportunity to broaden its impact on the community and the region. There is the possibility that there will be development of the tract north of the Lancaster Event Center in a manner which is compatible with the mission of the Ag. Society and the Event Center. As plans develop, it would be inappropriate to foreclose the Ag. Society from pursuing any number of options which may lay ahead for the 84th and Havelock area.

3. While the Ag. Society has no current plans to construct an arena with fixed seating, it would be unwise to limit the authority of the Ag. Society in the event construction of an arena becomes a viable option to meet the needs of those visitors wishing to bring events to the City and to the Lancaster Event Center between now and 2012.

4. Construction of an arena with fixed seating at the Lancaster Event Center should not be viewed as duplicating, in any significant way, the future arena in the Haymarket based on the plans made public thus far. The Lancaster County Fairgrounds and the Lancaster Event Center are designed to accommodate agriculturally based events, as well as events requiring large covered exhibition space, such as a home, sport, or large equipment show.

5. Prior to approval and construction of the downtown arena, it is premature to establish any coordinating commission or oversight board having authority to deal with conflicts in scheduling. Based on the type of existing facilities at the Event Center and the announced plans for the future arena in the Haymarket, the chance for competing events is speculative at this point in time. Nevertheless, it’s important to understand that the Lancaster County Agricultural Society Board of Directors endorses the concept of developing a downtown arena and pledges its continuing cooperation with 2015 Vision Group and all other city and community representatives supporting the Haymarket development. Once the Haymarket arena becomes a reality, all parties will be in a better position to judge whether it is appropriate to address concerns with regard to coordination of arena events.
6. The Lancaster County Agricultural Society is committed to ongoing coordination with the City and other interested groups regarding future arena developments and the Society will cooperate so as to foster the success of all arena or event facilities to be developed in Lincoln.

The Lancaster County Agricultural Society requests that the City Council approve the request for annexation, Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezoning, as more specifically set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding, but that this Memorandum of Understanding be approved without adding any provision to Section 10 relating to the development of an arena at the Lancaster Event Center or the formation of any board or commission regarding coordination of arena events.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Alan M. Wood

AMW: rlh
cc:  Ron Dowding, President, Lancaster County Agricultural Society
 Ron Snover, Managing Director, Lancaster Event Center
 Mayor Chris Beutler
 Trish Owen, Mayor’s Office
 Marvin Krout, Director of Planning
 John Hendry and Rick Peo, Law Department
 Don Herz, Finance Director
 Kent Seacrest, 2015 Vision Group
To all Lincoln City Council members:

The taxpayers of Lincoln, NE have had just as much as we can take. It is well documented that Nebraska is one of the most highly taxed states when it comes to the combination of taxes its citizens are burdened with. This takes into account extremely high property taxes, city and state sales taxes, and income tax. But one can't forget our ever increasing utility costs.

In this case, LES has increased its rates by about 27% since April 2003. Kathy Campbell, the chairwoman of the LES budget and rates committee, has commented that there will be even more increases as the company deals with escalating energy costs.

I wonder if any taxpayer in Lincoln has the benefit of increasing their salary by 27% over 5 years to help keep up with the ever increasing costs of living in this city?

I hope you take a close look into the operating costs of this company to see where additional costs can be trimmed. Do the executives of LES get yearly increases? Do they get an automobile allowance?

We all are faced with rising costs of commodities and a company can do its customers a huge disservice by making yearly increases in its rates. They also have tried to get authority from you Council Members to approve a "power cost adjustment" so they can just increase rates whenever they want to.

As a multi-family apartment owner, these escalating expenses make it the cost of doing business in Lincoln increasingly difficult. In fact, the Lancaster county assessor should be required to factor these increasing expenses into the property value, thereby decreasing the value of commercial property as this effectively decreases the cash flow.

I ask that you send LES a message and force them to operate a budget within the constraints of today's issues and not approve this increase. They have found the path too easy to come to you every 6-9 months and request and be granted substantial increases and temporary surcharges that contribute to the high costs of being a Lincoln resident!

Thank you for you consideration.

Tadd Delozier
City Council Members,

I would like you to **not approve** the 9.1% LES rate increase. These biennial rate increases are becoming habitual with LES. Is the City Council **actually** reviewing LES and their books to ensure that they are running this city-owned utility efficiently? I read in Saturday's LJS that there have been no job eliminations at LES (unlike what the city did to reduce the budget deficicy); I wonder if cost of living adjustments or raises are still being provided as well as other benefits. Please vote no tonight.

Jodi Delozier