

**DIRECTORS' MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2009
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113, 11:00 A.M.**

I. CITY CLERK

- *1. Mayor Beutler's veto message on Ordinance No.19268. Amending Section 4.20-010 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to the Board of Directors of the Library Board of the City of Lincoln.

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL

PRESENTATIONS: None

MAYOR

- **1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Beutler presents April Award of Excellence to Officer Steven Wiese.
- **2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will announce priorities for federal energy stimulus grant at a new conference on Tuesday, May 12th, 1:45 pm at the International Quilt Study Center and Museum, No. 33rd and Holdrege Streets. (Sent to City Council Members on 05/11/09)
- **3. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor outlines priorities for energy stimulus funds.
- **4. Drinking water samples tested for total Coliform and E. Coli bacteria by the Colilert® method of analysis.
- **5. NEWS RELEASE. Public invited to annual zoo event.
- **6. NEWS RELEASE. Phoenix Awards to be presented May 19, 2009.
- **7. NEWS RELEASE. City receives two awards for workplace safety.
- **8. Washington Report, May 8, 2009.
- *9. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor's arts awards reservations due May 26, 2009.
- *10. Lin Quenzer, City Ombudsman, response to Frank Oslzly. (IV. Correspondence to Council, #7. (This was responded to by email, hard copy letter and also the Action Center under the Mayor's Department and City Council)
- *11. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and City Parks and Recreation representatives will hold a news conference at 10:00 am, Thursday, May 21, 2009 at the Trago Park shelter, 2032 "U" Street regarding initiatives for the Parks and Recreation Department and a new AmeriCorps project. (Forwarded to Council Members at 8:00 am on 05/21/09)
- *12. NEWS RELEASE. City awarded major stimulus grant for environmental initiatives.
- *13. NEWS RELEASE. Parks and Rec unveils new communication and volunteer initiatives.
- *14. NEWS RELEASE. "Taking Charge" budget discussion now available for viewing.
- *15. Washington Report, May 15, 2009.
- 16. NEWS RELEASE. City's First Biketacular set for May 30, 2009.
- 17. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler's public schedule for the week of May 23, 2009 through May 29, 2009. (Forwarded to Council Members on May 22, 2009)
- 18. Washington Report, May 22, 2009.

DIRECTORS

FINANCE/TREASURER

- *1. Monthly City Cash.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- **1. NEWS RELEASE. Lincoln and Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards Ceremony to be held on Thursday, June 4, 2009.

CITY LIBRARIES

- **1. Lincoln events planned at library; Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America.
- **2. Lincoln City Libraries and the Asian Community and Cultural Center celebrate Asian/Pacific Heritage Month.

PARKS AND RECREATION

- *1. Director Johnson's memorandum on the hours of operation of Woods Pool for the summer of 2009.
- *2. Lynn Johnson's response to Ms. Donahoo (IV. Correspondence to City Council, May 11, 2009)

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- **1. Corinne Kolm email supporting the proposed comprehensive plan amendment which supports programs to increase the sustainability of Lincoln and promoting public wellness.
- *2. Minutes of Special Public Hearing on May 13, 2009 pertaining to the FY 2009/10 - 2014/15 City of Lincoln Capital Improvements Program and the FY 2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.
- 3. City Board of Zoning Appeals meeting agenda for Friday, May 29, 2009. (Sent to Council Members on 05/27/09)

PLANNING COMMISSION

- **1. Action by Planning Commission. Special Public Hearing, May 13, 2009.
- *2. Action by Planning Commission, May 20, 2009.

PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION

- *1. Special Permit No. 09009. Outdoor seasonal sales. North 40th and Superior Streets. Resolution No. PC-01166.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING

- **1. Response to Jay Endicott (IV - Correspondence to Council, #5, May 18, 2009) from Thomas Shafer, Engineering Services Manager, providing information on condition of Fletcher Avenue.
- *2. Engineering Services Manager Thomas Shafer's reply to Jay Endictott (IV- Correspondence to Council, #10, May 25, 2009) regarding road conditions of Fletcher Avenue received on Monday, May 18, 2009.
- 3. ADVISORY. Curb ramp and sidewalk repair advisory. Project #702621.

WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY

- **1. Combined Weed Program, City of Lincoln, April 2009 monthly report.

III. COUNCIL RFI'S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP

- **1. Correspondence to Mayor Beutler regarding EMS, Inc's Request for Proposal. (RFP)

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN

- **1. Request to Fred Hoke, Building & Safety Director - RE: Assist the neighborhoods with problems such as graffiti, snow removal, etc. (RFI#20 - 04/09/09)
- ** 2. Correspondence from Burma Kroger regarding library board terms.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL

- **1. Letter Derrick Anderson, MD, President, Lancaster County Medical Society Board regarding concerns over decision to consider eliminating EMS, Inc. as the independent organization to provide medical oversight for pre-hospital providers in our community. (City Council Members received individual letters on May 11, 2009)
- **2. Faxed letter from Dave Scheffler to Council Members. Do not vote to close the library on 27th and South Streets.
- **3. Kathy McKillip's email on Library Board terms.
- **4. Email from Mary Pat Miller, Save the South Branch Library.
- **5. InterLinc correspondence from Jay Endicott. Concerned with road condition on Fletcher Avenue from 56th to 70th Streets.
- **6. Pamela Starr email regarding keeping the South Branch Library open.
- *7. InterLinc correspondence from Frank Oslzly of Brooklyn, New York.
- *8. InterLinc correspondence from Carol Thompson on keeping the South Branch Library open.
- *9. Letter from Kate Dvorak, student, requesting the South Branch Library be kept open.
- *10. InterLinc correspondence from Jay Endicott requesting attention to Fletcher Avenue from 56th Street to 70th Street.
- *11. Email from Janis Johnson with concerns that eventually the Meadow Hights pool will be closed.
- *12. Rotary Club #14 response to Councilwoman Robin Eschliman's letter regarding fundraising effort for the 15th Street Centennial Mall. Included is Council letter of April 2009 and Rotary Club #14 response to original request in 2006.
- *13. Letter from Shiro Noiri, President of Kawasaki Motors Manufacturing Corporation, U.S.A., informing Council of his acceptance of a new assignment in Akashi and announcing his successor in Lincoln as Mr. M. Asano.
- 14. John Bussey, Capital Rentals, letter acknowledging and thanking Neighborworks, Stronger Safer Neighborhoods, Pat Anderson-Sifuentez, and the Lincoln police for the neighborhood change in the Everett School area. (Each Council Member received individual letter)
- 15. Email from Mary K. Stillwell. Support the arts in Lincoln and in Nebraska.
- 16. Email from Jeanne Kern. Consider strongly continuing solid City funding for the Lincoln Arts Council.
- 17. Copy of correspondence to Mayor Beutler from Lou Leviticus. Would be a disaster if the Lincoln Arts Council should lose public funding from the City.
- 18. Email from Bert Anderson. We cannot lose funding for the Lincoln Arts Council as it directly impacts our quality of life and increases tourism.
- 19. Terry Hatch email urging continued support of the Lincoln Arts Council.

20. Email in support of the Lincoln Arts Council from Jo Riecker-Karl.
21. Do not cut funding for the Lincoln Arts Council email from Diane Dinndorf Friebe.
22. Email from Elaine Kruse requesting support for the Lincoln Arts Council.
23. Support of City funding for the arts email from Martha Gadberry.
24. Sara and Robert Friedman asking the City to continue to help support and fund the arts.
25. Email from Starr Foster to continue to fund the Lincoln Arts Council.
26. Email from Bonnie Sittig. The arts also bring retail sales into the City, a source of tax revenue. Support the Lincoln Arts Council.
27. Correspondence from Ed Love. Do not reduce the funding for the Lincoln Arts Council.
28. Email from Lora Rocke. The Lincoln Arts Council provides support, education and opportunities for Lincoln.
29. Copy of email to Mayor Beutler from Sara Boatman urging remembrance of the arts as the budget is being created.
30. Cheri Oltman email listing reasons to keep the South Branch Library open.
31. Email to Mayor Beutler and City Council members from Teresa Harms listing reasons to support the Lincoln Arts Council.
32. Bill Stephan email in support of the Lincoln Arts Council.
33. Email from Janette Robb. Concerned if funding for the arts is not continued the availability of different cultural activities will be diminished.
34. Joan Phelan email expressing interest that City funding continues for the Lincoln Arts Council.
35. Email from Pat McKeen. Firmly believe the Lincoln Arts Council should be fully funded. Decrease may result in decrease in overall morality and thoughtfulness of the city's population.
36. Kelly McKeen email. Remember art is important and do not cut the funding.
37. Email from Richard Vierk, Nebraska Arts Council Chair, supporting the Lincoln Arts Council and its work. City Council support in funding is very important.

V. ADJOURNMENT

**** Held over from May 18, 2009.**

*** Held over from May 25, 2009.**



NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 21, 2009**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Jon Carlson, Stronger Safer Neighborhoods, 441-7224
Sean Craig, Capital City Criterium, 402-261-3003

CITY'S FIRST BIKETACULAR SET FOR MAY 30

Event includes return of Capital City Criterium

Mayor Chris Beutler encourages area residents to attend the City's first Biketacular from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 30 in the area south of the State Capitol, along Goodhue Boulevard. The Mayor will kick off the kids bike parade at 12:15 p.m. and then draw for prizes, including two free children's bikes. The free event includes food, a bike rodeo, bike mechanical checks and licensing, kids races and the return of the Capital City Criterium with pro and semi-pro racing. Free parking is available in the lot south of the Capitol (enter from 16th Street).

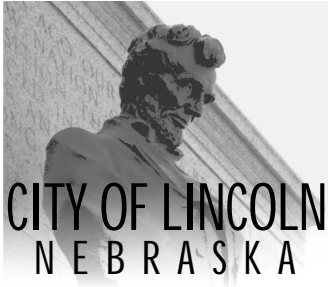
The event is hosted by the City and the Near South and Everett neighborhood associations and supported by a grant from NeighborWorks America and the cooperation of local agencies and businesses. Mayoral aide Jon Carlson who manages the Stronger Safer Neighborhoods program said the idea came from a national workshop hosted by Neighborworks America in California last October. The goals of the event are to promote safe and healthy lifestyles and foster a friendlier community.

"Biketacular is a way to showcase two of Lincoln's great assets – strong neighborhoods and an energized bicycling community," Carlson said. "We hope to increase community awareness of the importance of walking and biking as well as the convenience and high quality of life you can enjoy in the beautiful neighborhoods near downtown, UNL, and the State Capitol."

"This is a great opportunity to bring the community together and celebrate cycling," said Sean Craig, Race Director and co-owner of Bike Pedalers, one of the event sponsors. About 100 adult racers from across the region are expected to compete in the Criterium from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The main entrance of McPhee Elementary will serve as the starting and ending location of the .7-mile course. The race is a USA Cycling sanctioned event with six divisions. Medals will be awarded in all races, and cash prizes totaling \$1,500 are offered in select categories.

The McPhee parking lot will host activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., including the bike rodeo. Volunteers will help children decorate bikes for the 12:15 p.m. parade. Children completing the bike rodeo will receive prizes and be entered into drawings. Kids races begin at 11 a.m.

For more information about Biketacular (or to volunteer), contact Jon Carlson at 441-7224. For more information about the Criterium, contact Sean Craig at 402-261-3003.



NEWS ADVISORY

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

DATE: May 22, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler's Public Schedule
Week of May 23 through May 29, 2009
Schedule subject to change

Monday, May 25 - *City offices closed for Memorial Day*

- Memorial Day Candlelight Service, remarks - 8 p.m., Veterans Memorial Garden, Antelope Park (east of Auld Rec Center, 3140 Sumner)

Thursday, May 28

- KFOR Morning Show - 7:45 a.m.
- KLIN Morning Show - 8:10 a.m., Broadcast House, 4343 "O" St.
- 40th Annual Sine Die Party - 5 p.m., Country Club of Lincoln, 3200 S. 24th St.

Friday, May 29

- KFOR "Lincoln Live" - 11 a.m.



WASHINGTON REPORT

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Washington Report

Archived at:
[www.capitaledge.com/
archive.html](http://www.capitaledge.com/archive.html)

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CONGRESS BREAKS FOR MEMORIAL DAY RECESS

CONGRESS

Members adjourn for Memorial Day recess.

Both the House and Senate wrapped up their business for the week on Thursday and promptly returned to their districts for a week-long Memorial Day recess. Among the items that were addressed on the House and Senate floors this:

- The Senate approved a FY 2009 supplemental appropriations bill to fund overseas military activities and pandemic flu preparations. President Obama had hoped that a version could have been presented for his signature prior to Memorial Day, but Senators did not approve the bill in time for a House-Senate conference committee to be completed prior to the recess. The highest profile difference between the two measures is regarding the closing of Guantanamo Bay detention facility.
- The House and Senate also approved legislation this week to impose new regulations on credit card companies, primarily limiting their ability to raise interest rates and fees in an arbitrary manner. The bill will now be sent to the President, who is expected to sign it. Also included in the bill is a provision added during Senate floor consideration that would allow people to carry firearms in national parks if such a practice is permissible under state law.
- The House and Senate also sent a bill to the President this week that eases the eligibility requirements for the Hope for Homeownership program. The initiative was created last summer to assist homeowners in preventing foreclosures, but has suffered from a lack of participation by lenders and homeowners. The measure also increases the

FDIC deposit insurance coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 through 2013 and increase FDIC borrowing authority from \$30 billion to \$100 billion. The President is expected to sign this bill into law.

CLIMATE CHANGE

House panel clears cap-and-trade bill. On a largely party-line vote of 33-25, the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved legislation (HR 2454) to institute a cap-and-trade regime to control greenhouse gas emissions. The vote came after a week of formal Committee debate and consideration of nearly 40 amendments. Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R-CA) was the only Republican on the committee to vote for the bill, and four Democrats -- Reps. Mike Ross (D-AR), Jim Matheson (D-UT), Charlie Melancon (D-LA) and John Barrow (D-GA) -- voted against the measure.

Largely authored by Committee Chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Energy and Environment Subcommittee Chairman Edward Markey (D-MA) and logging in at 963 pages, the overarching goal of the bill is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 97 percent of 2005 levels by 2012, 80 percent of 2005 levels by 2020, 58 percent of 2005 levels by 2030 and 17 percent of 2005 levels by 2050. The bill would set up a specific allocation of emissions allowances, with the bulk going to protecting electricity and natural gas consumers from retail price increases over the next decade. Ten percent of all emissions allowances would be allocated to the states to fund renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

Despite the efforts of local government organizations, the bill does not allocate any allowance towards funding the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). However, the bill does include a

provision expanding the eligible uses of EECBG to include the establishment of revolving loan funds.

Under the bill, most electric utilities would have to derive 6 percent of their total electricity load from renewable resources or from electricity savings in 2012. That percentage would increase gradually each year to 20 percent by 2020. In a nod to difficulty of building sufficient renewable energy projects and the transmission lines needed to meet that goal, electric utilities would be allowed to meet as much as one-fourth of the mandate through electricity savings. The bill defines renewable resources as wind, biomass, solar, geothermal, certain hydropower projects, marine and hydrokinetic projects, biogas and biofuels derived from biomass, landfill gas and wastewater treatment gas.

During the markup, Rep. Jay Inslee (D-WA) introduced, but then withdrew, an amendment that would give federal regulators increased authority to override state and local governments for the siting of electricity transmission lines. Inslee and other supporters of such a provision argue that federal preemption is necessary in order to bring electricity from regions of the country rich in renewable energy resources to population centers. During the markup, Waxman told Inslee that he will work on transmission language before the bill reaches the House floor and Markey added that he is planning a Subcommittee hearing on the issue.

The Waxman-Markey bill also has a strong focus on reducing transportation greenhouse gas emissions. It includes a number of provisions designed to increase investment in and use of cars powered by electricity, such as plug-in hybrid and other electric vehicles, including investments in the infrastructure needed to support such vehicles. In addition, the bill would require states and metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) serving a population of over 200,000 to include 4-, 10- and 20-year goals for reductions in transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions as part of both their clean air and transportation plans. Each plan would have to outline transportation, land use and planning goals that each state or MPO plans to use to meet their transportation-related greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, including:

The bill authorizes a competitive grant program, authorized at “such sums as may be necessary,” to help states and MPOs meet this new requirement.

Other provisions of the Waxman-Markey bill include development of standards for building energy efficiency, development and implementation of smart-grid technology, development and implementation of strategies to improve the industrial energy efficiency and assistance to displaced workers.

Even the bill’s biggest cheerleaders concede that Energy and Commerce Committee’s approval of the bill is merely the first step in what promises to be a long road fraught with peril. Indeed, House leaders have yet to definitively determine how many House Committees have jurisdiction over the bill, though clear cases can be made for at least the Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means Committees to consider portions of the bill before it reaches the House floor.

ECON. DEVELOPMENT

Senate panel considers measure to boost tourism. Legislation (S 1023) was approved this week by the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee that would create a non-profit entity that would be designed to attract foreign visitors to the United States.

Bill sponsors cite the fact that the number of overseas travelers to the United States decreased dramatically after September 11, 2001 and still had not fully recovered when the current recession hit. The Travel Promotion Act of 2009 would create a “Corporation for Travel Promotion,” which would initiate a nationally coordinated travel promotion campaign to increase international travel to the United States. The program would be funded by a fee paid by foreign travelers visiting the U.S. and matching contributions from the travel industry.

The next step for the bill is the Senate floor. The measure has not yet been scheduled, but the fact that Senator

Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) is an original cosponsor of the bill may help its chances. The bill currently has 18 cosponsors, including five Republicans. There is no companion bill in the House to date.

FINANCE

House committee hears testimony on municipal bond relief proposals. The House Financial Services Committee held a hearing this week on four legislative proposals designed to increase activity in the stagnant municipal bond market. An outline of the four bills can be found in the May 15 *Washington Report*.

Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert testified in support of the proposals on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, maintaining that the measures would “improve state and local access to capital markets and help us create far more jobs much more quickly” because jurisdictions have numerous projects that are ready for implementation but lack financing.

Republicans on the Committee appeared to be wary of the proposals, specifically one that would provide the Federal Reserve with the ability to increase liquidity in the municipal bond market. Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL) argued that the proposal seemed like another federal bailout of an industry that has always opposed federal intervention into its operations. While Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA) has indicated that he has been speaking with the Federal Reserve about his plans, and agency spokesman indicated many concerns with the liquidity proposal at the hearing.

Frank has not scheduled a committee markup for the four bills. An archived webcast, witness list, and testimony from the hearing may be found at:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/hearing/financialsvcs_dem/fchr051409.shtml

TRANSPORTATION

House passes FAA reauthorization. The House of Representatives approved a multi-year reauthorization of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs this week (HR 915) by a vote of 277-136. Of particular note, HR 915 would raise the maximum passenger facility charge for airport improvement projects from its current \$4.50 to \$7.00.

The legislation would also require airlines meeting a certain revenue threshold to give their passengers the option to receive updates of flight delays via text message. It also grants the Department of Transportation greater authority to reduce airline over scheduling, improve health and safety standards for flight attendants, and offer more protections for passengers forced to remain on aircraft stuck on the tarmac for long periods of time.

During the debate on the floor, House Republicans criticized several components of the bill, including a provision that would require the FAA to inspect several overseas aircraft repair stations on a semi-annual basis and mandate drug and alcohol tests for the workers. Another would cancel anti-trust immunity granted to certain airline partnerships. The third major component opposed by the GOP would send the FAA and unionized air traffic controllers back to the bargaining table to renegotiate their last contract. This issue is a source of contention between the FAA and the air traffic controller unions and a similar provision in last year's FAA reauthorization bill drew a veto threat from the Bush administration.

Finally, the House adopted a manager's amendment that strikes the FAA's FY 2009 funding, lowering the overall authorization level for the agency from \$70 billion to a little more than \$50 billion.

The bill will now be sent to the Senate, where the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee has jurisdiction. According to one Committee staff member, the panel is planning to mark up the Senate companion bill to HR 915 in June, but if history is any lesson, the Senate may once again prove the limiting factor in reauthorizing the FAA. Congress has until the end of September to send a

finalized bill to the President before the current short-term extension expires.

STIMULUS WATCH

Weekly update on stimulus activities.

Department of Commerce

A quarterly status report for the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) was release May, 18, 2009. The report includes a projected timeline for program design and implementation:

http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/BTOPQuarterlyReport_090518.pdf.

Department of Energy

The maximum award for the Smart Grid Investment Grant Program will be increased from \$20 million to \$200 million and the Smart Grid Demonstration Projects will increase \$40 million to \$100 million:

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/7408.htm>.

Department of Labor

The Department published initial plans for the \$500 million Competitive Grants for Green Jobs program. Solicitations for proposals will be published beginning in mid-June 2009, with application closing dates in late summer or early fall:

<http://usmayors.org/workforce/documents/2009-5-19DOLTEN44-08.pdf>

GRANTS & NOTICES

HUD

HUD is currently accepting applications for their Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Programs. HUD is made \$117 million available to eliminate dangerous lead-based paint hazards from lower income homes. The deadline is July 20, 2009 and applications can be obtained from:

www.hud.gov/lead.

Department of Transportation

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) released the Proposed Guidance on New Starts/Small Starts Policies and Procedures this week. This guidance presents information regarding project

justification criteria. FTA is accepting comments until June 19, 2009 and will respond to comments in a Federal Register notice following the close of the comment period:

http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning/newstars/planning_environment_9727.html

National Institute of Justice

NIJ is seeking applicants to establish and operate a Criminal Justice Technology Center of Excellence to support its research, development, testing, and evaluation process in the areas of electronic crime and digital evidence. The Center of Excellence will provide scientific and technical support to NIJ's research and development efforts. Applications are due June 19, 2009:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/s1000874.pdf>.

Department of Energy

The Department of Energy (DOE) published a proposed issuance of rules to amend the eligibility provisions applicable to multi-unit buildings under the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons. Public comments on this proposed rule will be accepted until June 22, 2009:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-11890.htm>



**City of Lincoln
Planning**

City Board of Zoning Appeals Agenda

Notice is hereby given that the **CITY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** will hold a public hearing on **Friday, May 29, 2009** at **1:30 p.m.** in the **City Council Chambers** on the 1st Floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, on the following items. For more information, please contact the Planning Department at 441-7491.

AGENDA

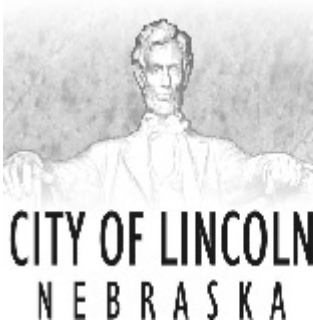
- May 29, 2009 -

1. Election of Chair
2. Approval of the [April 24, 2009](#) minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

1. [Appeal No. 09007](#) by Elwood Bartlett for a variance to occupy more than 40% of the required rear yard with a detached accessory building on p generally located at 6501 Logan Avenue.

[History List](#)



PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES ADVISORY

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

May 22, 2009

CURB RAMP & SIDEWALK REPAIR ADVISORY PROJECT #702621

The City of Lincoln has awarded a contract for curb access ramp construction and sidewalk repair in various areas of Lincoln. This contract includes construction of curb ramps and/or sidewalk repair adjacent to your property. The contract for this work has been awarded to R & C Concrete Construction of Lincoln.

The contractor is expected to start work on this contract within the next week. The repair work will involve removal and replacement of marked sections of sidewalk and grinding or reconstruction of the curb. There will be some inconvenience to residents in this area as sidewalk sections are removed and replaced and sidewalk locations are closed and barricaded to complete this work.

We request the patience and cooperation of residents in this area as the contractor progresses with this work. If you have a sprinkler system, it is advisable that you mark the location of the sprinkler lines and heads. The contractor may be required to relocate sprinkler heads if they are in conflict with the curb ramp construction. In addition, it will require some regrading of the yard adjacent to the sidewalk to slope the sidewalk to the required grades necessary to make the ramp and sidewalk ADA accessible. This project is funded with funds budgeted in the City's General Fund sidewalk repair account as well as Street Construction Funds. The Public Works and Utilities Department will administer this contract. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of the following individuals involved in the completion of the contract:

Harry Kroos
Sidewalk Office
(402) 441-7541

Rene Solc, Owner
R & C Construction
(402) 432-2145

Ron Edson, Project Manager
Engineering Services
(402) 525-9294

I own approximately 160 units of rental property in the Everett School Area, mostly concentrated around 11th and E St. I was driving down 11th street the other day. There was the sold sign in front of Hall House that has been empty for ten years or more. Now the buyer is a family selling their home in the Country Club area and moving here to help the area rebound. Other than that sold sign, there was not a for sale or for rent sign between D and F. Obviously for YEARS we had numerous buildings for sale and rent there. It got me to thinking.....

4 years ago I was at the end of my rope. The combination of the city's incredibly short sighted policy of requiring unneeded and unwanted apartments to be built had decimated our rent structure {rents dropped 15% !! } and occupancy rates, requiring us to lower our standards for tenants. Then for the first time in my 30 years in the business we had prostitutes and drug dealers out on the streets of our quiet neighborhood, even during the day! Our quality long term tenants left. I was literally chasing hookers off my corners, and calling the police most days. I was extremely discouraged, and did not know whether Capital Rentals, which has rehabbed dozens of buildings in the area over a 30 year time span would even survive as an entity!

Today the crime element is all but eliminated from the neighborhood. I have not seen a prostitute for a year or more. Our units are relatively full. The Grad Students have returned. Our tenant quality is up. Problem buildings in the area are being dealt with. We have actually been able to raise some rents for the first time in 4 years. It appears we may be able to work our way thru this after all!

So what changed things? I certainly have my ideas on this. Of course many people and organizations have helped. And the Police ran stings and did countless hours of extra work. The focused efforts of Neighborworks and the Stronger Safer Neighborhoods and their community organizers are making it happen. And at the epicenter of the change stands a 5 foot nothing 100 pound bulldog named Pat Anderson-Sifuentez , of Neighborworks Lincoln. I believe her, her organization, and her 70 hour a week efforts are the main cause of this change. Not only is my specific area back to where it was, it is improved from there! We have more homeowners. We have longer term tenants. We have people and families living here because they choose to, not because they have to.

I realize it is difficult to quantify the difference she has made. But trust me, SHE is the difference. I just wanted to thank and acknowledge her for everything she does and has done, and for saving what has been my life's work , rehabbing this neighborhood to make it a better place to live. The Stronger ,Safer Neighborhoods Program has helped with making the Area safer and more family oriented.

Sincerely,



John Bussey

Capital Rentals

RECEIVED

MAY 26 2009

CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Mary K. Stillwell [mstillwe@unlserve.unl.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 11:10 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Support the Arts

Please support the arts in Lincoln and in Nebraska. It's the right thing to do. Thanks.
Mary K. Stillwell

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Jeanne Kern [Jeanne@RichKern.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 11:20 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Arts Council

Please consider strongly continuing solid city funding for the Lincoln Arts Council. Lincoln needs to attract and keep businesses; businesses go not only where the financial arrangements are good—they go to (and stay in) places where their people will find quality of life. And the arts supply quality of life. Funding the Arts Council is just good business.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Kern
2600 Cheshire North Court
Lincoln

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Louis I Leviticus [llevitic@unlnotes.unl.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 11:21 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Letter to Mayor

Hello LAC,
This is a copy of what I sent to Chris Beutler. Hope it helps

Hello Mr. Mayor,
It would be a real disaster if LAC should lose public funding from the City. Times are tough, we all know that, but the arts are an essential part of life. If there was no art, we would all be relegated to watch things like American Idol on Television - or worse. So my plea to you is: Please do not even suggest to cut funding for this most essential organization. Thank you
Lou Leviticus

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Janco11111@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 12:03 PM
To: Mayor; council@lincoln.ne.gov
Cc: lac@artscene.org
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council funding

Mayor Beutler, Members of the City Council,

I've been sent an email from the Lincoln Arts Council informing me that you are considering dropping funding for their organization. They sent compelling statistics on how arts and cultural tourism brings \$36 million to our city. The LAC promotes many wonderful events in our city that help make Lincoln a great place to live. While these are troubling times economically, we cannot lose funding for an organization who so directly impacts our quality of life and who helps increase tourism in our city. It seems a logical decision to continue funding an organization who positively impacts Lincoln in these two critical areas.

I hope that you continue funding such a strong asset to our community.

Regards,

Bert Anderson

We found the real 'Hotel California' and the 'Seinfeld' diner. What will you find? [Explore **WhereltsAt.com**](http://Explore.WhereltsAt.com).

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Terry L Hatch [thatch@unlnotes.unl.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 12:17 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council

Dear City Council Members.

I'm writing to urge your continued support of the Lincoln Arts Council. The work they do with the relatively small budgetary impact is too important to lose. Please help to keep Lincoln a city we can all be proud of and support the Lincoln Arts Council.

Thanks for your consideration,

Terry Hatch

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Jo Karl [jokarl@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 12:40 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Support of LAC

To Whom it may concern:

I wish to support the City's support of the Lincoln Arts Council. Here are 5 important ways the Lincoln Arts Council and the arts community impact our city:

Economically

The arts and cultural tourism generate \$36 million dollars annually in Lincoln.

Culturally

The LAC promotes diversity, highlighting artwork of many cultures and enhancing quality of life.

Socially

A strong arts community helps business leaders in recruitment and retention, making Lincoln a desirable place to live.

Educationally

Numerous opportunities are provided to children with the assistance of the LAC which connect artists to Community Learning Centers and work as a support team for existing and emerging artists.

Environmentally

Hand in hand, the LAC works with artists to bring attention to the aesthetic quality of life in Lincoln by showcasing the natural environment and cultivating an appreciation for the area. The Lincoln Arts Council works green.

Thank you for listening to my voice.

Jo Riecker-Karl
Karl Music Studio
5730 N.W. 4th Street
Lincoln, NE 68521
402-477-5647
jokarl@neb.rr.com

Tammy J. Grammer

From: DIANE DINNDORF FRIEBE [ddfriebe@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 1:52 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: FW: arts

Dear Council -

Do not cut funding for the Lincoln Arts Council or other related groups. I know that money is tight.....sure, cut back....but not some more than the others. The arts are not less important in life - please remember that.

Sincerely,

Diane Friebe

Diane Dinndorf Friebe
2912 Jackson Drive
Lincoln NE 68502
402 261 3670
402 314 8335
ddfriebe@msn.com

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Tammy J. Grammer

From: Elaine Kruse [emk@NebrWesleyan.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 1:53 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council

Please support the Lincoln Arts Council. The arts make this city so vibrant!

elaine kruse

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Martha Gadberry [mgadberry@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 2:14 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Support the arts

Dear council members,

I am writing to add my voice to those who support city funding for the arts. They are an important part of our infrastructure for quality - the arts, libraries, the parks, the green spaces are amenities I don't want to see deteriorating. They are as important to our economy as streets and sewers. When dire times hit, as now, people turn to aesthetics for their culture and morale, but they must be free or low cost . I would support a tax increase for the city in order to maintain our quality of life supports.

Please support city funding for the arts.

Best regards,
Martha Gadberry.

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Sara Friedman [sfriedman@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 2:26 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Funding the Arts

Dear Council Members

You already know 5 very important ways the Lincoln Arts Council and the arts community impact our city:

Economically

The arts and cultural tourism generate \$36 million dollars annually in Lincoln.

Culturally

The LAC promotes diversity, highlighting artwork of many cultures and enhancing quality of life.

Socially

A strong arts community helps business leaders in recruitment and retention, making Lincoln a desirable place to live.

Educationally

Numerous opportunities are provided to children with the assistance of the LAC. We connect artists to Community Learning Centers and work as a support team for existing and emerging artists.

Environmentally

Hand in hand, the LAC works with artists to bring attention to the aesthetic quality of life in Lincoln by showcasing the natural environment and cultivating an appreciation for the area. The Lincoln Arts Council works green.

What you might not know is that one of the reasons that we choose to move to Lincoln, from NYC, was the availability of the arts. We support the arts of Lincoln by attending events and financially supporting the various art associations in Lincoln. We ask that the city continue to help support and fund the arts.

Respectfully,
Sara & Robert I Friedman
1990 Ryons St.
Lincoln, NE 68502

Tammy J. Grammer

From: starref@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 4:31 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council

Please continue to fund the Lincoln Arts Council. They provide invaluable service to our city and in particular to our young people by creating opportunities for them that most parents can not provide. I know there is a big demand for funding for many, many deserving groups. LAC is one of the best. Please help it continue to provide opportunities for artistic expression and appreciation in Lincoln.

Sincerely,
Starr Foster
Lincoln, NE 68502

Wanna slim down for summer? Go to [America Takes it Off](#) to learn how.

Tammy J. Grammer

From: bonnie and bob sittig [bsittig@windstream.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 5:56 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council funding

Dear Members of the City Council:

I am sure you all have an appreciation for the arts. I also can appreciate the difficult budget decisions you are facing. I'm also sure you are aware of the important role art has played in passing down skills and recording history so I do ask you to not cut the funding of the Lincoln Arts Council.

I do feel the events they participate in help the community in many ways. The Farmer's Market is a wonderful event that draws people together, brings people to Lincoln from surrounding communities, and is so much nicer than any I have seen in other cities. Many visitors from out-of-state comment on it when I am participating. It is also a venue for people struggling in these hard times to make a little money to supplement their livelihood.

Jazz in June, the First Friday Art Walks, and the annual Lincoln Arts Festival all bring visitors from the surrounding communities to Lincoln and are events that offer entertainment to out-of-state visitors as well as Lincolnites. The Mayor's Arts Awards speaks highly of this community's appreciation of the culture that is an admirable aspect of Lincoln as well as encouraging aspiring young artists.

I realize these events cause the city to spend a certain amount of money to sponsor but please consider that they also bring retail sales into the city and are a source of tax revenue. In spite of the economic problems, please keep in mind what these events do for the community by providing quality entertainment for people with a variety of income levels.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Sittig
5531 S. 73rd St.
Lincoln, NE 68516

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Ed Love [elove@lps.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 8:04 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Arts funding

Dear City Council -

Please do not reduce the funding for the Lincoln Arts Council. A vibrant arts scene is one of the main reasons I love living in Lincoln.

It's hard to quantify the benefits of having great arts in Lincoln, but I read somewhere that over \$35 million is generated each year in Lincoln due to the arts.

Our symphony, ballet companies, the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra, the many visual art galleries, the great theater companies all make Lincoln one of the best cities of its size in the area. The Lincoln Arts Council helps these groups and contributes greatly to the "good life" here in Lincoln.

I'd rather drive around a few potholes in the street than lose the Lincoln Arts Council.

Sincerely,

Ed Love

Teacher, Lincoln Public Schools

Musician and patron of the arts

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Lora Rocke [artquiltqueen@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 8:14 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Support of the Lincoln Arts Council

Dear Council Members

As an artist, I can personally speak to the support, education and opportunities that the Lincoln Arts Council has provided. Time and again they have developed programs that are directed to the growth Lincoln and the promotion of its artists.

I rely on them to promote our community allowing us to keep Lincoln a great place to live.

I urge you to support city funding of the Lincoln Arts Council!

Sincerely,
Lora Rocke

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Sara [saboatman@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 10:34 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: FW: Lincoln City Budget

Becky—FYI

Sara

From: Sara [mailto:saboatman@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 10:30 AM
To: 'mayor@lincoln.ne.gov'
Subject: Lincoln City Budget

Mayor,

Tom and I have such respect for the work that you are doing for our city and also we can only imagine how grueling and painful the process is of trying to provide what our city needs with such limited resources. Having facilitated some of the discussions on budget priorities that were held last year, I know that easy answers are not part of this undertaking.

Having said that, I want to put in a word for funding for the arts in Lincoln. Tom and I love Lincoln for so many reasons: its citizen involvement, its appreciation for education, its trees and parks, its opportunities for economic development (which we fervently hope will dramatically increase), its safety, its family-friendliness, just to name a few. One reason that we love our city has little to do with keeping streets repaired, providing for police and fire safety, or providing accountability measures. It has to do with the prevalence of the arts. Each time I drive past a bicycle art installation, hear about arts education projects for kids, or celebrate the work of artists throughout the city who have been supported by the Lincoln Arts Council, I am grateful that we as a city have made a commitment not only to the hard realities and practicalities of our infrastructure but also to our soul through our support of the arts.

I strongly urge you to remember the arts as you work through this agonizing process of budget creation. Thank you for all that you are doing for Lincoln.

Sara Boatman
7244 Sugar Creek Circle

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Cheri L Oltman [coltman@unlnotes.unl.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 10:48 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: South Branch Library

I am writing about the Save the South Branch project. As a child, I grew up in the neighborhood and spent many hours there. Then, when my daughter was born, we moved into the same neighborhood and continued using South Branch on a weekly basis from her first birthday until we moved from the area in fifth grade.

I continue to use South Branch, Bennett Martin and the Walt branch. It would be a shame to have to close the South Branch. It's location is great - very convenient to pick up or drop off items on your way home. I use it to check out audio books, magazines, and reserve new books.

ANY library closing is a sad statement about our priorities in Lincoln. We should keep education first and having access to books for any income student is crucial. During the summer, that is the only source some children have to a book.

It can't possibly cost very much to keep a library running. I realize it's not a profit-making undertaking, but does everything need to be?

Please do what you can to Save South Branch.

Sincerely,

Cheri Oltman
Dean's Office
University of NE-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communications
147 Andersen Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0443
coltman3@unl.edu
402-472-3051

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Teresa Harms [teresa@clinicwithaheart.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 11:22 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov; Mayor
Subject: Funding for the Arts in Lincoln

Mayor Beutler and City Council Members;

I am writing to ask your support of the Lincoln Art's Council. As Executive Director of Clinic with a Heart I see the effects of poverty first hand. One of the aspects of our city I have always appreciated is how the arts are made accessible to all -- regardless of economic status. The arts are often a bridge to help us open up conversations and to understand our neighbors better.

In considering what to cut from the city budget, I hope you will also consider the positive economic impact the arts have on our community. You have probably heard that the arts generate an estimated \$36 million in revenue in just a years time and help to make Lincoln a go to city. An investment in the arts is a great investment in economic development and the future of Lincoln.

Peace,

Teresa Harms
Executive Director
Clinic with a Heart
PO Box 22851
Lincoln, NE 68542
Phone: 402-421-2924
Fax: (888) 317-8608
www.clinicwithaheart.org

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Bill Stephan [williamkstephan@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 11:52 AM
To: Mayor; council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council

May 27, 2009

Dear Mayor & Council,

As a new resident to Lincoln, NE I would like to express my support of the Lincoln Arts Council. One of the strengths of Lincoln is the vibrant arts community. City funding for these efforts are critical. Funding for the arts are just as important as supporting parks, sports programs and other quality of life functions of the city. During these challenging economic times, it is critical that the City continues to provide some stability for local arts organizations with a special emphasis on the Lincoln Arts Council.

It is not uncommon for some citizens or leaders to feel like the arts are frosting on the cake. However, I would encourage you to consider the fact that while food and water help a person live, the arts give hope and inspiration to the soul. Financially, the arts are not a huge investment and most likely there are other places to cut the budget.

Here are a few ideas of things to consider:

- 1) Cell Phones: Eliminate all City Cell Phones for staff unless they are 100% business. Option: Move to a stipend for each staff member with a cell phone for work usage and have contracts moved from the city to the individual. This action item alone could potentially fund arts efforts. (Note: Maybe you have already done this)
- 2) Decrease City Travel by 50% to conferences.
- 3) Does the city use computer lines vs. traditional telephone lines? This could be a huge savings. The city where I came from saved over \$500,000 per year on this action.
- 4) Cost savings input from employees....

If you have done all of these things already and more then sorry for the old news. Thank you for your consideration and I hope you see the value in the arts for the community. As Lincoln strives to bring new businesses to town, the arts and culture are often a major consideration. We don't want to miss out on those new jobs and tax base!

Best regards,
Bill Stephan
326-5099

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Tammy J. Grammer

From: Janette Robb [jcrobb6520@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 12:37 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: funding for the arts.
Attachments: stat7856.jpg; stat1846.jpg

I moved to Lincoln a few years ago. One of the things that attacked me was the availability of different cultural activities. I am concerned that if funding for the arts is not continued, Lincoln will no longer be an attractive place to reside. As a parent, art is a great way for children to learn about the culture of other societies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Peace, love & happiness,

Janette C. Robb

Tammy J. Grammer

From: joan phelan [jphelan@lps.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 4:43 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council funding

I am writing to express my interest that city funding (i.e., I'm willing to pay for this) continues for the Lincoln Arts Council. The council is instrumental in bringing dollars to the city and programs to children.

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Pat McKeen [patmckeen@inebraska.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 9:11 PM
To: Mayor; council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council Funding

I firmly believe the Lincoln Arts Council should be fully funded. The arts give local folks, especially our young people, a positive outlet for their energy and promote higher intellect and social awareness. The Arts Council encourages a higher overall intelligence level in our citizens. People that are interested in the arts are not normally people that participate in what I think of as low class activities, such as drinking to excess regularly, gambling, carousing, fighting, vandalism, etc. Reducing funding in my opinion will ultimately result in a decrease in the overall morality and thoughtfulness of our city's population.

--Pat McKeen

1126 Sumner St.
Lincoln, NE 68502

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Kelly McKeen [pastorbedtyme@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2009 1:08 AM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

Dear City Council,

My name is Kelly McKeen and I was born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska. I graduated from Southeast High school. Many years ago I moved here to San Diego, but my father and brother and several friends and family still live in Lincoln. I visit every year and I still love Lincoln. It has a beauty all its own and the arts community is a big part of the charm. My brother and his wife are active members of the Lincoln Arts Council and the arts community. He sent me the warning that funding may be cut and asked me to write my opinion. I live in a big city and in my opinion, San Diego does not have the personality that Lincoln does (in fact as it gets more crowded here every year, I consider returning to Lincoln, to live, which I may do one day). There are many reasons to keep the LAC going. The email I received states five reasons: social, cultural, economical, environmental and educational. I assume you have read their views. Well, I am just another person. Just another person who shares their views. So you can add me to the list of people against cutting the funding for the arts in Lincoln.

I am an artist.

Art is important and it has always been this way.

I'm sure there are plenty of other ways that can be found to save money. We need educational programs, health care and art programs. Perhaps some rich businessmen or overpaid officials could take a small pay cut to help out!

Wouldn't that be something.

Me.....I repair furniture.

I don't make much money.

It's a skill.

It's an art.

We are not government funded, but people bring us their broken chairs because we have the skill to fix them.....because we are artists.

Art is important.

Please remember that.

Please don't cut the funding.

Thank you.

KM

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Tammy J. Grammer

From: Vierk, Rich [rvierk@fnni.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2009 12:50 PM
To: council@lincoln.ne.gov
Subject: Lincoln Arts Council - Support Continued Funding
Attachments: fnbo_siglogo.jpg

Dear Council - I write to you as the Chair of the Nebraska Arts Council which supports the Lincoln Arts Council and its work. As a state agency we know that the Local Arts Councils are "the heart blood" of their communities and represent artists , arts and audiences to enrich their communities. Your support is "very important" as it enables the arts council to match and rematch other dollars to expand the reach of city projects .

Please continue your support - it is vital ! Thanks for this consideration. Supporting the Arts is supporting the well being of Lincoln - most great cities are remembered for the art(s) they fostered and supported.

How do you remember "great Cities" ? How shall Lincoln be remembered?

Best Regards,
Richard J. Vierk



Richard J. Vierk
Managing Director
Business Succession Planning

1620 Dodge Street, Stop 1072
Omaha, NE 68197
402.602.3410
fax 402.938.5606
rvierk@fnni.com

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