

**IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS' MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2009**

I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL

MAYOR

- **1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor says Council passed good budget.
- **2. NEWS RELEASE. Intersection of 27th and Capital Parkway to be closed two nights this week.
- **3. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality will hold a news conference to discuss City wastewater projects to be funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Thursday, August 27th, 555 So. 10th Street, in the Mayor's conference room. (Forwarded to Council Members on 08/26/09)
- **4. NEWS RELEASE. Twenty-one (21) sports announce high school football telecast schedule.
- **5. NEWS RELEASE. City receives funds for wastewater projects.
 - 6. NEWS RELEASE. Volunteers needed for game day recycling effort.
 - 7. NEWS RELEASE. 21 Sports announces Nebraska Wesleyan football telecast schedule.
 - 8. NEWS RELEASE. City, UNL kickoff "Go Green for Big Red" game day recycling effort.

DIRECTORS

FINANCE/TREASURER

- **1. Monthly City Cash Report at the close of business July 31, 2009.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- **1. NEWS RELEASE. Grant provides more trees for Lincoln.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT/ANIMAL CONTROL

- **1. Reply to inquiry on allowing pit bulls in neighborhoods and the fear of the animals being around children from Robert Westfall, Animal Control Division Manager.
 - a) Email from Martin Coria requesting action to prevent pit bull attacks.

CITY LIBRARIES

- 1. Get the Smartest Card @ your library. September is Library Card Sign-up Month.
- 2. A very popular program returns to Lincoln City Libraries this fall. Read to a Dog provides an opportunity for children ages 6 to 12 to practice their reading.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

- **1. Reply to Jim Easom on the deteriorating metal building next to the end of the Harris Overpass. (August 24, 2009, IV. Correspondence from Citizens, No. 4)

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **1. Clinton Thomas, Housing Rehab & Real Estate Division, memo on the Street and Alley Vacation No. 09005. East/west alley between North 41st and North 42nd Streets, north of Y Street.

III. COUNCIL RFI'S AND CITIZEN CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP

- 1. Email to Mark Koller requesting explanation on cost with the classification changes to M Class.

DOUG EMERY

- 1. Letter from Mayor Beutler to Rod Vlcek, United Steelworkers of America, with directive to City Directors and Staff regarding Stimulus Funds: Buying American and Local.

JAYNE SNYDER

- **1. Correspondence from Parks Coble regarding the water foundation at 33rd Street, north of Leighton Street, on the Dietrich bike path not in working order. Also, the water fountain at Fleming Fields is locked up. (Forwarded to Lynn Johnson, Director of Parks & Recreation)

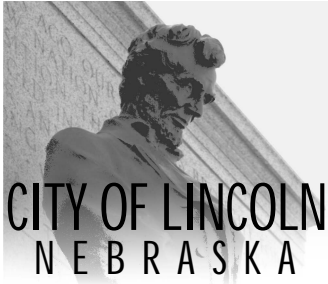
IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL

- **1. Lincoln Chamber of Commerce comments, and thanks, on the 2009 Federal Fly-Back event attracting over 750 local business leaders.
- **2. Lisa Franklin email message on planning permit to be considered on Monday, August 31, 2009.
 - a) Letter from Lisa Franklin with concerns of the plan for a mental health facility on South 14th Street in a residential neighborhood.
- 3. Letter from Larry Sims to Lincoln's Chief of Police, Tom Cassidy, regarding enforcing traffic laws.
- 4. Emails from Monica Choyeski inquiring about the LES retirement match with their frequent rate increases with replies from Lin Quenzer, City Ombudsman, and Trish Owen, MPA, Mayor's Office, Deputy Chief of Staff.
- 5. Media Release. Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force releases draft recommendations; asks for public comment.

V. ADJOURNMENT

****HELD OVER FROM 08/31/09**

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NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Recycling Office, 2400 Theresa Street, Lincoln, NE 68521, 441-7043, fax 441-8735

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 1, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gene Hanlon, Recycling Coordinator, 441-7043
Kelly Heavey, AmeriCorps Volunteer, 441-6845

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GAME DAY RECYCLING EFFORT

The Lincoln Recycling Office is seeking volunteers for a new football game day recycling effort, "Go Green for Big Red." The effort begins 3 hours and 30 minutes before every UNL Husker home game and ends shortly after kickoff.

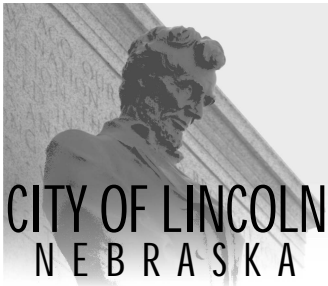
Volunteers will walk designated parking lots in pairs to encourage fans to recycle empty cups, cans and plastic bottles. They will have clear plastic recycling bags to hand out and also will collect full bags. Volunteers will receive a drawstring sling bag to wear during the effort, which they will be allowed to keep.

"Fans can think of this as a different way to tailgate," said City Recycling Coordinator Gene Hanlon. "Volunteers who have game tickets can end their shifts in time to be at the stadium for the start of the game."

Times have been set for the first three games: 6 p.m. Sept. 5; 1 p.m. Sept. 12; and 6 p.m. Sept. 26. Kickoff times will be announced later for the games Oct. 17 and 24 and Nov. 7 and 21. Organizers encourage volunteers to be available for at least three games.

"Go Green for Big Red" is a collaboration between the City of Lincoln, AmeriCorps, UNL Landscape Services, Recycling Enterprises and UNL Athletics.

To sign up as a volunteer or to learn more, please contact Kelly Heavey at 441-6845 or Kheavey@lincoln.ne.gov



NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Citizen Information Center, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7375, fax 441-8653

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 3, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Bill Luxford, 5 CITY-TV, 441-6688

21 SPORTS ANNOUNCES NEBRASKA WESLEYAN FOOTBALL TELECAST SCHEDULE

Video feed also to be used for school's new Jumbotron big screen

21 SPORTS, part of the educational access channel on Time Warner Cable in Lincoln (channel 21), will once again carry all Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) Prairie Wolves home football games this season. This is the fifth year 21 SPORTS has carried NWU football on a tape-delayed basis. NWU games also will be available live online at lincoln.ne.gov and www.nwusports.com.

21 SPORTS will carry the following NWU football games:

- Saturday, September 12 vs. Dakota Wesleyan University
- Saturday, September 26 vs. Dordt College
- Saturday, October 17 vs. Hastings College
- Saturday, October 31 vs. Midland Lutheran College
- Saturday, November 14 vs. Briar Cliff University

Viewing times can be found at lincoln.ne.gov by clicking on the 5 CITY-TV logo. NWU games will air on 21 SPORTS the Sundays following the games at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., as well as various other times throughout the week. Games can be viewed at any time on "Nebraska On Demand" (Time Warner Cable channel 101) and through video-streaming at lincoln.ne.gov. The October 17 game against Hastings College can be seen on KOLN-KGIN TV's sister station, "My TV" (Time Warner Cable channel 110) beginning October 25.

"It's fall in Lincoln, Nebraska and that means just one thing – Prairie Wolf football and Channel 21 SPORTS!," said NWU Head Football Coach Brian Keller. "We are excited to have our friends from 21 SPORTS once again on our sidelines bringing our brand of football to fans across the state."

21 SPORTS and NWU also will be unveiling a new 10-foot by 18-foot Jumbotron video screen at Abel Stadium. 21 SPORTS will produce a live 15-minute pre-game show on the new video screen before each game.

-more-

21 SPORTS/Wesleyan Football

September 3, 2009

Page Two

“We continue to receive extremely positive feedback from viewers who've greatly enjoyed the opportunity to see the Prairie Wolves in action on 21 SPORTS,” said Bill Luxford, Operations Manager for 5 CITY-TV and 21 SPORTS. “We look forward to helping enhance the game day atmosphere at Abel Stadium with the new video screen and our production capabilities.”

Luxford said more than 70 sporting events were aired on 21 SPORTS last season. Chris Schmidt will call the play-by-play with Jeff Motz providing color duties for the Wesleyan games. Once again, 21 SPORTS will partner with the University of Nebraska broadcasting department and NWU students to help staff and produce the games.



NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Recycling Office, 2400 Theresa Street, Lincoln, NE 68521, 441-7043, fax 441-8735

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 3, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gene Hanlon, Recycling Coordinator, 441-7043
Rich Wahl, UNL Landscape Services, 472-9137
Kelly Heavey, AmeriCorps Volunteer, 441-6845

CITY, UNL KICKOFF "GO GREEN FOR BIG RED" GAME DAY RECYCLING EFFORT

The City of Lincoln, UNL Landscape Services and AmeriCorps will conduct a volunteer effort with Recycling Enterprises to encourage recycling on Husker football game days this fall. The "Go Green for Big Red" effort will focus on parking lots and walkways on UNL property around Memorial Stadium.

Recycling bins will be located next to waste containers along high-traffic pedestrian walkways leading to Memorial Stadium. Volunteers will walk crowded parking lots with recycling bags, so fans can help recycle certain plastics and aluminum. Volunteers also will hand out bags to be used for tailgate recyclables, and the bags can be left for volunteer pick-up after the game begins.

"This is an effort to divert waste from the landfill," City Recycling Coordinator Gene Hanlon said. "We think it will allow people to be environmentally responsible with their game day celebrating this year."

Rich Wahl, Construction Manger for UNL Landscape Services, agreed. "This is a positive way Big Red fans can contribute to recycling and support a sustainable campus environment," said Wahl.

Recycling Enterprises will collect the material and donate revenue back to organizers on a per-pound basis. This revenue will used to fund future game day recycling efforts and for educational outreach on recycling in Lincoln.

Volunteers are still needed for "Go Green for Big Red." Those interested can contact Kelly Heavey at 441-7845 or kheavey@lincoln.ne.gov.

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Barbara Hansen [b.hansen@lincolnlibraries.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2009 4:39 PM
To: amy.adams@wowt.com; Lynda.M.Anderson@WellsFargo.com; pbeutler@journalstar.com; brsupr@lincolnlibraries.org; voicenews@inebraska.com; dennis.buckley@lee.net; jswanson@journalstar.com; Tammy J. Grammer; rc34712@windstream.net; Diane K. Gonzolas; ddwinell@klkntv.com; nfinken2@unl.edu; troy.frankforter@kolnkgin.com; mhagggar@klkntv.com; FredHoke@routers.com; info@downtownlincoln.org; njenkins@ap.org; k.jeune@lincolnlibraries.org; johnsong@wowt.com; rjohnson@threeeagles.com; p.jorgensen@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us; calendars@journalstar.com; jkirkpatrick@mchenrylaw.com; clangekubick@journalstar.com; p.leach@lincolnlibraries.org; randy.lube@kolnkgin.com; maja@nebheavyindustries.com; gm@kzum.org; ej@broadcasthouse.com; lincolnkids@diodecom.net; newsdesk@cretenews.net; g.mickells@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us; rmoody@klkntv.com; newscrew@statepaper.com; johanlon1@unl.edu; events@Lincoln55Plus.com; news@owh.com; news42@kptm.com; citydesk@nebweb.com; dn@unl.edu; rshannon@hearst.com; april@eagleprinting.biz; erictaylor@clearchannel.com; lvanhoosen@klkntv.com; strictlybusiness@alltel.net; tamiw@neb.rr.com
Cc: s.jacobs@lincolnlibraries.org
Attachments: smartest-card_eng_2.bmp

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Lincoln City Libraries - 136 S. 14th Street - Lincoln, NE 68508
402-441-8500; library@lincolnlibraries.org; www.lincolnlibraries.org

FOR RELEASE: September 1, 2009
CONTACT: Sheila Jacobs, Outreach Supervisor
PHONE: 402-441-8546
E-MAIL: s.jacobs@lincolnlibraries.org

Get the Smartest Card @ your library®

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, and Lincoln City Libraries wants to make sure that everyone in Lincoln and Lancaster County has the smartest card of all – a library card.

We all know that library cards are used for borrowing materials; but, what are some other library features available to a library card holder? During September, follow along daily on Lincoln City Libraries Web site or at a library location to view suggestions for using a library card.

Want a fun keepsake? Bring your camera to the library and snap a photo of friends & family next to the jumbo library card. And, stay tuned for special resource demonstrations being scheduled for later in the month.

Getting a library card is easy and if you live within Lancaster County it's FREE. For more information on how to sign up for a library card, call 441-8500 or visit the library online at www.lincolnlibraries.org

Observed since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time when the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. For more information about the campaign go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/alainitiatives/otherinitiatives/card/librarycard.cfm>

Barbara Hansen
Administrative Aide
Lincoln City Libraries
402-441-8512

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Tammy J. Grammer

From: Barbara Hansen [b.hansen@lincolnlibraries.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2009 11:26 AM
To: brsupr@lincolnlibraries.org; jswanson@journalstar.com; Tammy J. Grammer; Diane K. Gonzolas; info@downtownlincoln.org; newscrew@statepaper.com; amy.adams@wowt.com; Lynda.M.Anderson@WellsFargo.com; pbeutler@journalstar.com; voicenews@inebraska.com; dennis.buckley@lee.net; rc34712@windstream.net; ddwinell@klkntv.com; nfinken2@unl.edu; troy.frankforter@kolnkgin.com; mhagggar@klkntv.com; njenkins@ap.org; k.jeune@lincolnlibraries.org; johnsong@wowt.com; rjohnson@threeeagles.com; p.jorgensen@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us; calendars@journalstar.com; jkirkpatrick@mchenrylaw.com; clangekubick@journalstar.com; p.leach@lincolnlibraries.org; randy.lube@kolnkgin.com; gm@kzum.org; lincolnkids@diodecom.net; newsdesk@cretenews.net; g.mickells@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us; rmoody@klkntv.com; johanlon1@unl.edu; events@Lincoln55Plus.com; news@owh.com; news42@kptm.com; citydesk@nebweb.com; dn@unl.edu; rshannon@hearst.com; april@eagleprinting.biz; erictaylor@clearchannel.com; lvanhoosen@klkntv.com; maja@nebheavyindustries.com
Subject: Read to a Dog @ the library

FROM: Lincoln City Libraries, Lincoln, Nebraska, 402-441-8500
FOR RELEASE: September 2, 2009
FOR INFORMATION: Vicki Wood, Youth Services Supervisor
PHONE: 402-441-8565
EMAIL: v.wood@lincolnlibraries.org

Read to a Dog this Fall @ the Library

With the assistance of Healing Heart Therapy Dogs a very popular program returns to Lincoln City Libraries this fall. Read to a Dog provides an opportunity for children ages 6 to 12 to practice their reading. Therapy teams are partnered with children who polish their skills by reading aloud to a dog. Children read to dogs in 20-minute shifts, once a week for six weeks. Registration is required.

Beginning the week of September 14, children may read to a dog at these locations and times:

Walt Branch Library
6701 S. 14th Street
Sundays, 5-7:00 p.m.

South Branch Library
2675 South Street
Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

Gere Branch Library
2400 S. 56th Street
Saturdays, 1-3:00 p.m.

Eiseley Branch Library
1530 Superior Street
Thursdays, 5-7:00 p.m.
(Sept. 17, 24, and Oct. 1 only)

Please call Marla at 402-450-1081 to register.
Barbara Hansen
Administrative Aide
Lincoln City Libraries
402-441-8512

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Jon Camp [joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2009 3:03 PM
To: Mark A. Koller
Cc: John Spatz; R. Adam Hornung; Jayne L. Snyder; JCookCC@aol.com; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Tammy J. Grammer; Rick D. Hoppe
Subject: M Class Materials

Mark:

Please explain how there is no increased cost with the classification changes to M Class?

Jon

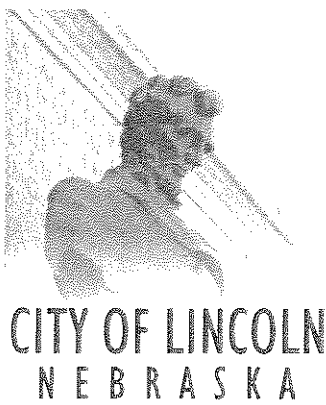
JON A. CAMP
Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

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



CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

Office of the Mayor
555 South 10th Street
Suite 208
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
402-441-7511
fax: 402-441-7120
mayor@lincoln.ne.gov

August 26, 2009

RECEIVED

AUG 26 2009

**CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE**

Rod Vlcek
United Steelworkers of America
5724 Steward Avenue
Lincoln NE 68507

Dear Rod,

The Steelworkers have fought for American working families for several generations. You and your colleagues have supported the leaders and causes that have helped maintain the middle class of our country and our community. That's why I am proud to be a friend of the Steelworkers union.

In your continuing efforts to promote the American worker, you had asked my aide Rick Hoppe and City Council Chair Doug Emery to introduce a resolution to have the City "Buy American" in purchases related to the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act funds. Unfortunately, language in the Lincoln City charter limits our ability to do so. After extensive discussions with Doug Emery, we decided on a different course which we hope will help make sure that Lincoln's tax dollars support both American and local workers.

Enclosed is a directive I gave to my Department Directors urging them to consider buying American and buying local as they make spending decisions. I provided the directive to the Directors at our weekly meeting and urged them to remember the goal of the ARRA: helping American workers and their employers survive the worst national economic crisis since the Great Depression.

I look forward to continuing our work together on behalf of Lincoln's working families.

Sincerely,

Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

cc: Hugh Bowen, United Steelworkers of America
Doug Emery, City Council Chairman

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August 11th, 2009

TO: City Directors & Staff
FROM: Mayor Chris Beutler
RE: Stimulus Funds: Buying American & Local

The worst national economic crisis since the Great Depression has caused millions of Americans to lose their jobs or struggle to maintain employment.

While Lincoln has not been hit as hard as the rest of the nation, many Lincoln businesses and families are also feeling the hard times.

President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is designed to help those workers and our nation's economy by investing in infrastructure, green energy projects, and others.

The goals of the ARRA will be best achieved if the funds committed to America's recovery are spent on domestically produced goods and services. "Buying American" will keep these funds circulating in our national economy and bring more immediate aid to America's working families. The same is true of all City tax dollars.

Keeping funds in Lincoln will help local businesses, their employees, and their families.

In keeping with the spirit and intent of the ARRA, I encourage the Departments expending ARRA funds to "Buy American" to the extent permissible under our City Charter. The federal Act already requires that iron, steel, and manufactured goods for the construction, maintenance, or repair of public buildings or public work be produced in the United States (with certain exceptions).

In addition, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce has resources that could be beneficial in your planning. The Chamber and the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development are creating new opportunities for local businesses to grow our Lincoln economy with their "Buy Lincoln First" program. It is a directory of local businesses that may be able to provide goods and services for projects. The link is <http://www.buylincolnfirst.com>.

The Chamber's directory of membership is also a good source of local businesses. It can be searched by type of goods and services needed. The link is http://www.lcoc.com/membership/directory_category. The Chamber's directories will allow you to locate local businesses that could submit quotes or proposals for potential stimulus projects or other city business.

In addition, the Purchasing Department maintains a list of vendors that can be helpful in securing your local needs.

The City's Purchasing Agent, Vince Mejer, asks me to remind you that for purchases under \$1,500, Departments still need to obtain three quotes before a commitment is made.

I am hopeful that the City of Lincoln's efforts to "Buy American" and "Buy Lincoln First" will protect our local businesses and their employees and lead to a more prosperous future.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the expenditure of ARRA or City funds and the legal issues associated with bidding for goods and services, please contact Vince Mejer at 441-8314.

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Memo to Directors 7-14-09.doc

RECEIVED

AUG 28 2009

CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Mr. Tom Cassidy
Chief of Police
Courthouse
Lincoln, Nebr. 68506

Dear Mr. Cassidy:

In my opinion, your most important job is to enforce traffic laws. You could do much better and I think you would agree.

First, change the law to see that traffic fine revenue goes to the police fund, or city, so that you may hire more officers.

I am tired of having drivers pull up behind me and turning on their lights because I am driving the speed limit and they want me to get out of the way.

Sixty MPH on Pine Lake Road and forty MPH on Union Hill Road are way too common.

Excessive speed and reckless driving are rampant in Lincoln. You have enough speed limit signs, how about enforcing them?

. Stop allowing cushions and get a little tough on law-breakers.

Sincerely,



Larry Sims
5201 Union Hill Road
Lincoln, Ne. 68516
August 25, 2009

CC: Mayor Chris Beutler
City Attorney
Chairman, Lincoln City Council

Tammy J. Grammer

From: Choyeski, Monica [mchoyeski@factsmgt.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2009 12:42 PM
To: Trish A. Owen
Cc: Tammy J. Grammer
Subject: 2 for 1 Retirement - LES

Isn't there someone at the city level that has concerns about the LES retirement match.....you are probably aware that they are anticipating raising their rates AGAIN per a recent news release. Why can't the Mayor push for a change to be in line with what other businesses do for retirement matching. The only one that seemed to want to do anything was Ken Svoboda. LES is supposed to be owned and operated by the City.....

Disappointed Citizen,

Monica Choyeski

From: Trish A. Owen [mailto:TOwen@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2009 8:31 AM
To: Lin Quenzer; Choyeski, Monica
Subject: RE: 2 for 1 Retirement - LES

Dear Ms. Choyeski:

Thank you for your note about the LES retirement match. An interesting issue with LES is that while they are a public utility under the city, they were set up to have a totally separate administrative board of directors. The city's input into their operation comes in the form of the City Council approving or disapproving their proposed rates and budget. How they allocate the final approved funding is made internally at LES

What I might suggest to you, is that you email their board with your concerns so they can bring it up at their next LES Board of Directors meeting. The LES website should have those contacts listed for you.

Take care-Trish

Trish Owen, MPA, Deputy Chief of Staff
City of Lincoln Mayor's Office
555 S. 10th Street, Suite 208
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 441-8280 Office
(402) 430-3390 Cellular

"If you get to thinking you are a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around." (Will Rogers)

From: Lin Quenzer
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 5:37 PM
To: 'Choyeski, Monica'
Cc: Trish A. Owen
Subject: RE: 2 for 1 Retirement - LES

Dear Ms. Choyeski:

Thanks for writing Mayor Beutler concerning Lincoln Electric System's retirement benefits. I'm forwarding your email on to Trish Owen, Mayor Beutler's liaison to LES. Your time in bringing your concerns with LES' retirement benefits forward is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lin Quenzer
Ombudsman
Office of the Mayor
City of Lincoln, Nebraska
555 South 10th Street, Suite 208
Lincoln, NE 68508
lquenzer@lincoln.ne.gov
402.441.7511

From: Choyeski, Monica [mailto:mchoyeski@factsmgt.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2009 1:20 PM
To: Mayor
Subject: 2 for 1 Retirement - LES

Why isn't something done about reducing LES's 2 for 1 retirement plan if you are considering a change to the City's plan. LES is owned and operated by the City..... and LES's 2 for 1 retirement plan involves the potential to save the public alot more money if it was changed.

How many times last year did LES come back and ask for a rate increase.....multiple times! Every other company has had to make difficult changes to deal with a difficult economy.....but what has LES done? This issue has been brought up multiple times by the public and nothing is ever done. If they are in fact a PUBLIC utility why don't they listen to the public? Addressing the issue with only changing it for new employees is not fair either.....it should be an across the board change. There are very few companies anymore that have this benefit and if change isn't needed now, when will it be needed!

Concerned Citizen
Monica Choyeski

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The information contained in this message is confidential

Media Release

To: Media
From: Su Eells, Task Force Coordinator
Date: September 1, 2009
Re: Task Force Recommendations Released

Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force Releases Draft Recommendations; Asks for Public Comment

The Mayor's Task Force on the Healthcare Safety Net has released draft recommendations and is requesting public comment. The 24-member Task Force, chaired by Kim Russel, President/CEO of BryanLGH Health System, has had a series of 10 meetings since April, 2009.

The purpose of the Task Force was to examine Lincoln's current "safety net," or the system of delivering healthcare to low-income and other vulnerable populations, including the uninsured. Safety net providers, including community health centers, free clinics, hospitals, private physicians, and local government, are experiencing an increased demand for their services. Mayor Chris Beutler charged the Task Force with developing recommendations that ensure a strong, coordinated and sustainable healthcare safety net.

According to Kim Russel, "Since April, the Task Force has diligently examined our community's safety net. We have looked to other communities for "lessons learned," heard from national safety net experts, and had intense, sometimes difficult, conversations about the strengths, shortcomings and opportunities for Lincoln's existing safety net system. I am proud of the work of the Task Force, and sincerely thank the members for their hard work."

The Task Force has issued 22 final recommendations. All of the recommendations can be found by visiting the Mayor's webpage, www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor, and clicking on "Draft Safety Net Recommendations." Individuals may leave comments regarding the recommendations on the website, or by calling a telephone comment line at 436-5178. All comments will be shared with the Task Force members. In addition, individuals may provide comments at a public hearing on September 17, 2009, at

the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, 4:00 – 6:00 pm. More information about the public hearing can also be found on the Mayor's webpage.

The Task Force did identify three "highest priority" recommendations. They are:

Recommend that People's Health Center complete a comprehensive strategic plan to increase capacity. Issues to address include the relocation of PHC to a larger facility and/or expansion of PHC to include satellite clinics and a planned approach to securing additional medical providers and accompanying staff.

Assist uninsured individuals, many whom access the healthcare system via free clinics, in appropriately navigating the health/human service system in the following ways:

- ***Develop a "hub" of patient advocates who personally assist uninsured patients in accessing appropriate care and services; and***
- ***Explore ways to integrate eligibility assessment, application form preparation, and the collection of supporting documentation for multiple programs into a single, patient-friendly guided interview among safety net and human service providers.***

Identify individuals who will provide ongoing assistance to project staff in implementing the action steps of this report. Individuals and groups will be convened around implementation strategies and provide periodic updates to the Mayor, stakeholders, and the general community. This group will closely monitor national healthcare reform and its potential impact on Lincoln's safety net system.

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