I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL

MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor presents June Award of Excellence to Jim Chrastil and Jeff Wallace of the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. NEWS RELEASE. City receives $1 Million for Clean Diesel Project.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Open house planned for South 48th Improvement Project.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Open house set for street projects funded by stimulus bill.

DIRECTORS

CITIZENS INFORMATION CENTER
   a) Cable TV Advisory Board Minutes of April 23, 2009 meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
1. Special permit No. 09015. Expansion of nonconforming medical office, 4100 A Street.
   Resolution No. PC-01174.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES
1. Response from Michaela Dugan, Public Works and Utilities, to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Peck and Councilman Camp regarding the Lawn Irrigation Water Meter(s) Impact fee(s) for Thorns Circle.
   (a) Impact Fee Notice of Appeal.

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

JON CAMP
1. Eric Hasselbalch’s correspondence to Councilman Camp regarding support of Lincoln’s water system, with Councilman Camp’s request to Greg MacLean, Public Works and Utilities Director.
JONATHAN COOK
1. Letter from Rosina Paolini. Please keep the Pioneer Nature Center free, our children are our future.

DOUG EMERY
1. Letter from Charles and Deborah Yost. Vote for the Mayor’s proposed budget which now includes saving neighborhood libraries.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL
1. Email from Martha Gadberry in support of Mayor Beutler’s budget and comments on creating jobs with small business owners.
2. Email from Carol S. Kopf stating how studies show fluoridation is ineffective and harmful.
3. Correspondence from Bob Stoddard. Hoping the amendment to the City County Plan that adopts the principle of sustainability is passed. (Distributed to City Council Members on 07-14-09 a.m. before the Joint Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan Amendments at 5:30 p.m.)
4. Letter from The League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County in support of Amendment #09003 to amend the 2030 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan’s Community Vision section to include the topic of sustainability. (Letter distributed to City Council and County Board on 07/14/09 before the Joint Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan Amendments at 5:30 p.m.)
5. Email from Tim Johnson. Consider the proposed sustainability amendment to the Comprehensive Plan with comments on supporting other projects and having free access to the Pioneer Park Center. (Distributed to Council Members and County Board before the Joint Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan Amendments at 5:30 p.m., 07/14/09)
6. Correspondence from Donna Woudenberg, Ph.D. Amend the Community Vision chapter of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan by adding sustainability related text. (Distributed to Council Members before the Joint Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan Amendments on 07/14/09)
7. Email from Marcella Shortt thanking Council for the continued funding for the Muni band.
8. InterLinc correspondence from Jerry Wolf regarding the Fire Department, the fire union, the Mayor, and City Council.

V. ADJOURNMENT
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 13, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

MAYOR PRESENTS JUNE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Mayor Chris Beutler today presented the Mayor’s Award of Excellence for June to a team from the Parks and Recreation Department—Jim Chrastil and Jeff Wallace. The award recognizes City employees who consistently provide exemplary service and work that demonstrates personal commitment to the City, and it was presented at the beginning of today’s City Council meeting.

Chrastil has worked for the City since 1980 and Wallace has been with the City since 2006. They were nominated by Southeast District Parks Supervisor Matt Mittelstadt in the category of productivity for their response in February after a fire was set in the Antelope Park restroom, damaging the fixtures, walls, doors and windows. The facility serves the Veterans Memorial Garden as well as the Antelope Park playground, and repairs needed to be done quickly. Outsourcing the repairs was costly and would have taken too much time, so Chrastil and Wallace adjusted their schedules to do the job and consulted professionals for advice. Despite the challenges, the team had the facility ready for use in one week.

“This act of vandalism had the potential to negatively impact a substantial amount of park users,” Mittelstadt wrote in his nomination. “When something that seems as simple as painting a bathroom receives this much dedication and attention to detail, it is a testament of their desire to provide quality parks and facilities.”

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

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

All nominations are reviewed by the Mayor’s Award of Excellence Committee, which includes a representative with each union and a non-union representative appointed by the Mayor. Award winners receive a $100 U.S. savings bond, a day off with pay and a plaque. Monthly winners are eligible to receive the annual award, which comes with a $500 U.S. savings bond, two days off with pay and a plaque.
Officer of the Mayor
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

For Immediate Release: June 15, 2009
For More Information: Scott Holmes, Health Department, 441-8019

City Receives $1 Million for Clean Diesel Project

Mayor Chris Beutler today said the awarding of a $1 million competitive grant to the City will keep Lincoln's air clean and preserve and create jobs. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that it has awarded the funds to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) for the Clean Diesel project. These funds were made available through the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Funding will be used to purchase and install diesel emission reduction equipment on 85 Public Works and Utilities vehicles, 105 Lincoln Public School buses, eight Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) switchyard engines and seven NEBCO cement mixers.

“I want to commend the Health Department for aggressively pursuing these federal stimulus dollars, which will benefit our community's health and environment and our local economy,” said Mayor Beutler. “I am especially pleased that the Health Department is working with partners outside of City government to make this a real community project. The Clean Diesel project also fits perfectly with our Cleaner Greener Lincoln Initiative.”

“Our air quality staff has field tested the equipment, and it has proven to significantly reduce diesel emissions of particulate matter, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, toxic air pollutants and greenhouses gases,” said Health Director Bruce Dart. He said the project will reduce diesel emissions by an estimated 17,000 pounds per year and 206,000 pounds over the lifetime of the vehicles.

Dart said the health benefits of the project will include reduced asthma attacks and other respiratory ailments as well as fewer lost school and work days. The BNSF locomotive switch engines involved in the project primarily operate in two rail yards that are adjacent to lower income neighborhoods. Dart said these areas have higher percentages of young children, older adults and racial and ethnic minorities, groups at the greatest risk from air pollution.

All vehicles and equipment are expected to remain in use for five to 15 years based on average life cycles and available replacement funding and policies. Diesel oxidation catalysts have been in use for up to 20 years and have proven to last for the life of the engine in many cases, especially if low sulfur fuel is used. Ultra low sulfur fuel is the only fuel distributed by local retailers for trucks and buses.

The LLCHD, which has jurisdiction for all of Lancaster County, is responsible for issuing permits under Title V of the Clean Air Act as well as minor and major source construction permits. The Department also performs comprehensive emissions inventories, conducts source inspections and monitors ambient air quality.
The public is invited to an open house Tuesday, July 21 on a roadway and streetscape improvement project on S. 48th St. between Calvert and Pioneers. The open house is from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Shawnee Room at Union College's Ortner Center (southeast of the clock tower). The meeting includes a brief presentation at 5:15 p.m., which will be repeated at 6:15 p.m.

The project includes street rehabilitation and water main replacement as well as a new storm sewer, new street lights, a new traffic signal and streetscape amenities. Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2010.

Those attending the open house will be able to view displays and discuss the project with representatives from the City's Public Works and Utilities and Urban Development departments. This meeting is an opportunity to meet project team members, review preliminary plans and offer feedback on the proposed designs.

For more information, contact Holly Lionberger, Public Works and Utilities Department, at 441-8400 or visit the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: south48th).
The public is invited to an open house Thursday, July 30 to discuss City arterial street rehabilitation projects being funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The open house is from 5 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Mickle Middle School, 2500 N. 67th St. Parking and the entrance are on the west side of the building.

The following projects will be discussed:

- The rehabilitation of Holdrege St. from 33rd to 47th
- The rehabilitation of Adams St. from 57th to 62nd
- The rehabilitation of N. 70th St. From Aylesworth to Vine
- The rehabilitation of Holdrege St. from 70th to 79th

These projects are currently in the design stage and are tentatively scheduled for construction in 2010 and 2011. The meeting will allow citizens the opportunity to review the proposed projects. Representatives from the City Public Works and Utilities Department will be available to explain the projects. The design teams will seek public input on the proposed projects and will meet with attendees one-on-one to answer questions.

Those needing special accommodations are asked to call Erika Nunes in Engineering Services at 441-5675 at least 48 hours prior to the open house. If you cannot attend the open house and have questions or would like more information, see the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: recovery) or contact Nunes.
CONGRESS

Members workload increases as August recess nears. Leadership in both the House and Senate have announced an ambitious legislative schedule for the weeks preceding the scheduled month-long August recess. Fiscal Year 2010 spending bills have dominated floor debates in recent days, but committee action and behind-the-scenes negotiations on health care and climate change have also made headlines.

The House and Senate continue to consider FY 2010 appropriations bills both on the floor and in committee (see related stories below). The House is on target for floor approval of all 12 budget bills by the end of July, while the Senate is hoping for committee approval of all of their spending bills before the recess. Democratic leadership is still pressing for completion of all 12 measures prior to the start of the new fiscal year on October 1, but the traditionally slow pace of the Senate, combined with Republican delay tactics, will make that a difficult goal to meet.

Meanwhile, two of President Obama’s top priorities – health care reform and climate change legislation – have been front-and-center on Capitol Hill. The President has ambitious timetables for completion of both matters this year, but he is already facing difficulties within his own party. On both health care and climate change, there is significant concern among moderate Democrats regarding costs and impacts, but bill sponsors risk losing their core constituencies if they make too many concessions. Activity on both was delayed this week, as House Democrats failed to reach consensus on the introduction of a health care bill, while Senate leadership admitted that they would need until late September to round up support for climate change legislation.

The reason that Democrats cannot afford many defections is that Republicans are expected to be nearly unanimous in their opposition to both measures. Senate Democrats received a boost this week with the installation of Al Franken (D) as the newest Senator from Minnesota, bringing their majority to 60-40. Franken’s presence is important, as it takes 60 votes to end Senate filibusters, but most observers cautioned that many moderate Democrats in the Senate may not always be prepared to side with their party, even on high profile matters such as climate change and health care.

Finally, the Senate Judiciary Committee will begin hearings next week on the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit to the United States Supreme Court. While Sotomayor is expected to ultimately be approved, Senate Republicans are expected to use all of their allotted time in the committee and on the floor to make a case against her candidacy.

ENERGY

House and Senate panels do not fund EECBG for FY 2010. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees this week each approved a version of legislation with jurisdiction over the FY 2010 Department of Energy budget, and neither includes funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program.

The EECBG program was first authorized by Congress in 2007 and is designed to provide formula grants to states and local governments for the design and implementation of energy efficiency initiatives. The stimulus package signed into law earlier this year included $2.8 billion for the EECBG, with 60 percent being allocated directly to local governments. Paperwork to
access allocations for that program – thanks to a recent extension -- is due to the Department of Energy on August 10.

Supporters of the EECBG have been seeking a steady source of funding for the program since it was authorized, but neither the Bush nor the Obama Administrations have included the program in their annual budget requests. Attempts to fund the program through proceeds from the climate change bill approved by the House recently were also unsuccessful. The current focus of efforts is Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Barbara Boxer (D-CA), who is drafting climate change legislation in that chamber.

Overall, the House bill would provide $26.9 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE), while the Senate bill recommends $27.3 billion. The agency received just under $27 billion in FY 2009. The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy account at DOE, which includes items such as weatherization grants and solar energy research, would receive $2.25 billion in the House bill and $2.23 billion in the Senate – those programs received about $1.9 billion in FY 2009.

The legislation also funds flood control and navigation projects at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The agency would receive $5.5 billion in the House bill and $5.4 billion in the Senate bill, both representing an increase over the FY 2009 level of $5.36 billion.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

LIHEAP is the big winner as House panel clears HHS spending measure. A House Appropriations Committee subcommittee voted this morning to approve unnumbered legislation to fund the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in FY 2010. Due to debate over social issues such as abortion and family planning, the measure, which also funds the Departments of Labor and Education, is often the most contentious of the 12 annual appropriations bills.

Overall, the bill would provide HHS with a $6 billion increase from FY 2009 spending, with approximately $1 billion of that increase directed to the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. Among programs of interest to local government, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) emerged as a big winner. Targeted by the Administration for a decrease of $1.9 billion, LIHEAP would receive $5.1 billion, the same as FY 2009 and almost double its FY 2008 funding.

Other bill highlights include (with change from FY 2009 in parentheses):

- $2.2 billion for Community Health Centers (+$10 million)
- $2.1 billion for the Child Care & Development Block Grant (same)
- $715 million for Refugee & Entrant Assistance (+$82 million)
- $1.5 billion for the Administration on Aging (+$37 million)

The full Appropriations Committee is scheduled to consider the bill on Tuesday, at which point additional detail about funding for specific programs will be made available.

**TRANSPORTATION**

White House releases reauthorization and infrastructure bank outlines. The Obama Administration recently presented two “white papers” to congressional appropriators that included proposals for an 18-month extension of the current surface transportation authorization (SAFETEA-LU) as well as the creation of a National Infrastructure Bank.

In a response to reports that the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) will run out of funds in the next month, the Administration is urging Congress to approve as soon as possible an 18-month extension of SAFETEA-LU along with a $20 billion infusion to the HTF from General Funds that is to be fully offset, but provided no details as to how that should occur. In addition, the 18-month extension would not be a “clean” extension of SAFETEA-LU, but would serve as “Stage I” of a multi-pronged reauthorization approach. In addition to the HTF funds, Stage I would include:

- $300 million for improving state and MPO project evaluation capacity by establishing project evaluation rules in order to “integrate analysis into investment decisions” that would prepare entities for more stringent accountability criteria in the long-term authorization package.
- $10 million for improving project assessment tools at the Transportation Department. This funding would be utilized to develop performance goals and establish guidelines for states and localities on project evaluation.
- The creation of stronger requirements for tracking and reporting on outcomes of Federally-funded projects, including information on project costs, timelines, and selection processes.
- The development of guidelines for multi-modal plans that establish local transportation governance standards. Also suggested is a special emphasis on projects that provide convenience of transportation options, reduction in travel times, smart growth, preservation of open space and more integrated responses to land use and transportation needs.

In addition, the White House has proposed the creation of a National Infrastructure Bank that would fund regionally and nationally significant transportation infrastructure projects with a cost of over $25 million, such as:

- Projects that cross state and local jurisdictions, such as freight and passenger rail;
- Projects that integrate sectors and policy goals, such as highway projects that consider land use and economic development;
- Projects that cross transportation modes, such as a bridge construction project that includes rail lines and harbor dredging components.

Funds would be provided by the bank through a combination of grants and credit products such as direct loans and loan guarantees. Ultimately, the Bank –
which would exist as an independent entity within the Department of Transportation -- would also be used to fund other infrastructure projects, such as water, telecommunications, and energy infrastructure.

Chairman Jim Oberstar of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has been adamantly opposed to any extension of the current SAFETEA-LU law, insisting on forwarding his legislation that was approved on the subcommittee level in late June. However, even with comments that a transportation bill could serve as a second stimulus package of sorts, reports are that a full committee markup on July 24 will be postponed. As a result, there are some that believe Rep. Oberstar may be willing to accept a six-month extension under certain circumstances – something that Senate Banking Committee Chairman Chris Dodd (D-CT) might be open to as well.

On the other hand, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Barbara Boxer (D-CA) had indicated early support for the 18-month extension, and late yesterday sent notice to Senate offices that the committee would be considering such a proposal soon and may be entertaining the possibility of including individual Senators’ projects in the measure.

Given the uncertainty over a funding mechanism and the busy legislative schedule, an extension is likely to occur, but it could be anywhere between 6 and 18 months.

Meanwhile, Senator Boxer is also drafting climate change legislation and public transportation interests are working to convince her panel that some funding in that bill should be set-aside for transportation projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Studies maintain that over 30 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector. The House climate change bill set-aside one percent of the revenues derived from the bill for transportation in a last-minute addition to the measure.

HOUSING
House panel begins markup of Section 8 bill. The House Financial Services Committee began consideration this week of legislation (HR 3045) that would reauthorize, reform and expand the Section 8 Housing Voucher Program. Introduced by Committee Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA) and Housing and Community Opportunity Subcommittee Chairman Maxine Waters (D-CA), the overall goal of the bill is to target vouchers to low-income households and to expand the number of vouchers by 150,000 a year through FY 2014.

Frank and Waters resisted calls for a complete overhaul of Section 8, opting instead for a bill designed to make changes at the margins of the program, target it more towards low-income households and adapt it to changes in the housing market such as increased foreclosures and less new supply. They also resisted calls from Republicans to impose time limits and work requirements on Section 8 recipients, the lack of which they argue creates long-term dependency on government housing assistance.

As introduced, HR 3045 would:

• Require housing authorities to inspect Section 8 properties biennially rather than annually under current law;
• Make it easier for Section 8 recipients to move;
• Simplify the rent setting process and change it so that it encourages Section 8 recipients to increase their income;
• Change the formula for setting fair market rent, and
• Change the formula for distributing Section 8 funds to housing authorities to provide more stability in annual allocations.

The most controversial provision of the bill would overhaul the Moving to Work Program, renaming it the Housing Innovation Program (HIP). Created in 1996 and the bane of many low-income housing advocates, the Moving to Work Program allows 30 housing authorities to comingle their public housing and Section 8 funds, target assistance to higher-income households, set rent without regard to income and impose work requirements on households receiving housing assistance, all with a goal of moving households receiving housing assistance towards self-sufficiency.

Under HR 3045, housing authorities would apply to participate in HIP, which would include many of the same features as Moving to Work, including allowing housing authorities to comingle their public housing and Section 8 funds, set conditions, including employment, for receiving housing assistance and set time limits on assistance for households who have been employed three years and earn more than 150 percent of the poverty level. Housing authorities participating in HIP would still have to comply with rules regarding income targeting, tenant representation on boards and housing quality. In addition, housing authorities would have to submit annual impact analyses and reports to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The bill would also allow HUD to designate “HIP-life” housing authorities, which would be given some flexibility for innovation but would not be allowed to impose time limits or employment requirements of housing assistance recipients.

During Committee consideration of the bill this week, the Committee adopted, 38-31, an amendment offered by Representative Tom Price (R-GA) that would bar HUD or any housing authority from prohibiting public housing residents from owning and possessing legally-obtained firearms. Gun control advocates, led by Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) say they will push to remove the Price provision as the bill moves forward.

Another troublesome amendment that was approved would require anyone applying for Section 8 rent vouchers to produce a biometric identification card, such as a passport or other identification approved by federal immigration officials.

The Committee also rejected a series of Republican amendments that would have reduced the annual increase in
authorized Section 8 vouchers from 150,000 to 20,000. The Committee will continue consideration of HR 3045 next week, at which point debate is expected to focus on HIP in general and on the extent to which housing authorities should be allowed to impose restrictions on housing assistance recipients and the degree to which federal housing programs should focus on helping extremely low-income households versus helping higher-income households transition to self-sufficiency.

**STIMULUS WATCH**
Weekly update on stimulus activities.

**Department of Commerce**
$4 billion is available for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). This is the first of three rounds of ARRA funding aimed at providing broadband service to un-served and underserved communities, defined in the NOFA on pages 104-10. Applications are due on August 14, 2009 and applicants requesting more than $1 million must file electronically: [http://broadbandusa.sc.egov.usda.gov/index.htm](http://broadbandusa.sc.egov.usda.gov/index.htm).

The Department of Commerce and Department of Agriculture officials will host public workshops in July to share information about the application process. More information regarding these workshops will be forthcoming.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors sponsored a conference call to discuss the BTOP NOFA. A slide show presentation from the call and other useful BTOP resources can be found at: [http://www.millervaneaton.com/content.agent?page_name=NTIA_RUS_Materials](http://www.millervaneaton.com/content.agent?page_name=NTIA_RUS_Materials).

The National League of Cities hosted a webcast regarding broadband funding. The workshop and corresponding slide show presentation will be archived at: [http://www.nlctv.org/](http://www.nlctv.org/).

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced several awards for its ongoing ARRA grants. A list of recipients can be found at: [http://tiny.cc/PrUE1](http://tiny.cc/PrUE1).

**Department of Energy**


**Department of Housing and Urban Development**
Plans for the remaining $300,000 million in grants under this program are still being approved and will be announced in the coming weeks. HUD also published a guidance to assist HPRP grantees and subgrantees in understanding and complying with data collection requirements: [http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HPRPVictimServiceReportingGuidance.pdf](http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HPRPVictimServiceReportingGuidance.pdf).

**Department of Transportation**
DOT issued a warning regarding attempts to defraud potential ARRA grantees. These attempts are being made by written request appearing to be from the DOT for confidential financial information. Grantees are instructed not to respond to any such requests. If you receive a request, contact the DOT at 202-366-0747 or email the Senior Procurement Executive at: recovery.grantee@dot.gov.

**Department of Treasury**
Treasury and the Department of Energy announced an estimated $3 billion to provide direct payments in lieu of tax credits in support of an estimated 5,000 bio-mass, solar, wind, and other types of renewable energy production facilities. The application guidance can be found at: [http://www.treas.gov/recovery/1603.shtml](http://www.treas.gov/recovery/1603.shtml).

**Government Accountability Office**
During a stimulus oversight hearing this week, the GAO endorsed legislation (HR 2182) that would provide state and local governments the ability to use a portion of their stimulus funds for auditing, contract and grant planning and management, investigations of waste and fraud, and data collection. In addition, the bill requires the federal government to give detailed guidance to state and local governments on reporting jobs data to ensure consistency. GAO’s full report on the status of ARRA and its impact on states and localities: [http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09829.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09829.pdf).

**Office of Management and Budget**

**Office of the Vice President**
Vice President Biden hosted two conference calls this week to discuss implementation of ARRA. The first call was with 5 governors from across the country and the second was with Mayors. To view participants of the calls, see the White House press release: [http://tiny.cc/qX1aO](http://tiny.cc/qX1aO).

**GRANTS & NOTICES**

**Department of Commerce**

**Department of Health and Human Services**
HHS announced the availability of $40 million in grants for Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) outreach. These grants are for people whose children qualify but are not yet enrolled in state Medicaid and CHIP programs. This announcement is the first solicitation of a total of $100 million for outreach campaigns aimed at reducing the number of low-income, uninsured

**Washington Report**
children. Applications are due August 6, 2009:
http://tiny.cc/jOmwB

**Department of Housing and Urban Development**
HUD announced the availability of $4 million for the FY 2009 Healthy Homes Technical Studies Program. Funds should be used to improve existing methods for detecting and controlling housing-related health and safety hazards, to develop new methods to detect and control these hazards, and to gain knowledge of housing-related health and safety hazards. Approximately 6 to 10 awards are anticipated, ranging from $250,000 to a maximum of $800,000. The application deadline is August 18, 2009:

HUD also issued a Notice of Funding Availability for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program. The purpose of the program is to assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities in addressing community development needs in their localities. This includes neighborhood revitalization, housing, and economic development, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income. The total available funding for this program is $9 million with a maximum $800,000 award:
http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grpucp.cfm

**Environmental Protection Agency**
EPA is soliciting proposals for the 2009 Indoor Environments competition. Proposals should be for demonstration, training, outreach, and education cooperative agreements that will have a national impact to reduce exposure to indoor air contaminants. Applicants must address one of the air quality program priority areas, which are radon, indoor asthma triggers, and indoor air quality programs in schools. EPA will not consider proposals in excess of $300,000 per year. Applications must be submitted by September 14, 2009:
MEETING NOTICE
Cable TV Advisory Board

4 pm, Thursday, July 23, 2009
County-City Building
Studio, Room 113, 1st floor
555 S. 10th St.

AGENDA

Call to Order
1. Introduction of board members and guests
2. Approval of Minutes
3. OLD BUSINESS
   a. Committee Reports
   b. Use of Cable Channel 10
4. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Committee Activities
5. Reports from City
6. Reports from Time Warner Cable
7. Public Comments

Adjournment

BOARD MEMBERS:
If you cannot attend this meeting
Please RSVP to Art Zygielbaum, Chairman
aiz@ctwsoft.com
421-0839 (wk)

Schedule of Regular Meeting Dates:
UPCOMING MEETINGS
October 22, January 28 (annual meeting), April 23
CITY OF LINCOLN
Cable TV Advisory Board Minutes
April 23, 2009

Members Present: Barbara Bartle, Jerrod Jaeger, Jim Johnson, Stuart Long, Jon Rehm, Art Zygielbaum

Members Absent: Donna Behlen (excused), Herb Friedman (excused), Mary Herres (unexcused), Laurie Lee (excused), Herb Schimek (unexcused)

City Staff: Steve Huggenberger, Diane Gonzolas

Representatives of Time Warner: Ann Shrewsbury, Jamie Wenz

Others: Earl L. Robinett

Chair Art Ziegelbaum called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. Board members and guests introduced themselves. Minutes from the January 22 meeting were read. Long moved approval; Bartle seconded; motion passed 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees distributed paper copies of their reports; following are additional comments made as part of the record.

- Digital Conversion
  The final report of the Digital Conversion subcommittee is ready. Shrewsbury passed out a copy of some brochures that Time-Warner Cable will be distributing about the conversion.

- Public Comments
  The Cable Advisory Board web site is now up: http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/cic/cable.htm (lincoln.ne.gov keyword: cable)

- Access Channels
  Jaeger reported that the subcommittee is looking at cable access rules. Shrewsbury will get a copy of the current rules to the subcommittee.

  Shrewsbury said that one issue which the rules try to address is that some people are using their equipment training as a free form of education; they go through the training, then they don't return. Zygielbaum suggested that maybe they could consider charging for the training, possibly a deposit that could be returned later when they start doing shows. Johnson said that it's hard to get people to stay committed to doing this kind of thing; he thinks there may be people who think in advance that they'll have time to commit to it, but decide during the training or afterwards that it's too much of a time commitment.

  Wenz said that the schedule on LCC-TV is much more packed than on the Public Access channel, but he doesn't think that LCC-TV shows can be aired on Public Access under the franchise agreement.

  Prior to the meeting, guest Earl Robinett had mentioned informally to some members of the committee that he had heard that Channel 10, the City's rolling announcement channel, might be going away. Gonzolas was asked to talk about this. She said that the Citizen Information Center, like other City departments, was asked to start the budget season by turning in a budget that would be set at 91% of last year. One proposal that CIC made as a possible cost savings would be to discontinue Channel 10. They have looked at other options. Huggenberger said that Connie Guilliaume spends about 10 hours per week at a minimum to update the channel. Zygielbaum asked if an intern could do the work. There are concerns about someone that is not a City employee doing the editing for the channel. Gonzolas said that cutting the channel is likely. She said that some people have called in and complained about the proposed cuts because they like using the channel to listen to KZUM; however KZUM is not part of the City so they don't have a specific right to be on the air.

- Competitiveness
  The subcommittee distributed its final report. Johnson moved acceptance, Rehm seconded; motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Digital Conversion
  We discussed the upcoming digital conversion. Shrewsbury said that there don't appear to be any major problems at this point.

  Rehm asked if the Cable Advisory Board has authority to advise the City Council and the Mayor with regard to digital television. Huggenberger said that we probably don't have that authority. Rehm asked who would provide television service for people who are currently receiving over the air broadcasts but will not be able to get it after conversion. Shrewsbury said that they could sign up for cable or satellite television.

  Zygielbaum said that one difference between analog and digital is that analog degrades “gracefully” as the source fades, whereas digital pixilates instead. While this is something that people might find unpleasant, he thinks that this is outside of our purview as the cable board.

  Shrewsbury said that TWC has done multiple workshops on the upcoming conversion.

  Long said that he thinks there will be an issue that will show up a few years down the road, when TWC may choose to stop broadcasting analog signals.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.
TWC REPORTS

Wenz passed out copies of the Community Access Channel report.

Shrewsbury reported that two of the fifteen national winners of Teacher Awards from Time Warner Cable are from Lincoln; one from Pound Middle School and one from St Patrick’s Catholic School. She says that Lincoln has a long history of using cable in the classroom. There have been 24 winners from Lincoln over the past 20 years.

Shrewsbury said that TWC is looking at changing its HD lineup. They may drop HDNet and HDMovies, due to contract difficulties, and possibly replace them with Smithsonian HD and RFD HD. They are adding a number of HD channels to their main digital tier lineup.

Shrewsbury reported that Beth Scarborough, their CEO, is retiring and moving to Georgia.

CITY REPORTS

Gonzolas distributed written reports.

Long commented that part of the Navigator settlement was that TWC would provide a report of consumer complaints on a quarterly basis, through calendar year 2008. He has not seen any reports. Zygielbaum asked if there are problems generating a report. Shrewsbury said that there are issues with trying to figure out how to categorize e-mails. They do attempt to summarize any big problems that come up. Long said that we should see how this goes, and possibly discuss this at the next meeting. He said that TWC could ask their customer service representatives to flag e-mail issues. Shrewsbury said that some people contact them by live chat.

ADJOURNMENT

Long moved adjournment, Jaeger seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Johnson, secretary
** PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION **  
July 15, 2009

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 1:00 p.m., in the City-Council Hearing Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska, on the following items. For more information, call the Planning Department, 441-7491.

** PLEASE NOTE: The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of “FINAL ACTION”. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk within 14 days following the action of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission action on all other items is a recommendation to the City Council or County Board.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2009

[Commissioners Francis and Esseks absent]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 1, 2009. **APPROVED, 5-0 (Larson, Taylor, Gaylor Baird, Cornelius and Sunderman voting ‘yes’ (Partington abstained; Francis and Esseks absent)**

1. CONSENT AGENDA
   Public Hearing and Action:

   PERMITS:

   1.1 Special Permit No. 09015, for expansion of a nonconforming use, to rebuild a medical office with adjustments to setbacks, on property generally located at S. 40th Street and A Street. *** FINAL ACTION ***

   Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
   Staff Planner: Brian Will, 441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
   Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 1, 2009, 6-0 (Francis and Esseks absent).
   Resolution No. PC-01174.
MISCELLANEOUS:

1.2 Miscellaneous No. 09004, to vacate the plat for Hunt’s Addition and all right-of-way within and abutting said plat, generally located northwest of N. 9th Street and Claremont Street.

Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 6-0 (Francis and Esseks absent).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 3, 2009, 3:00 p.m.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

******
AT THIS TIME, ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA, MAY DO SO

******

PENDING LIST: None

Planning Dept. staff contacts:

Steve Henrichsen, Development Review Manager 441-6374  shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
Mike Brienzo, Transportation Planner 441-6369  mbrienzo@lincoln.ne.gov
Tom Cajka, Planner 441-5662  tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, Long Range Planner 441-6364  dcary@lincoln.ne.gov
Mike DeKalb, Planner 441-6370  mdekalb@lincoln.ne.gov
Christy Eichorn, Planner 441-7603  ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Brandon Garrett, Planner 441-6373  bgarrett@lincoln.ne.gov
Rashi Jain, Planner 441-6372  rjain@lincoln.ne.gov
Brian Will, Planner 441-6362  bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Ed Zimmer, Historic Preservation Planner 441-6360  ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov
The Planning Commission meeting which is broadcast live at 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday will be rebroadcast on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. on 5 City-TV, Cable Channel 5.

The Planning Commission agenda may be accessed on the Internet at http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/pcagenda/index.htm
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
NOTIFICATION

TO : Mayor Chris Beutler
     Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Preister, Planning

DATE : July 15, 2009

RE : Special Permit No. 09015
     (Expansion of nonconforming medical office - 4100 A Street)
     Resolution No. PC-01174

The Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission took the following action at their regular meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 2009:

Motion made by Taylor, seconded by Larson, to approve Special Permit No. 09015, with conditions, requested by S&N Investments, for authority to expand a nonconforming medical office by removal of the existing building and construction of a new office building in its place, together with waivers of the R-2 District for the front yard and side yard setback requirements for parking and a waiver of Design Standards to allow a 25-foot wide driveway, on property generally located at 4100 A Street.

Motion for conditional approval carried 6-0: Cornelius, Larson, Gaylor Baird, Taylor, Partington and Sunderman voting 'yes'; Esseks and Francis absent.

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

The Letter of Acceptance on the special permit will be mailed to the permittee by the City Clerk at the end of the 14-day appeal period.

Attachment

cc: Building & Safety
    Rick Peo, City Attorney
    Public Works
    John Rallis, 6602 Pheasant Run Place, 68516
    S&N Investments, LLC, 4500 S. 56th Street, 68516
    Tracy Corr, 40th & A Neighborhood Assn., 1001 S. 37th Street, 68510
    Ray Gobber, 40th & A Neighborhood Assn., 1436 Sunburst Lane, 68506
RESOLUTION NO. PC-01174

SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 09015

WHEREAS, S&N Investments has submitted an application designated as Special Permit No. 09015 for authority to expand a nonconforming medical office by removal of the existing building and construction of a new office building in its place together with waivers of the R-2 District for the front yard and side yard setback requirements for parking and a waiver of Design Standards to allow a 25-foot wide driveway on property generally located at 4100 A Street, and legally described as:

Lot 167 I.T., located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 29, Township 10 North, Range 7 East of the 6th P.M., Lancaster County, Nebraska;

WHEREAS, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission has held a public hearing on said application; and

WHEREAS, the community as a whole, the surrounding neighborhood, and the real property adjacent to the area included within the site plan for this expansion of a nonconforming medical office will not be adversely affected by granting such a permit; and

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

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

That the application of S & N Investments, hereinafter referred to as "Permittee", to expand a nonconforming medical office together with waivers of the required front yard and side yard setbacks for parking and a waiver of Design Standards to allow a 25-foot wide driveway on the property described above, be and the same is hereby granted under the provisions of Section 27.63.280 of the Lincoln Municipal Code upon condition that the development and construction be in substantial compliance with said application, the site plan, and the following additional express terms, conditions, and requirements:

1. This permit approves the expansion of a nonconforming use with adjustments to the R-2 district requirements to reduce the front yard setback from 25 feet to 18 feet for parking; to reduce the side yard setback on the west side of the property from 5 feet to 3 feet for parking; and a waiver to Design Standards to allow a 25-foot wide driveway.

2. Before receiving building permits:

a. The Permittee shall cause to be prepared and submitted to the Planning Department a revised and reproducible final site plan including five copies showing the following revisions:

i. Add a note to the site plan that states "ALL SCREENING/LANDSCAPING TO BE PROVIDED AT THE TIME OF BUILDING PERMITS IN COMPLIANCE WITH LMC AND DESIGN STANDARDS."
ii. Add a landscape/screening planting schedule to site plan.

iii. Revise the west side setback to 3' and the east side setback to 6'.

iv. Show the driveway width as 25'.

v. Add a note to the site plan that states "THE PARKING LOT AND SPACES TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF LMC AND DESIGN STANDARDS AT THE TIME OF BUILDING PERMIT."

vi. Add a note to the site plan that states "SIGNS NEED NOT BE SHOWN ON THE SITE PLAN, BUT SHALL BE REVIEWED AT THE TIME OF SIGN PERMIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH LMC AND DESIGN STANDARDS."

b. The Permittee shall provide documentation from the Register of Deeds that the letter of acceptance as required by the approval of the special permit has been recorded.

c. The expansion shall meet all other yard and height requirements of the zoning district.

3. Before occupying the building all development and construction must substantially comply with the approved plans.

4. The physical location of all setbacks and yards, buildings, parking and circulation elements, and similar matters must be in substantial compliance with the location of said items as shown on the approved site plan.

5. The terms, conditions, and requirements of this resolution shall run with the land and be binding upon the Permittee, its successors and assigns.

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

The foregoing Resolution was approved by the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission on this 15 day of July, 2009.

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Chair

Approved as to Form & Legality:

[Signature]
Chief Assistant City Attorney
Special Permit #09015
S 40th & A St

Zoning:

One Square Mile
Sec. 29 T10N R07E

R-1 to R-8 Residential District
AG Agricultural District
AGR Agricultural Residential District
O-1 Office District
O-2 Suburban Office District
O-3 Office Park District
R-T Residential Transition District
B-1 Local Business District
B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District
B-3 Commercial District
B-4 Lincoln Center Business District
B-5 Planned Regional Business District
H-1 Interstate Commercial District
H-2 Highway Business District
H-3 Highway Commercial District
H-4 General Commercial District
I-1 Industrial District
I-2 Industrial Park District
I-3 Employment Center District
P Public Use District

Zoning Jurisdiction Lines
City Limit Jurisdiction

2007 aerial
Dear Mr. Camp, and Mr. and Mrs. Peck,

My apology for the delayed response.

To follow up my email dated June 16, the Lawn Irrigation Water Meter(s) Impact fee(s) for Thorns Circle are charges levied against the increase(s) in water system and distribution usage. This increase of use is based upon the net increase in the impact fee facility for the new use as compared to the previous use. In this situation the new water meter(s) creates an additional impact on the water distribution and water system for the purpose of lawn irrigation.

4057 Thorn Ct
1" Water Meter
  water system impact fee $1,296
  water distribution impact fee $  805
  $2,101

4256 Thorn Ct
1" Water Meter
  water system impact fee $1,296
  water distribution impact fee $  805
  $2,101

Total impact fees for both meters $4,202

The Water System and Water Distribution impact fee money collected for the new water meter at the Thorn's site, per the Ordinance, will be used within the district that it is collected to build new water lines. To further review the Ordinance please visit the Impact Fee Ordinance located on the City's Website at http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/attorn/lmc/ti27/ch2782.pdf

An appeal may be filed by submitting (1) a written Notice of Appeal on a form provided by the City (attached), and (2) a written explanation of why the appellant feels that a determination was in error. Appeals must be filed with the City Clerk within ten days after the determination for which the appeal is being filed. This process is explained in greater detail in the Ordinance on the city's website: http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/attorn/lmc/ti27/ch2782.pdf

Please do not hesitate to give me a call, or email me, with concerns or questions, I am happy to help you in any way I can.

Michaela Dugan
City of Lincoln - Public Works and Utilities
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska  68508

Phone: 402-441-7559
Cell: 402-429-2897
From: Jon Camp  
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2009 10:16 AM  
To: Jim & Jean Peck  
Cc: Michaela Dugan; Tammy J. Grammer  
Subject: RE: Emailing: Thorns circle island, P6050023, P6050024, P6050027, P6050028

Jim:

Thank you for your email concerning the impacts fees for your area in the utility conversion.  

Let me follow up with two steps:

1. Share your request with my City Council colleagues (our staff person, Tammy Grammer will relay this message), and
2. Visit with Ms. Dugan to quantify the impact fees.

Thank you,

Jon

From: Jim & Jean Peck [jpeck1@neb.rr.com]  
Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2009 6:06 PM  
To: Jon Camp  
Subject: Emailing: Thorns circle island, P6050023, P6050024, P6050027, P6050028

To: Jon Camp  
Lincoln City Council  

From: Jim Peck for the Thorn Court Lot Holders  
4108 thorn Court  
Lincoln, NE 68520

Mr. Camp,

The city is in the process of converting Thorn Court to city water. In Thorn Court there are two areas of common ground, the entry, which is part of out lot A, Firethorn 20th Addition (parcel # 16-02-412-017-000) and the Thorns Circle Island, out lot A, Firethorn 22nd Addition (parcel # 16-02-413-002-000). Both of these areas are owned by the Firethorn Utilities Service Corporation. Each of the green space areas has a meter pit which is used for irrigation only.  

At this time I am inquiring about the possibility of the city waiving the impact fees for these 2 meter pits when they are converted from Firethorn water to city water. The green spaces are essentially parks in an annexed part of the city and are maintained at no cost to the city. I am attaching a PDF of the Thorns Circle island and photos showing the entry to Thorn Court and the Thorns Circle Island.

For our tax payments Thorn Court Lot Holders now enjoy city sewage disposal, have police and fire protection, and soon will be on city water. Since Thorn Court street is private, the city has no responsibility for its maintenance and the city is not obligated to provide street lighting, two items which I believe are significant savings for the city. The 2007 property valuations for Thorn Court totaled approximately $22.4 million dollars. This certainly provides significant tax dollars for the city.

I have submitted this information to Michaela Dugan, the Impact Fee administrator for the city, who suggested I provide the above information to the council in hopes that the city might feel that the entry and circle island green spaces, which are maintained by the residents of Thorn Court, are of enough benefit to the city that the city would waive the impact fees for the two meter pits that provide irrigation water for these green spaces.

I would appreciate guidance to properly appeal these impact fees.

Thank you for your consideration,
The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:
Thorns circle island
P6050023
P6050024
P6050027
P6050028

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.
IMPACT FEE
NOTICE OF APPEAL

This appeal must be filed with the City Clerk within 10 days after the date of the determination for which the appeal is being filed. Although the fees may be reduced via this appeal process, the fees may NOT be waived using the appeal process. A City Council determination shall be final.

Appeal of Impact Fee Determination for Property Located at:

Date: ________________________________________

Building Permit Application No. _________________________________________________

At the next regular City Council meeting following the filing of the appeal the Council will schedule a time and place for hearing the appeal. The City Clerk shall mail notice of the hearing to the party at the address given below.

________________________________________________________________________

The following party alleges a grievance related to Impact Fees:

Name:________________________________________________________

Company (if Applicable):________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ________________________________________________

Phone:________________________________________________________

Email Address:_________________________________________________

Written Explanation of why the party feels a Determination was in Error: Attach written explanation of why the appellant feels that a determination was in error.

________________________________________________________________________

Final Determination by Council on _____________Day of ________________, 20__.
Resolution No. ________________
Tammy J. Grammer

From: Jon Camp [joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2009 9:16 AM  
To: Greg S. MacLean  
Cc: Tammy J. Grammer; Mayor; Jerry G. Obrist  
Subject: FW: ethics consideration

Greg:

Please review the email I received from Mr. Eric Hasselbalch, regarding his recent experience with a water meter.

Can we use this as a learning lesson to diagnose the manner in which our services are provided? I defer to you to explain the procedures our City employees need to follow, but, perhaps, discretion can be given to fully remedy situations to save time and expenses and create citizen satisfaction in the quality of our City services.

Thank you—I look forward to your response.

Jon

JON A. CAMP  
Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.  
200 Haymarket Square  
808 P Street  
P.O. Box 82307  
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838  
Fax: 402.474.1838  
Cell: 402.560.1001  

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.  
~Milton Berle

From: eric hasselbalch [mailto:ehasselbal@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2009 7:14 AM  
To: Jon Camp  
Subject: RE: ethics consideration

Dear Councilman,

Thought it be prudent to share an experience with you. recently have inherited some property in the near south neighborhood, specifically the woods brothers mansion (1445 E st.). Have been actively undergoing restoration of this building with the gracious assistance of the state restoration committees recommendations and am following the expert advice carefully adhering to each detail as described by the committee director.

My goal is to revitalize the neighborhood and make it conducive and attractive to others who enjoy the personality of this great but recently unappreciated part of our community.

Upon familiarizing myself with this property I discovered a plastic part that seemed to be related somehow to the water meter assembly. Thinking this may be inhibiting the ability of the assembly to properly record the water flow I called the city water department and was given an appointment with a technician from the department.

After diagnosing visually the problem he agreed that the meter may have been compromised. His
immediate suggestion was to replace the meter. I told him that a plumber had recently explained to me that the valve between the meter and the street was in need of replacement and that the city water technician has the knowledge and parts to complete a repair of the valve with the meter upgrade offered as a no cost upgrade for older systems in the city. In my conversation with the IWS technician I found he is not comfortable nor capable of the repair or replacement of the shutoff valve between the meter and the main. His only thought was that he did not have the time for such a project and claimed he did not know how to turn off the water to the house. After lots of pleading with him he mentioned that he did have a metal detector with him and that he would try but he had no idea where the valve was and certainly it was not his job to know or to find it. He had to go.

I persisted by calling the IWS dispatcher and he said he could be scheduled to turn off the service. When I told her he was on the premises but unable to perform this function she called him to ask him to try a little more but with no luck finding the shutoff with any of his resources. He again insisted that he could not shut off the water and that is not his job to know how or where to do it.

He then insisted that he change the meter and not the valve. He changed the meter and left me with no water service and told me I needed to call a private contractor to resolve the issue of no water as he destroyed the questionable valve during the meter exchange and could not restore the service to the building. Then he drove off leaving the system inoperable.

My concern here is not entirely the incident or the employee but how well are we backed up with city services that we are required to maintain in our homes and buildings.

Is there a way to console some concerned citizens that we will have some emergency assistance by a qualified water technician or engineer in case of a possible situation of a broken pipe or flooding due to an equipment malfunction perhaps? Is there someone who does have the knowledge and confidence to support our water systems? if not can we employ some one who can do the job responsibly?

Sincerely
Eric B. Hasselbalch
Good Morning Senator,

I ask you to vote down the proposed admission fee to the Nature Center. Keep it free.

Children are always my concern and I feel they will be affected. If there is a charge for the Nature Center, schools in low income districts will not have the funding or PT0 dollar to attend field trips. Young families and grandparents on fixed incomes will not have the means to afford frequent visits to the Nature Center.

Public entities are services that taxes pay to match expenses. Fees effect only those who use these services. Social consciousness.

Difficult paths always give way to daisy fields.

Always.

Thinking of you during this challenging time.

guides us as leaders to advocate for those whom can not advocate for themselves—our children. Please keep the Pioneer Nature Center free—our children are our future.

[RECEIVED]
JUL 16, 2009

CITY COUNCIL OFFICE
July 7, 2009

Dear Doug Emery and Lincoln City Council,

We are residents of Lincoln, Nebraska who sincerely request that the City Of Lincoln and the Lincoln Library Board do now cease and desist with all plans to close Bethany Library and South Branch Library. We affirm the societal, educational and moral value of small neighborhood libraries.

We do request that you vote for the new Mayor’s proposed budget which now includes provisions to save the neighborhood libraries.

Thank you especially for your advocacy for Northeast Lincoln.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Charles and Deborah Yost

2926 Delhay Drive

Lincoln NE 68507
Council Members,

I support Mayor Beutler's budget, even if there are some user tax increases. I don't believe they fall disproportionately on the poor, which is my major concern about increases in taxes. We do have a low property tax for city government and it buys us a lot. But not enough. We need the amenities of a big city that has grown significantly since the last property tax increase. There are more people, more business owners (less than 6 employees, many of them with 1-2 employees full or part time) more roads and streets, more coverage by firefighters and police, more troubles that a 250,000 population city generates.

When you talk about creating jobs, the future is the growth of the small business owner who has a great marketable idea and wants to grow. I do not wish to grow, even though I know how. I am a small business owner who has turned over about $1.5 million in 13 years with part time contract employees and just myself. These dollars are buying groceries, gas, housing, recreation and clothing here in Lincoln, and paying taxes on their income from me. I do not begrudge one cent that I pay in taxes, even though my business niche is not very profitable right now.

Chasing businesses in the hope of adding jobs is a slow expensive process compared to nurturing the ones who live in and love Lincoln. According to KLIN’s comparison of peers, only 25% of our kids leave Lincoln. Although they may be some of our brightest, many of our brightest stay here, and they are the ones that count. The “brain drain” is not what we should be talking about - it is insulting to the ones that stay here - The Eells brothers TenDot Travel and Red9, Eric Dinger, Thought District, Randy Hawthorne, Firespring, the Scott Brothers, Brad Walker, nanonation, Pam Dingman, Engineering/Design Consultant CEO, just to name a few.

It is time we stop the penny-pinching slide into mediocrity and invest in our future. Many of my friends and I express willingness to increase property tax for Lincoln services to keep the good life here. We invested in our schools, and must continue. It shouldn't be about schools vs. City, it should be supporting both.

I am confident that Mayor Beutler has scratched out some expenditures that should no longer be made and redirected them to more important things. Please support his efforts.

Martha Gadberry
Fluoridation Opposition: Scientific, Respectable & Growing

New York -- July 2009 -- Over 2,550 professionals urge the US Congress to stop water fluoridation until Congressional hearings are conducted, citing scientific evidence that fluoridation, long promoted to fight tooth decay, is ineffective and has serious health risks. See statement: http://www.fluorideaction.org/statement.august.2007.html.

Also, eleven Environmental Protection Agency employee unions representing over 7000 environmental and public health professionals called for a moratorium on drinking water fluoridation programs across the country, and have asked EPA management to recognize fluoride as posing a serious risk of causing cancer in people. (1a)

Last election day, 53 US cities rejected fluoridation joining a growing list of communities saying "No," to fluoridation. (1)

Since the professionals' statement was first issued (Aug 2007), the following occurred:

-- The Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, Canada’s leading voice on environmental health issues, released a statement opposing fluoridation. (2)

-- May 2009, Great Lakes United (GLU) supports the end of water fluoridation. GLU is made up organizations representing environmentalists, conservationists, hunters and anglers, labor unions, community groups, and citizens of the United States, Canada, and First Nations and Tribes. (13)

-- The National Kidney Foundation dropped its fluoridation support replacing it with this caution: “Individuals with CKD [Chronic Kidney Disease] should be notified of the potential risk of fluoride exposure.” (3)

-- Researchers reporting in the Oct 6 2007 British Medical Journal indicate that fluoridation never was proven safe or effective and may be unethical. (4)

-- “A qualitative review of ...studies found a consistent and strong association between the exposure to fluoride and low IQ,” concluded Tang et al., in "Fluoride and Children’s Intelligence: A Meta-analysis” in Biological Trace Element Research (5)

-- Scientific American editors wrote in January 2008, "Some recent studies suggest that over-consumption of fluoride can raise the risks of disorders affecting teeth, bones, the brain and the thyroid gland"
-- Dr. A. K. Susheela, a leading fluoride expert, explains in a video why US physicians overlook fluoride as a possible cause of diseases commonly caused by fluoride. [http://tinyurl.com/Susheela](http://tinyurl.com/Susheela)

-- A study in the Fall 2008 *Journal of Public Health Dentistry* reveals that cavity-free teeth have little to do with fluoride intake. Researchers report, "The benefits of fluoride are mostly topical...while fluorosis is clearly more dependent on fluoride intake."

-- Research published in *Biological Trace Element Research* (April 2009). indicates that blood fluoride levels were significantly higher in patients with osteosarcoma than in control groups. (13) Osteosarcoma, a rare bone cancer, occurs mostly in children and young adults

A Tennessee State legislator who is also an MD is urging all Tennessee Water Districts to stop fluoridation, reported a Tennessee newspaper on 11/29/08. At least 30 Tennessee water districts have already complied with his request. (6)

On 1/5/09, the Burlington Board of Health recommended that Burlington cease fluoridation because fluoridation can harm some people. (7)

On 1/6/09, a Canadian town, Drayton, stopped fluoridation, not to save money, but because it was in the best interests of residents, said the Mayor. (8)

On 2/10/2009 Skagit County, WA officials reversed their 2007 fluoridation decision. (9)


The Arkansas Oral Health Director is accused of giving eight "false or misleading statements" on fluoridation to an Arkansas legislative Committee. (12)

Signers to the FAN statement include:

-- Dr. Arvid Carlsson, winner of the 2000 Nobel Prize for Medicine

-- Vyvyan Howard, MD, PhD, President, International Society of Doctors for the Environment

-- Ken Cook and Richard Wiles, Environmental Working Group

-- Lois Gibbs, Center for Health, Environment, and Justice

-- Joseph Mercola, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, who runs the #1 most visited natural health website

-- Theo Colborn, PhD, co-author, "Our Stolen Future"

-- Sam Epstein, MD, Chairman, Cancer Prevention Coalition
-- The current and six past Presidents of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology

-- Board of Directors (2007), American Academy of Environmental Medicine

-- FIVE Goldman Prize winners - given for excellence in protecting the environment

-- Three members of the prestigious 2006 National Research Council (NRC) panel that reported on fluoride’s toxicology

-- Three officers in the Union representing professionals at EPA headquarters

-- Hundreds of medical, dental, academic, scientific and environmental professionals, worldwide.

Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Arvid Carlsson, says, “Fluoridation is against all principles of modern pharmacology. It's really obsolete.”

An Online Action Petition to Congress in support of the Professionals' Statement is available on FAN's web site, http://congress.fluorideaction.net

Fluoride jeopardizes health - even at low levels deliberately added to public water supplies, according to data presented in a 2006 National Academy of Sciences' (NAS) National Research Council (NRC) report. Fluoride poses risks to the thyroid gland, diabetics, kidney patients, high water drinkers and others and can severely damage children's teeth. (11) At least three panel members advise avoiding fluoridated water.

"The NRC fluoride report dramatically changed scientific understanding of fluoride's health risks," says Paul Connett, PhD, Executive Director, Fluoride Action Network. "Government officials who continue to promote fluoridation must testify under oath as to why they are ignoring the powerful evidence of harm in the NRC report,” he added.

The Professionals’ Statement also references:

-- The new American Dental Association policy recommending infant formula NOT be prepared with fluoridated water.

-- The CDC’s concession that the predominant benefit of fluoride is topical not systemic.

-- CDC data showing that dental fluorosis, caused by fluoride over-exposure, now impacts one third of American children.

-- Major research indicating little difference in decay rates between fluoridated and non-fluoridated communities.

-- A Harvard study indicating a possible link between fluoridation and bone cancer.
The Environmental Working Group (EWG), a DC watchdog, revealed that a Harvard professor concealed the fluoridation/bone cancer connection for three years. EWG President Ken Cook states, “It is time for the US to recognize that fluoridation has serious risks that far outweigh any minor benefits, and unlike many other environmental issues, it's as easy to end as turning off a valve at the water plant.”


END

Contact:  Bill Osmunson, DDS, MPH, Fluoride Action Network Spokesperson bill@teachingsmiles.com  Office 503.675.7300  Cell 425.466.0100 (Pacific Time) Video

or

Paul Connett, PhD, Canton, NY, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry and Executive Director, Fluoride Action Network, 315-379-9200 paul@fluoridealert.org Video of a Paul Connett recent TV presentation:  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRVYXLBqHV4

References:

(1a) Press Release August 19, 2005, “EPA Unions Call for Nationwide Moratorium on Fluoridation, Congressional Hearing on Adverse Effects, Youth Cancer Cover Up,” Contact: Dr. William Hirzy, Vice-President NTEU Chapter 280

http://www2.fluoridealert.org/Alert/United-States/National/EPA-unions-call-for-moratorium-on-fluoride-in-drinking-water

(1) http://www.fluoridealert.org/communities.htm

(2) http://www.fluoridealert.org/cape.html


(4) "Adding fluoride to water supplies," British Medical Journal, KK Cheng, Iain Chalmers, Trevor A. Sheldon, October 6, 2007

(6) http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/2840202

(7) http://www.swabvt.org/node/300

(8) http://www.draytonvalleywesternreview.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1373584

(9) http://www.goskagit.com/home/article/commissioners_vote_to_halt_fluoride_program/

(10) http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20090303/NEWS0301/90303100/1009/NEWS01

http://www.fluoridealert.org/health/epa/nrc/

(12) "State oral health director challenged over comments about fluoridation," March 10, 2009, by Kathryn Lucariello, Carroll County News
http://www.carrollconews.com/story/1509198.html


Members of the Lincoln City Council.

I am appalled by the rate of "consumption" (much of it eventually becoming trash) by our society. This level of consuming earth resources cannot be continued without creating severe hardships in the future. I hope you will pass the amendment to the City County Plan that adopts the principle of sustainability.

Robert Stoddard
Lincoln resident for more than 50 yrs.
To the Honorable members of the Lincoln/Lancaster County Commons
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

July 13, 2009

Dear Council and County Board members,

The League of Women Voters of Lincoln/Lancaster County would like to voice its support for Amendment #09003 to amend the 2030 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan’s Community Vision section to include the topic of sustainability.

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) has strong national positions on natural resources and social policy endorsing the concept of sustainability offered with this amendment. LWVUS supports land-use planning that reflects conservation and wise management of resources, identification of areas of critical concern including preservation of significant habitats, and management of land as a finite resource with a responsibility of stewardship. The LWVUS encourages review of environmental, social and economic impacts on major developments including protection of water and air quality.

The League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County (LWVLL) Local Program for 2008-2010 supports “an ongoing, long-range comprehensive regional planning process for Lancaster County, based on adequate data and research, involving citizens and public officials. Supports planned growth of urban areas based on policies which protect agricultural lands, and provide economical urban services and improvement in environmental quality. Supports preservation and rehabilitation of older urban areas.” Other policy recommendations “encourages the city to work with neighborhood associations and other groups and to consider the effect on neighborhoods of decision on housing, zoning, parks and recreation, libraries, streets and sidewalks, utilities and schools”.
The LWVLL would like to use this opportunity to share these policy statements of both local and national Leagues to offer our support for this Comprehensive Plan amendment.

We encourage the Lancaster County Commons to unanimously adopt this language of conserving and efficiently utilizing economic, social and environmental resources so that the welfare of future generations is not sacrificed. Considering the impact of development on signature habitats, preservation of prime agricultural land, native prairies, riparian corridors, floodplains and other green spaces and the relationship between the urban, rural and natural landscapes should be a part of any serious long term planning process.

Many of the concepts relating to sustainability are already taking place resulting in cost savings. Lincoln taxpayers have extended the life of the local landfill by individual recycling efforts, made easier with convenient recycling centers throughout the city. Local homebuilders are building energy efficient homes. Lincoln Public Schools has found the financial efficiencies of geo-thermal heat pumps in public buildings. Encouraging mixed use neighborhoods to reduce vehicle trips provide more opportunities for smaller local businesses. Sustainability efforts include concepts like local food and support for local agriculture and strong local economies.

We encourage the Commons to vote in favor of this very important and timely amendment.

Sincerely,

League of Women Voters of
Lincoln-Lancaster County

[Signature]

Patte Newman, President
To: City Council Members

From: Tim K. Johnson

7/9/09

Please consider adding/adopting the proposed 'sustainability' amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. This will position Lincoln for an exciting and greener and more sustainable future and more jobs, I believe. Thank you also for your continued support of:

- 0054 Floodplain/Floodprone Area Engineering Projects-070700000054
- 0061 Comprehensive Watershed Master Plans-070714000061
- 0062 Implementation of Watershed Master Plan Projects-070714000062
- 0095 Wetlands/Open Space Acquisitions Easements, Restoration-070906000095

All of these projects will provide for the protection of floodplains/wetlands, either by purchase or easements. Such protection provides for the most economically effective means of flood storage, creek stabilization, sedimentation reduction and pollution removal.

Parks and Recreation: 0440- Replacement of Wilderness Park Bridges-080904000440
The trail which these bridges would connect is designated a National Hiking Trail and is a jewel of Lincoln.

ANOTHER BUDGET ISSUE: The proposed mayoral budget calls for a fee for admission to the Pioneer Park Center. Many of us believe that just as children need free access to schools and libraries, they need free access to nature for their whole development. Such fees would greatly limit access. Currently, school groups heavily use the nature center. Such use would be reduced, as many children would not be able to afford fees.

Thank you for seriously considering these.

Tim Johnson
July 14, 2009

To: The Lincoln City Council and the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners

From: Dr. Donna L. Woudenberg, National Drought Mitigation Center, UNL School of Natural Resources

RE: Amend the Community Vision chapter of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan by adding sustainability-related text

Dear Lincoln City Council and Lancaster County Board of Commissioners,

I work at the National Drought Mitigation Center, which is housed within UNL’s School of Natural Resources on East Campus. In my professional capacity, I work with the public to identify ways they can reduce the impacts of drought, research the social impacts of drought, and develop/deliver educational programs and activities on water, drought, and climate. In addition, I teach several classes and I advise the Sigma Alpha agricultural sorority. In working with the public and with students, I have found that the vast majority of people are highly interested in and concerned about environmental, social and economic sustainability in the city, the state, the nation, and/or globally. For that reason, from a professional standpoint, I would like to express my strong support for the inclusion of the “Sustainability” amendment to the Community Vision chapter of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan.

Outside of the university, I am the mother of three daughters and the grandmother of four (three granddaughters, one grandson). I have been a volunteer with Girl Scouts, including as the leader of four troops (for the three daughters and the oldest granddaughter), since 1980. I have been a volunteer with Boy Scouts (with my grandson) for 10 years and counting. And, in a “previous life,” I taught preschool. So you can see that I have worked with children for decades now, in both a professional and personal capacity. Therefore, I would also - and perhaps more importantly - like to express my support for this amendment on behalf of our children, grandchildren, and all future citizens – because that is what this is really all about, isn’t it? This is about the future. This is about “sustaining” the Good Life we all enjoy today so that future generations can also enjoy the same – or an even better – quality of life.

I strongly urge you to adopt this resolution to amend the Community Vision chapter of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan to add general language acknowledging the topic of sustainability and to provide a starting point for future discussion related to sustainable principles. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,

Donna

Donna L. Woudenberg, Ph.D.
National Drought Mitigation Center
School of Natural Resources
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

804 Hardin Hall
3310 Holdrege Street
Lincoln, NE 68583-0988 U.S.A.

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phone (cell): 402.730.5996
fax: 402.472.2946
email: dwoudenb2@unl.edu
NDMC website: http://drought.unl.edu/
SNR website: http://snr.unl.edu
My thanks for the continued funding for the Muni Band. Many of our fellow citizens cannot afford to pay for quality live music. The summer concerts by the band fill that gap.

Again, thanks for keeping this fine Lincoln tradition alive.

Marcella A. Shortt
7445 Kentwell Lane
Lincoln, NE  68516
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
   General Council

Name:      Jerry Wolf
Address:   7711 So. 41st Street
City:      Lincoln, NE 68516

Phone:     402-488-5298
Fax:        
Email:     jwolf@neb.rr.com

Comment or Question:
Once again the Fire Department has misled we the citizens of Lincoln. In the last contract with the City, the fire department was given the assurance to have 4 people assigned to each truck. We were told this would not cause any increase in wages. Well guess what, they are asking for an additional $300,000 to cover this staffing.

The mayor had his personnel work with the Union to develop this contract. The mayor is directly responsible for this increase!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! As well as the council members who voted for this contract!!!!!!!!!

The fire union, time after time gets its way with the City and time after time the citizens of Lincoln get stuck with all kinds of extra expenses!!!!!!!

It is time we do away with the Court of Industrial Relations and put our foot down and start saying to the fire dept. union this is the way it is going to be and if you do not like it, then there are other people who would love to have your job and benefits!!!!!!!

How about reducing staff. There are 14 stations with 4 fire fighters per rig. It would be very easy to have 3 at half the stations and 4 at the other half of the startion and the extra person could be available to respond to a fire in some type of vehicle. That way there would be 4 fire fighters at the location if that is necessary. We would save a lot of money this way. The person responding in a vehicle could cover distance quicker than a fire truck. There would be no loss of service. The extra person that has the vehicle could go to the store for the two stations they are assigned to get groceries, errands, etc. Using a vehicle would be much less expensive than driving the fire trucks to get groceries, etc. This way the union would not need the extra person they want to run errands, it could be handled buy the extra person staffed at the different locations.

To me this is a no brainer and it would save a lot of tax dollars.

I am sick and tired of us bowing down to the demands of the Fire Union!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It is time to draw a line in the sand!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jerry Wolf
7711 So. 41st Street
Lincoln, NE