AGENDA
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113, 11:00 A.M.

I. MAYOR
1. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule for the week of January 3 through January 9, 2009. (Sent to Council on 01/02/09)
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s news conference on City’s priorities for the 2009 State Legislature session at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 555 So. 10th Street, Mayor’s Conference Room. (Sent to Council on 01/06/09)
3. NEWS RELEASE. Infrastructure funding tops City’s Legislative Agenda.
4. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler, Police, Fire and 911 representatives will hold a news conference, Thursday, January 8, 2009, 10:00 am, at Fire Station 1, 1801 Q Street. (Sent to Council on 01/07/09)
5. Drinking water samples tested for Total Coliform and E. coli bacteria by the Colilert® method of analysis.
6. NEWS RELEASE. City’s emergency services recognized nationally.
7. NEWS RELEASE. Artists needed to paint rain barrels for Nature Center benefit.
8. NEWS RELEASE. Pashalek to serve as trustee for international organization.
9. NEWS RELEASE. Collection of trees to end Sunday.

II. DIRECTORS

FINANCE/TREASURER

LINCOLN LIBRARIES
1. Library Board of Trustees vacancy announced.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Change of Zone No. 08058 and Use Permit No. 08002, Bill #08-170 and #09R-8. Petition in support.

III. CITY CLERK

IV. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

V. MISCELLANEOUS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

W:\FILES\CITYCOUN\WP\DA011209.wpd
DATE: January 2, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of January 3 through January 9, 2009
Schedule subject to change

Tuesday, January 6
• News conference on City’s legislative agenda – 10 a.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
• Lincoln Fire and Rescue badge-pinning, remarks – 6 p.m., Firefighters Hall, 241 Victory Lane

Wednesday, January 7
• Census office grand opening – 11:30 a.m., 3101 N.W. 12th St.

Thursday, January 8
• KFOR Morning Show – 7:45 a.m.
• Mayor’s Neighborhood Roundtable – 5:30 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room
• Mayor’s Commission on Women – 6 p.m., County-City Building, room 206
Mayor Chris Beutler will discuss the City’s priorities for the 2009 session of the State Legislature at a news conference at 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 6 in the Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street.
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING TOPS CITY’S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
Special Olympics 2010 USA National Games also priority

Mayor Chris Beutler today said infrastructure funding will again be the City’s top priority in the 2009 State legislative session that begins tomorrow. Lincoln Senator Amanda McGill will again introduce the Urban Growth bill, an infrastructure funding tool that would allow a city to create one or more urban growth districts near the edge of the community.

“Our Urban Growth bill is a tool that requires no new State dollars,” Beutler said. “As I told the Urban Affairs Committee last year, it is a local solution that will help us help ourselves in closing the funding gap.”

The bill would allow the estimated sales tax revenues generated within the urban growth district or districts to be pledged for debt service on an “urban growth bond.” The proceeds of the bond would used to fund a broad range of infrastructure needs, including roads. The bonds would be backed by the City’s general taxing authority.

The Mayor said McGill did a great job last session of moving the bill through the Urban Affairs Committee without a negative vote and securing a Speaker Priority designation for it. “This session, our goal is to take that final step and enact this important bill into law,” Beutler said.

The annual Community Consensus Meeting sponsored by the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce helped shape the City’s legislative priorities for 2009. Beutler said that during the meeting, funding for the Special Olympics USA National Games, which Lincoln will host in July 2010, emerged as another major priority for the City.

“The event offers us an unprecedented opportunity to showcase our community on a national stage,” the Mayor said. “With that, however, also comes the responsibility to provide these remarkable athletes and their families the experience they deserve, and that will take a significant fund-raising effort. We are seeking dollars for the Games from the federal government, which has historically supported similar events. Our Lincoln delegation will now be working to secure dollars at the State level – dollars that will be recouped in large part by the sales tax revenues this event will bring to our State.”

- more -
Legislative Agenda
January 6, 2009
Page Two

Beutler thanked those who have joined the Founders Club by making $25,000 contributions to the Games. He also thanked Lincoln Senators Tony Fulton and Danielle Nantkes for their work on the issue through their membership on the Legislature’s Appropriations Committee.

Beutler said the City also supports the efforts of Lincoln Senator Bill Avery on a bill to implement Amendment 1 passed by voters in May 2008. The Constitutional Amendment allows entities like Lincoln’s Community Health Endowment to diversify its investments to include stocks. But the amendment was not “self-executing,” and passage of the bill is needed before the Endowment can take actions.

“Since its creation in 1998, the Endowment has funded about $11 million in health-related initiatives across the City,” Beutler said. “By diversifying its investments, the Endowment believes that it will be able to significantly increase its average annual returns, resulting in more non-tax dollars available for community grants.”

Also on the legislative priority list are a bill that would allow cities to use cameras to enforce traffic laws and a bill that would allow cities the size of Lincoln to create a separate transit authority. The authority would have the ability to raise revenues and determine routes.

The Mayor said the City also will monitor several other issues closely:

- The Omaha Chamber of Commerce’s State Infrastructure Bank bill, which would create a revolving fund for large-scale infrastructure projects.
- Potential road bills that could result in more funding for cities and counties.
- Research incentives that would support Lincoln’s Innovation Campus, the University of Nebraska’s research and development park that will be located on the State Fairgrounds.
DATE: January 7, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will be joined by Police, Fire and 911 representatives at a news conference at **10 a.m. Thursday, January 8 at Fire Station 1, 1801 “Q” Street.** Lincoln is one of less than ten cities to have all three emergency service providers nationally accredited, and they will discuss the steps they have taken to achieve that status.
January 6, 2009

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

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Mayor Chris Beutler today recognized Lincoln Fire and Rescue (LFR), the Lincoln Police Department (LPD) and the Emergency Communications/911 Center for their achievements in earning national re-accreditation in 2008. Lincoln is one of only eight cities in the U.S. to have all three emergency service providers accredited by either the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, Inc. (CFAI) or the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

“The accreditation process is a comprehensive look at an agency’s policies, procedures, efficiency and effectiveness,” said Mayor Beutler. “To have all three of the City’s emergency service providers achieve this status says a great deal about our commitment to excellence. The public can take great pride in the dedicated and professional men and women who work to keep them safe 24 hours a day.”

CFAI requires re-accreditation every five years, and CALEA requires re-accreditation every three years.

LFR was recommended for re-accreditation after a site visit from a team representing CFAI. The department will receive its re-accreditation March 10 at the annual conference of the Center for Public Safety Excellence. The Department was one of the first five in the world to receive CFAI accreditation in August 1997.

LPD was re-accredited by CALEA in April 2008. LPD has been nationally accredited since 1989, when the department became the first law enforcement agency in Nebraska to achieve that status. LPD also has earned the enhanced Certificate of Meritorious Accreditation from CALEA. In July 2008, LPD was awarded State re-accreditation through the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska. LPD was first accredited by that group in 2003. (State re-accreditation takes place every five years.)
The Lincoln Emergency Communications/911 Center received re-accreditation from CALEA in December. The Center also was named a Flagship Agency for its commitment to the CALEA accreditation process and its willingness to share its success with others. The Center became the 14th center in the nation to be accredited by CALEA in 2002. The Center was re-accredited in 2005 and received its first Flagship Agency designation at that time.

More information on the City’s emergency service providers is available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keywords: fire, police, 911). More information on the accrediting agencies is available at cfainet.org and calea.org.
ARTISTS NEEDED TO PAINT RAIN BARRELS
FOR NATURE CENTER BENEFIT

Local artists and teachers are invited to participate in a rain barrel art project to benefit the Pioneers Park Nature Center. The project is sponsored by the Friends of Pioneers Park Nature Center and the Watershed Management Division of the City Public Works and Utilities Department. A total of 25 artists will be chosen to paint rain barrels, which will be auctioned to the public in May. Rain barrels are above-ground containers modified to receive, store and distribute rooftop runoff for non-drinking uses.

“Using rain barrels is a great way to save water for dry spells, reduce runoff and stormwater pollution and cut your water bills during hot weather,” said Nancy Furman, Nature Center Coordinator. “This art project is a fun way to educate the community about these benefits and to promote other ways we all can help protect our environment.”

Applications must be submitted by January 30. They are available on the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: rain barrel); at the Pioneers Park Nature Center office, 2740 “A” St.; and at the City Watershed Management office, 901 N. 6th St. Applicants are required to submit a short summary of their intended designs. Teachers applying for their classes are required to submit a short description of how they plan to use the rain barrel project as a teaching tool.

The Friends organization will select the 25 artists and notify them by February 6. The artists will have four weeks to paint and return the barrels along with the title of the work, the artist’s bio and a written description. Decorated rain barrels will be on display for about two months at local businesses and libraries. All rain barrels will be on display April 18 at the Nature Center at “Nature’s Market,” a special event conducted by the Friends organization. Photos of the barrels also will be posted on the City Web site, and visitors will be able to vote for their favorite.

For more information, contact Watershed Management at 441-7075, the Pioneers Park Nature Center at 441-8709 or visit lincoln.ne.gov.
Lincoln Fire and Rescue Deputy Chief Jeanne Pashalek has accepted an invitation to serve as a Trustee for the International Association of Women in Fire & Emergency Services (iWomen). Pashalek’s three-year term will run through December 2012. The iWomen Board of Trustees coordinates and reports on activities, reviews finances and decides on new initiatives.

“We are very proud of Deputy Chief Pashalek for being chosen to hold a position with iWomen on an international board,” said Lincoln Fire and Rescue Chief Niles Ford. “She will do a great job for iWomen as well as continue to represent the best of Lincoln Fire and Rescue.”

As a Trustee, Pashalek will help draft new policies and procedures, work to improve outreach to underrepresented groups, serve as a local contact for women who need support, present workshops at iWomen conferences and help organize conferences and leadership seminars.

Chief Ford praised Pashalek for working with women firefighters in Omaha to bring the organization’s annual international conference to Nebraska in May. Pashalek said the event will attract hundreds of women fire service professionals.

The mission of iWomen is to provide a proactive network that supports, mentors and educates current and future women in the fire and emergency services. More information can be found at www.i-women.org.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 7, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gene Hanlon, Recycling Coordinator, 441-7043

COLLECTION OF TREES TO END SUNDAY

Sunday, January 11 is the last day residents will be able to recycle their holiday trees at one of the City’s collection sites. The trees will be ground into wood chips, which will be available on a first-come, first-served basis from January 23 through February 9 at each collection site. The wood chip mulch is free, but individuals will be required to self-load the wood chips.

You can drop off your tree and pick up mulch at any one of the following sites:

- Ballard Park, 3901 N. 66th St.
- Holmes Lake Park, 70th St. and Normal Blvd. (parking lot west of the north softball field)
- Oak Lake Park, 1st and Charleston streets (three blocks south of Cornhusker Hwy. on 1st Street)
- Sawyer-Snell Park, 2nd and South streets (west of Fire Department building)
- Tierra Park, 29th and Tierra Drive
- University Place Park, 50th and Garland streets
- Woods Park, 31st and “J” streets (southeast corner parking lot)
OFFICE OF TREASURER, CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

DECEMBER 31, 2008

TO:   MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER & CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:  FINANCE DEPARTMENT / CITY TREASURER

SUBJECT:  MONTHLY CITY CASH REPORT

The records of this office show me to be charged with City cash as follows at the close of business November 30, 2008:

Balance Forward  $162,773,106.92
Plus Total Debits November 1-30, 2008  $23,087,581.97
Less Total Credits November 1-30, 2008 ($26,789,865.11)
Cash Balance on November 30, 2008  $159,070,823.78

I desire to report that such City cash was held by me as follows which I will deem satisfactory unless advised and further directed in the matter by you.

U. S. Bank Nebraska, N.A.  ($294,613.29)
Wells Fargo Bank  ($56,812.24)
Wells Fargo Bank Credit Card Account  ($18,096.26)
Cornhusker Bank  $27,704.01
Pinnacle Bank  $72,205.25
Union Bank & Trust Company  $516,648.79
West Gate Bank  $96,646.80
Idle Funds - Short-Term Pool  $23,763,911.89
Idle Funds - Medium-Term Pool  $134,350,727.95
Cash, Checks and Warrants  $612,500.87
Total Cash on Hand November 30, 2008  $159,070,823.78

The negative bank balances shown above do not represent the City as overdrawn in these bank accounts. In order to maximize interest earned on all City funds, deposits have been invested prior to the Departments' notification to the City Treasurer's office of these deposits; therefore, these deposits are not recorded in the City Treasurer's bank account balances at month end.

I also hold as City Treasurer, securities in the amount of $24,274,704.65 representing authorized investments of the City's funds.

ATTEST:

Melinda J. Jones, City Treasurer

Joan E. Ross, City Clerk
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FOR RELEASE: January 5, 2009

CONTACT: Pat Leach, Library Director
PHONE: 402-441-8510
E-MAIL: p.leach@lincolnlibraries.org

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Vacancy Announced

The Library Board of Trustees of Lincoln City Libraries seeks a candidate to fill an existing vacancy on the Library Board. One six-year appointment (2009-2015) is available due to the early retirement of a Board member.

The Board of Trustees of the Lincoln City Libraries is a seven member administrative board appointed by the Lincoln City Council. It is the trustee's obligation to work toward improvement in library services through well-trained staff and efficient use of funds, to support adequate funding for library services, and to promote the best possible use of all library resources. The mission of Lincoln City Libraries is to foster the power of reading and provide open access to all forms of information to enrich people’s lives every day.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest and a statement outlining their philosophy and goals for providing public library service along with a brief biographical resume to library@lincolnlibraries.org - or mail to Candidate Search, Lincoln City Libraries, 136 S 14th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508

After review the Library Board will forward information from all interested individuals to the City Council along with the Library Board's recommendation.

Library Board members must be residents of Lincoln. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2009.

Barbara Hansen
Administrative Aide
Lincoln City Libraries
402-441-8512
Did you know that many of our branch libraries are now open from 12 to 8 p.m. on Sundays? Call me for details.
December 19, 2008

Lincoln City Council Board Members
555 S. 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Lincoln City Council Board Members:

As owners of business or residential establishments near the A Street property, we concur with the City Planning Commission's recent S-2 vote on December 3, 2008, and the unanimous support by the 40th & A Neighborhood Association on October 30, 2008, for the proposal of establishing a Residential Transition District (R-T) change of zoning request from a R-2 to a R-T for 3333 and 3345 A Street properties.

The residential properties, located at 3333 A Street that is owned by Brian and Deborah Marshall and 3345 A Street that is owned by Earl Visser, were approved by the City Planning Commission in favor of this re-zoning and use permit change.

It is our understanding that the neighbor to the south of the 3333 A Street property has appealed the final decision made by the City Planning Commission.

We the undersigned, as business or residential owners, highly recommend the rezoning request of these properties from a R-2 to a R-T.

Sincerely,

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<td>Executive Vice-Pres.</td>
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<td>Chris McMenen</td>
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<td>3414 A St.</td>
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<td>Richard G. Schmitt</td>
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<td>Brian Marshall</td>
<td>Brian Marshall</td>
<td>Owner</td>
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<td>Deborah Marshall</td>
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<td>Owner</td>
<td>3333 A St.</td>
<td>1-5-09</td>
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Annexation by Ordinance
Effective: December 30, 2008
Ordinance No. 19182
91.56 Acres
Annexation by Ordinance
Effective: December 30, 2008
Ordinance No. 19184
161.9 Acres
January 7, 2009

RE: Comprehensive Plan Annual Review

Dear Community Member:

The fourth annual review of the Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for public hearing before the Planning Commission on Wednesday, May 13, 2009. An annual review is a requirement of the Plan as stated on page 156 of the Plan:

“Approximately one year following adoption of the Comprehensive Plan and on an annual basis thereafter, the Planning Director will prepare a report entitled the Annual Review of the Comprehensive Plan. Such report may include new and pertinent information about the community, changes in the Plan's underlying assumptions or any other factors affecting the health or welfare of the community. Such report may include specific proposals to amend the Plan.”

If you are interested in submitting an amendment proposal, the application form and questionnaire are on our website or copies can be obtained at our office. To access the application and questionnaire online go to the city website www.lincoln.ne.gov, keyword: cprev. A link to the forms can be found at the bottom of that page. Please fill out the questionnaire to allow our reviewers to more thoroughly understand your proposal and the potential implications.

Amendments need to be submitted to the Planning Department by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 6th, 2009. This will allow for adequate time to review the proposals and for questions and discussions with applicants.

Note: There is a filing fee for Comprehensive Plan Amendments of $250.00. Checks should be made payable to the City of Lincoln. If you have any questions, please call David Cary at 441-6364 or Brandon Garrett at 441-6373.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Marvin Kroout,
Director of Planning

cc: County Board, City Council, Mayor Beutler
Planning Commission
City and County Directors
Planning Staff