IN LIEU OF THE
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2010

I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL

MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. City renewing major pothole effort.
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and Parks/Recreation Director, Lynn Johnson, will held of news conference on Thursday, February 11th, 10 a.m. at the Prairie Building in Pioneers Park to announce parks projects funded with Lincoln Cares donations. (Forwarded to Council Members on 02/10/10)
3. NEWS RELEASE. New projects announced for “Lincoln Cares”.
4. NEWS ADVISORY. The City’s 10th annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday celebration will include a program on Friday, February 12th at Lincoln High School.
5. Rick Hoppe’s email to Councilman Camp regarding the Google pilot experiment. (Reference #III, Jon Camp, #1)

DIRECTORS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1. NEWS RELEASE. Free Saturday H1N1 Flue Immunization Clinic.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
2. Administrative Amendments approved by the Planning Director from February 2, 2010 through February 8, 2010.

PLANNING COMMISSION

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

JON CAMP
1. Comment on information regarding the Google pilot high speed network program.
JAYNE SNYDER
1. Letter from Anne Vidaver requesting consideration of having businesses and private organizations put address numbers on their buildings.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL
1. Laura Bell email in favor of the West Haymarket Arena.
2. Drew Sasse email to put the arena on the May 11th ballot.
4. Lori Crowder email in support for the arena complex.
5. AnDee Harris email in support of placing the Haymarket Arena on the May 11th ballot.
7. Mike Eckert email in support of the Haymarket Arena and placing on the May 11th ballot.
8. Anissa Schroeder email in support to have the Arena Project on the May ballot.
9. Andrew Campbell email fully supporting the Haymarket Arena and placing on the ballot.
10. John Olson email not in support of the arena project.
12. Clover Frederick email excited if able to vote on the needed arena project.
13. Kevin and Krista Stevens email supporting to place the Haymarket Arena on May ballot.
14. Nanci Burchess-Smith email in favor of putting the Arena on the May ballot.
15. Brad Martin email in favor of having the Lincoln Haymarket Arena on the ballot.
16. Sue Wilson email in favor of the arena and asking that the proposed Haymarket Arena be put on the ballot.
17. Email from Keith Dubas in support of the creation of the South Street Business Improvement District.

V. ADJOURNMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 8, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
Scott Opfer, Public Works and Utilities, 441-7851

CITY RENEWING MAJOR POTHOLE EFFORT

Mayor Chris Beutler said the City will again be using private contractors and staff from other City divisions and departments for pothole repair starting Tuesday. The City added contracted crews and diverted City staff from January 27 through February 3 to increase the City’s response to the pothole emergency. During the first five weeks of 2010, crews have filled close to 24,000 potholes throughout the City.

“Our increased efforts had a big impact – by the middle of last week, crews had pretty much caught up on the backlog of pothole calls,” Mayor Beutler said. “But the rain, snow and cold conditions since then have cause two problems – the fill in some of the potholes, especially those along the curbs, has come loose. New potholes also have formed. It’s time to redouble our efforts again.”

To respond to last night’s light snow and cold temperatures, Public Works and Utilities began material spreading operations at 3 a.m. with 19 one-person crews. As those workers finish, they are joining 10 other City crews now working on potholes. Pothole repair crews generally include two or three workers. In addition to the private contractors, Public Works will again use staff from the Water and Wastewater Division, the Traffic Division and the Parks and Recreation Department starting tomorrow.

The Mayor again urged the public to drive carefully when they are in the area of a street repair crew. Public Works officials remind residents that all repairs being made now are temporary because crews are using a “cold mix.” to fill the potholes. The “hot mix” used for permanent repairs is not available at this time of the year.

Residents can report potholes and other non-emergency street problems in three ways:

- Call the Pothole Hotline at 441-7646. If that line is full, callers can use the Neighborhood Hotline at 441-6300.
- Call the Street Maintenance Division of Public Works and Utilities at 441-7701. Street problems requiring immediate action should be reported to this number.
- Use the online form available on the home page of the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov, under the heading Citizen Action Center (selected “Street - Pothole”). This form also may also be used to report stormwater, snow and ice problems.
DATE: February 10, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler and Parks and Recreation Director Lynn Johnson will announce the parks projects to be funded with Lincoln Cares donations this year at a news conference at **10 a.m. Thursday, February 11** at the **Prairie Building at Pioneers Park**. The Prairie Building is on the west end of the park on the north side of the road near the animal exhibits. Parking is available to the east of the building.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 11, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation, 441-8265
Susan Larson Rodenburg, Lincoln Cares 421-1401

NEW PROJECTS ANNOUNCED FOR “LINCOLN CARES”
Mayor welcomes media sponsors

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced that the Lincoln Cares program will help fund 10 projects and programs across the community in 2010. Lincoln Cares is a community donation program, which allows Lincoln Electric System (LES) customers to voluntarily add one dollar to their bill payments each month for projects not included in the City budget.

The Mayor made the announcement at the Prairie Building at Pioneers Park Nature Center, the new home of Heritage School and the proposed new home for the Hudson Cabin. Endowments for the two buildings that were part of Heritage Village at State Fair Park are on the new Lincoln Cares funding list. The 2010 projects also include an endowment for animal care at Pioneers Park.

Other new projects are Sherman Field support facilities; the Great Plains Trails Center at Union Plaza; the Trago Park Shelter; the Belmont Park Natural Play Area; solar lighting for Lewis Field and Tierra Park; and park and playground improvements at Elliott School, Antelope Park and Antelope Valley Trail. (A list of new and former Lincoln Cares projects follows this release.)

The Lincoln Parks Foundation and Time Warner Cable (TWC) will continue to provide a 50-cent match for every dollar contributed to the Lincoln Cares program. In its third year of sponsorship, TWC will provide $30,000 in matching dollars and another $30,000 for on-air promotion of Lincoln Cares. The Lincoln Parks Foundation will contribute up to $25,000 with its cash match.

Mayor Beutler also announced a new category for media sponsorship for Lincoln Cares. He welcomed KOLN/KGIN-TV, KLKN-TV; Three Eagles Communications; NRG Media - Broadcast House; and the Lincoln Journal Star. Each will provide $30,000 of in-kind advertising and promotion of Lincoln Cares. With TWC’s contribution, local media will provide a total of $180,000 in promotion during 2010.

“With this generous local media support, we hope more residents will be inspired to donate to the outstanding Lincoln Cares program,” Mayor Beutler said. “I want to thank our new media sponsors as well as the Lincoln Parks Foundation and Time Warner Cable who will continue to provide matching dollars. Lincoln Cares has grown to become a significant community effort that gives everyone in Lincoln the opportunity to support our great parks system.”

- more -
“Our 300 local employees and our customers take great pride in Lincoln’s parks and programs, and we’re very happy to support Lincoln Cares and bring more awareness to our community’s needs,” said Ann Shrewsberry, Vice President of Communications for Time Warner Cable.

From its inception in February 2003 through January 2010, Lincoln Cares has collected $493,020 from LES customers adding a dollar to their bill payments. An average of 4,786 LES customers donate to the program every month. Another $8,791 has been contributed through direct donations to the Lincoln Parks Foundation and through partnerships with Pepsi, Lincoln Benefit Life, Olsson Associates and Culver’s Restaurants. To date, the corporate contribution to Lincoln Cares totals $435,000. The total for all collections since Lincoln Cares began is $936,811.

“Lincoln Cares is a shining example of the kind of successful public-private partnerships the Lincoln Parks Foundation wholeheartedly supports,” said Christie Dionisopoulos, President of Lincoln Parks Foundation. “The Parks Foundation’s mission is to enhance our Parks and Recreation programs beyond what the City budget can provide. This partnership helps leverage and stretch those private investments even further to make our neighborhoods and community a better place to live.”

“We greatly appreciate everyone who continues to put the ‘cares’ in the Lincoln Cares program,” said Lynn Johnson, Director of the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department. “Our generous corporate and community sponsors, media sponsors and those people who add the extra dollar to their LES payment every month are making a visible and meaningful difference in our community.”

To donate to Lincoln Cares, LES customers can add one dollar to their bill payments each month. Those who pay LES through automatic bank billing can add Lincoln Cares to their payments each month by calling LES at 475-4211. Donations also can be mailed directly to the Lincoln Parks Foundation, 2740 “A” Street, Box 201, Lincoln, NE 68502. More information on Lincoln Cares is available by calling 441-8264 or visiting the Parks and Recreation Web site at parks.lincoln.ne.gov

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2010 Lincoln Care Projects
The Lincoln Cares Advisory Board approved the following projects to be funded in 2010:

Trago Park Shelter – $15,000
Recent renovations to Trago Park, including the new interactive water playground, have increased demand for the existing picnic shelter. Lincoln Cares funds will be used to construct a new open-air shelter near the playground/sprayground that will remain available to the public even when the existing shelter has been reserved for private functions. The new shelter will be built of durable materials and will fit with the appearance of existing park facilities.

Sherman Field Support Facilities – $20,000
Sherman Field is a 52-year-old historic baseball facility owned by the City. Many of its support facilities (restrooms, parking and areas for ticket collection, concessions, maintenance and storage) are in need of renovation, replacement and/or expansion to better serve users and visitors and to more efficiently operate the facilities. The improvements have been designed to recognize and celebrate the historic significance of the ballpark.
Great Plains Trail Center at Union Plaza – $10,000
The Antelope Valley Project links downtown, the Haymarket the UNL campus and the new Union Plaza park with major trails and bike routes. A new Great Plains Trail Center building in Union Plaza’s festival plaza and amphitheater area will provide space for public restrooms, the display of trail and visitor information, meetings and social gathering. It is anticipated that private businesses will add space for concessions, retail, bicycle repair and rental and other uses.

Hudson Cabin and Heritage School Endowment – $3,000
The Hudson Cabin, constructed by Edward Thomas Hudson in 1863, is reported to be the oldest existing residence built within the present City of Lincoln. For more than 30 years, the historic cabin and the Heritage School were part of the Heritage Village at the Nebraska State Fair Park. Heritage School has been relocated to the Pioneers Park Nature Center, and there is a proposal to move Hudson Cabin to a location surrounded by native prairie grasses at the Nature Center. The two buildings would provide opportunities for students and visitors to learn about Euro-American settlement of Nebraska. An endowment fund will provide for ongoing care and maintenance of the historic buildings.

Pioneers Park Nature Center Endowment for Animal Care – $10,000
For 46 years, the Pioneers Park Nature Center has provided outdoor education for all ages, and nearly 300,000 people visit each year. The Nature Center has grown from 40 acres to 668 acres of woodland, wetland and prairie habitat with eight miles of trails; two interpretive buildings; outdoor animal exhibits; bird, herb and prairie gardens; and a natural play area. An endowment fund will provide ongoing care and food for the small animals exhibited in the buildings and the herds of bison, elk and deer on the grounds.

Belmont Park Natural Play Area – $10,000
With Belmont Park’s location near Belmont Elementary and the Belmont Recreation Center, it has a wide variety of uses. In cooperation with the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District and the Healthy Families Play Outside Partners, a natural play area is being planned to expose children to nature while challenging them both physically and mentally. The area would combine plants and trees with creative land forms, rock structures and perhaps natural water features.

Lewis Field Parking Lot Lighting – $7,000
In conjunction with the Antelope Valley Project, a new parking facility was recently built at Lewis Field. The new lot uses rain-garden islands and porous pavement to reduce the amount of rainwater runoff and improve water quality. Area lighting is needed to improve public safety, and to fit with the “green” parking lot, Lincoln Cares funding will be used to install solar-powered lighting to lower utility costs.

Tierra Park Playground Area Lighting – $7,000
As part of recent water quality and drainage improvements, the Tierra Park playground was replaced with one that provides increased accessibility and improved safety. A solar-powered area light will be installed to further improve safety and eliminate the need for a utility feed.

Elliott School/Antelope Park/Antelope Valley Trail – $4,700
The Antelope Valley Project has changed the landscape of Antelope Park near Elliott School and has resulted in the Antelope Valley Trail running close to the school’s drop-off/pick-up zone. In partnership with Lincoln Public Schools, a master plan has been developed to improve to the school’s west entrance, play area and connection to the park and trail. To celebrate its 100-year history, Rotary 14 has pledged $100,000 gift towards the project. Lincoln Cares will help fund the replacement of a parking lot with one to serve the school and trail users. This also will create more land on the school grounds for play area improvements. The new lot will include features to reduce storm water runoff, improve water quality and enhance the area environs.
Parker Pals Scholarships – $9,500
Funds are used to provide scholarships to children from low-income families for swimming lessons through a partnership with the Red Cross and Lincoln Parks and Recreation. In 2009, Lincoln Cares provided 386 free pool admissions, 690 reduced pool admissions, 30 scholarships for swim lessons, 19 scholarships for swimming and diving team and swimsuits for one local service agency. Lincoln Cares also funded one scholarship for the Nature Center preschool program; 36 scholarships for girls and boys basketball programs; 18 before- and after-school program scholarships; and give scholarships for summer day camps.

Projects funded in the first seven years of the Lincoln Cares program include:
- Union Plaza
- Witherbee Park Playground
- Hi-tech portable play tower
- Boosalis Trail Renovation
- Solar-heated pool and bathhouse demonstration project
- Air conditioning at Antelope Park enclosed shelter
- Acquisition of prairie and grasslands at Pioneers Park
- Nebraska State Liberty Bell Shelter in Antelope Park
- Restoration of the Four Wars Memorial and the Pioneer Woman and Bountiful Prairie sculptures
- Sunken Gardens renovation
- Addition to the Pioneers Park Nature Center Prairie Building
- Park Middle School Teen Center
- Benches along the Holmes Lake Trail Loop
- Shelters at Woods Park and Bethany Park
- Green Team Youth Employment Program
- Youth Outdoor Adventure Program
- Peach Park expansion
- Pioneers Park Nature Center art work
- Jamaica North Trail Bridge
- Lighting at Sunken Gardens and Pocras Park
- Picnic tables at Bowling Lake
- Trago Park Sprayground
- Upgraded toddler play area at the Ager Play Center
- Lincoln Safari program
- Shooting sports facility
- Parker’s Pals swim and recreation program scholarships for low-income youth.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

DATE: February 11, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

The City's tenth annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Celebration will include a program the evening of Friday, February 12 at Lincoln High School. Details are available on the home page of City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov.

Kentucky actor Michael E. Crutcher Sr. is in Lincoln to portray abolitionist Frederick Douglass in that program. On Friday, he will give presentations to eighth-graders at three Lincoln middle schools – 8:45 a.m. at Lefler, 10 a.m. at Pound and 2:30 p.m. at Park.

Mayor Beutler will present Crutcher with the Mayor's Medallion just before his 2:30 p.m. program at Park Middle School, 855 S. 8th Street. The media are invited to cover that event and to interview Crutcher before the program. He will arrive at Park at about 2 p.m.

If you would like to cover one of the morning presentations or the evening performance, please call Diane Gonzolas at 525-1520.
We are discussing this and plan on moving a meeting with some people to talk strategy. I will make sure you are invited.

R.

From: Jon Camp
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2010 11:30 AM
To: Mayor; Doug Emery; John Spatz; Jonathan A. Cook; Adam A. Hornung; Eugene W. Carroll; Jayne L. Snyder; joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com
Cc: Michael T. Meyer
Subject: Google Pilot Experiment

To All:

Undoubtedly you are also being contacted regarding this announcement by Google to have pilot high-speed programs for communities of 50,000-500,000. Government officials are encouraged to submit entries to the following websites:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wusklcNKDZc
http://www.google.com/appsserve/fiberrfi

To be most effective, I recommend a two-fold approach...possibly more, but "simple" at its best.

1. City elected officials prepare a joint application
2. Community businesses, interested parties, prepare supporting applications

The second group would include technology based businesses, the University of Nebraska, the Technology Park, etc.

Because Omaha is possibly over the 500,000 level, the door might be open for the State of Nebraska to co-apply for Lincoln, as the capital city and site of major government departments.

Due to staff limitations in the City Council office at this time, I further recommend a strategic team be assembled to coordinate this effort.

Thank you for considering these ideas. It will be helpful to immediately establish an internet network to disseminate information to the many interested parties.

Jon

Jon A. Camp
Lincoln City Council
402.474.1838 (personal office)
BUDGET & JOBS
President unveils FY 2011 budget proposal while Senate readies Jobs Bill. President Obama formally transmitted his FY 2011 budget proposal to Congress this week, the highlight being his proposed freeze on domestic discretionary spending for the year. Meanwhile, Senate leaders were reportedly putting the final touches on a Jobs Bill that would come to the floor early next week. The House approved its version of a $154 billion Jobs Bill in late December. (See details in December 18, 2009 Washington Report)

The proposed freeze by the President in his $3.8 billion budget does not mean that all government programs will be held at their FY 2011 levels. Some areas (such as Health and Human Services) would see increases, while others (such as the Army Corps of Engineers) will see decreases but the overall spending level would remain the same as FY 2010. Of particular interest to local governments, the Obama Administration did not request any funding in FY 2011 for the popular Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program at the Department of Energy and recommended a $175 million cut to the HOME Investment Partnerships program at HUD.

Of course, Congress still has a say in how the budget will be shaped, and many observers expect the legislature to ultimately propose increases in several areas slated for cutbacks by the White House. Details on specific agencies can be found in items below.

Meanwhile, Senate Democrats are working with Republicans on the jobs measure, and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) was cautiously optimistic that the proposal would attract “meaningful” GOP support. However, the reality of working with the Republicans means that the measure is likely to be much smaller than many Democrats would prefer. In addition, it is reported that Republicans are insisting that spending initiatives be considered separately from the first package of mostly tax incentives. On a related note, Senator Scott Brown (R-MA) was sworn-in yesterday, officially breaking the 60-vote “supermajority” Democrats held in the Senate.

Provisions of the Senate Jobs Bill are expected to include tax breaks for businesses that hire additional workers, short-term extensions of unemployment insurance and COBRA coverage, expanded tax breaks and incentives for small businesses, a possible expansion of the Build America Bonds program, and a transportation infrastructure element in the form of a short-term extension of the current SAFETEA-LU law.

Senate Democrats also outlined future jobs packages that could highlight clean energy jobs, infrastructure initiatives, and public sector jobs programs. Increased lending opportunities for small businesses is expected to be the next package considered after the tax component.

State and local government organizations are concerned by efforts of online travel companies (OTCs) to secure language in the Senate Jobs Bill that would exempt them from state and local government taxation on rooms booked online by sites such as Expedia, Travelocity, Orbitz and Hotels.com. There have been no public reports of such language being considered, but OTCs have been working hard to attach such language to any number of legislative vehicles in the last year.

Congress this week also cleared a $1.9 trillion increase in the federal debt limit. In order to secure the support of moderate Democrats in
the House, the measure includes “pay-as-you-go” language that requires new tax cuts and new mandatory spending to be offset.

**FY 2011 BUDGET**

Local initiatives in the FY 2011 budget proposal. A review of the Administration’s Budget for FY 2011 indicates a number of proposals for new discretionary grant initiatives supporting innovation and economic growth at the local and regional level. This approach is a departure from years of proposals for block grants or grants to states with pass through funds for local governments. It is also reflective of a “place-based” approach which the Administration is taking to bring various departments and agencies together to tackle specific issues at the neighborhood, local or regional level. It is responsive to calls for direct funding to local governments but may also set up a number of hotly competitive programs at a time of substantial need.

Information on these initiatives in the Budget is sketchy and preliminary at best. All proposals will need to be considered by Congress, but it is noteworthy that the Administration has chosen this discretionary approach. Congressional support for new discretionary grant programs at a time of diminishing resources and the reduction of congressional discretionary projects remains to be seen.

These proposals include:

- **$150 million for a “Catalytic Investment Competition Grant” at HUD utilizing Community Development Block Grant authority for large scale “innovative economic development projects” in target areas of economic distress.**
- **$4 billion for the National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund at DOT is proposed for funding grants and loans or both for infrastructure projects of regional and national significance.**
- **$210 million for the “Choice Neighborhoods” program at HUD to address quality of life issues in distressed housing and neighborhoods through a comprehensive and coordinated approach. This program will be initiated this year at $65 million.** DOJ is also proposed to receive $40 million for related “targeted, innovative programs to assisted neighborhoods.”
- **$112 million to DOJ for “place-based efforts to Curb Violent Crime” including $25 million for “Community-based Violence Prevention Initiatives” to reduce violence among youth gangs.**
- **$1.35 billion for the Race to the Top program at the Department of Education.** This program was initiated with ARRA funds as a competition among states to foster educational innovation. This budget proposal calls for an additional round which will be open to local school districts and proposes to make the program permanent.
- **$75 million to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a Regional Innovation Cluster Initiative for planning grants to communities to leverage their region’s competitive strengths to boost job creation and economic growth.** This effort is beginning this fiscal year funded at a $50 million level.
- **$261 million is proposed for a Workforce Innovation Partnership fund to be administered jointly by the Departments of Labor and Education. In addition, $154 million of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) formula funds would be channeled to a new Youth Innovation fund to support summer jobs and disconnected youth pilot programs.**

**TRANSPORTATION**

DOT budget would see increase under White House proposal. President Obama’s FY 2011 budget proposal for the Department of Transportation (DOT) would increase the overall agency budget by 2.3 percent, from $77 billion in FY 2010 to $78.8 billion. This budget request combines several elements of previous proposals, including a variation on the national infrastructure bank, and maintains the administration’s goals of funding large-scale transportation projects, such as high-speed rail.

The new proposal for a national infrastructure bank, which would leverage private capital funding with low-interest bonds to help finance major infrastructure projects, is called the National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund (NIIFF). The President requested $4 billion for this fund, which would be operated by DOT, and would provide both competitive grants, similar to last year’s TIGER program, and bonds, which would mirror and replace those that are currently utilized by states and localities through the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) credit assistance program. In FY 2011 alone, the NIIFF would make approximately $250 million in loans.

The NIIFF will require congressional approval, which Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said would be coming “very soon.” In FY 2010, Congress declined funding for a national infrastructure bank, indicating that the proposal needed vetting and authorization by the proper congressional committees.

The proposed budget also includes $1.14 billion for the Next Generation Air Transportation System (“NextGen”) at the FAA, more than a 30 percent
increase over FY 2010 funding levels. NextGen is the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) long-term effort to transform air traffic control from a ground-based radar surveillance system to a more accurate system utilizing satellites. The benefits of this transition include the development of more efficient air routes and improvement in the accuracy of aviation weather information.

For the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the budget recommends $10.8 billion, a $69 million increase over FY 2010 levels, and includes the following funding for various programs:

- $8.272 billion for transit formula programs, a $71 million decrease from FY 2010
- $307 million for a “Livable Communities” program, $303 million of which would go to Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program, Alternatives Analysis, and metropolitan and state-wide planning programs
- $1.820 billion for New Starts, $178 million less than FY 2010 approved levels
- $53 million for the “Clean Fuels and Environmental Research” and “Greenhouse Gas and Energy Deployment and Demonstrations” programs would replace the Transit Investments in Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) program.

Additionally, within the amounts provided in the transit formula programs, the administration proposes a new “Bus and Rail State of Good Repair” program, which would combine the Bus and Bus Facilities program with the Fixed Guideway Modernization program. Funds would be provided to transit properties for “investments in bus and related capital projects and the acquisition, reconstruction and improvements of equipment and facilities for use on fixed guideways.”

The President recommends $530 million for the transportation piece of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, a joint effort between DOT, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate planning decisions that incorporate transportation, housing, and environmental considerations.

The budget proposal includes $1 billion for high-speed passenger rail which, in addition to the $8 billion in last year’s stimulus bill and $2.5 billion in FY 2010 funding, is the first piece of the $5 billion commitment to high-speed rail President Obama pledged for the next five years.

The budget request for DOT also reiterates the President’s desire to extend the current authorization of highway and transportation policy through March 2011, pushing the tough decisions about how future transportation projects are funded until after the 2010 mid-term elections in November. The current extension expires on February 28th, but Congress is likely to grant another extension until December in any one of several bills expected to be on the House and Senate floor this month.

Meanwhile, Secretary LaHood indicated that DOT would be announcing the grant awards under the TIGER program before the Feb. 17 statutory deadline. However, he hinted that the announcement would likely come out just prior to that date. The TIGER program, funded at $1.5 billion through the stimulus bill, is expected to fund multimodal projects that are not typically funded through existing programs.

**HOUSING AND CD**

HOME program would be cut under proposed FY 2011 HUD budget. The FY 2011 budget proposed this week by the Obama Administration for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recommends a one percent overall reduction for the agency, but when mandatory spending is removed from the equation, the overall reduction in discretionary spending is five percent.

Most notably, the HOME Investment Partnerships program would be reduced by $175 million, to $1.65 billion, under the HUD proposal. While the White House acknowledged the success of the program, it pointed to an infusion of funds to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) in the last year for similar projects as a reason for the reduction.

Formula grants under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program would remain at its FY 2010 level of $3.99 billion under the HUD budget proposal. Proposed set-asides under the CDBG program include $150 million for the Sustainable Communities Initiative, a joint venture with the Department of Transportation and EPA to encourage combined land use, transportation, and environmental sustainability planning on the local level. In addition, $150 million is proposed for a new Catalytic Investment Grants program, which would provide competitive grants for job creation and other “game changing” economic development projects.

The White House once again proposed to eliminate funding for the HOPE VI severely distressed public housing program ($135 million in FY 2010) but did recommend $250 million for the new Choice Neighborhoods Initiative that would be designed to expand on HOPE VI beyond housing and address issues such as early childhood intervention and school reform. Congress chose not to fund the Choice Neighborhoods program in FY 2010 because it has not yet been authorized.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

HHS programs would receive increases in White House budget. Programs at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on whole would benefit under the President’s proposed budget for FY 2011. Discretionary programs would receive $81.3 billion, an increase of $1.7 billion, but mandatory programs such as Medicaid – which would receive a $26 billion increase – would benefit the most.

Two big winners at HHS in the Obama budget proposal were Head Start and the
In his FY 2011 budget, President Obama calls for a $96 million increase, to $3.925 billion, for core Employment and Training Administration (ETA) job training programs. He also proposed to set aside a portion of that funding for a Workforce Innovation Partnership Program, run in cooperation with the Department of Education. The new program would provide grants for innovative programs designed to help program recipients overcome obstacles to job training, encourage regional collaboration on job training efforts and set the stage for reform of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

All of the broad ETA block grants would receive increased funding:

- $907 million on Adult Job Training, a $45 million increase from FY 2010
- $1.025 billion on Youth Job Training, a $101 million increase from FY 2010 (with 30 percent set aside for summer youth employment programs)
- $1.246 billion for Dislocated Workers, a $62 million increase from FY 2010
- $87 million for Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers, a $2 million increase.

In addition, the Budget would continue funding for an array of ETA discretionary grant programs, including:

- $229 million, the same as FY 2010, for demonstration projects that address mass layoffs
- $120 million, a $17 million increase, for Youthbuild
- $98 million, a $10 million decrease, for ex-offenders
- $85 million, a $45 million increase, for programs that train workers for employment in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The President would provide level funding, $1.707 billion, for Job Corps, a congressional favorite that has been insulated from cuts in even the tightest budget years. Community Service...
Employment for Older Americans would receive $600 million, a $225 million decrease from FY 2010.

The President’s Budget would set aside five percent of Adult Job Training Funds, 15 percent of Youth Job Training Funds and a portion of Job Corps funding for his proposed $261 million Workforce Innovation Partnership Program. The goal of the proposal is to fund innovative programs that:

- Help workers navigate what the Budget dubs “the maze of federal job training programs”
- Promote regional, rather than state or local, approaches to vocational education and job training
- Promote demonstration “earn and learn” strategies such as apprenticeships and on-the-job training
- Target job training and vocational education programs to the needs of regional employers

The ultimate and clearly stated goal of the Workforce Innovation Partnership Program is to set the stage for an overhaul of WIA. Enacted in 1998, WIA consolidated dozens of job training programs into the core block grants and handful of discretionary programs discussed above. In an effort to link job training efforts to the needs of local employers, it also required that at least 50 percent of Local Workforce Investment Board members come from the private sector.

PUBLIC SAFETY

COPS hiring grants funding to double while Byrne Discretionary and COPS Technology grants are proposed for elimination. The Department of Justice FY 2011 Budget calls for $2.7 million increase over last year’s budget, and the additional FY 2011 funding includes an increase of over $300 million for COPS hiring and retention grants as well as several new initiatives scheduled to benefit localities. Proposed new initiatives include:

- $40 million for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (replacement of the Weed and Seed program funded at $20 million in FY 2010)
- $37  million for the Children Exposed to Violence Initiative
- $20 million for the Adam Welsh Child Safety & Prevention
- $15 million for Police Integrity Grants
- $10 million for a smart policing initiative
- $10 million for a smart probation initiative
- $6 million for a hate crimes initiative

Amidst the creation of these new initiatives, the Byrne Discretionary grants funded at $185 million in FY 2010 and the COPS Technology grants funded at $170 million in FY 2010 are proposed for elimination while the Byrne Competitive grants are proposed to decrease to $30 million (-$10 million). However, these heavily earmarked programs are popular and Congress will almost certainly fund them.

Other programs to note in the proposed budget include:

- $519 million for Justice Assistance Formula Grants (no change)
- $438 million for Violence Against Women (+$19.5m)
- $290 million for Juvenile Justice Programs (-$134m)
- $100 million for Second Change/Prisoner Re-entry (no change)

HEALTH

USDA proposed budget includes funding for local food initiatives. The Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) proposed FY 2011 budget aims to expand access to safe, nutritious and balanced meals. In addition to the traditional nutrition assistance entitlement programs like Women, Infants & Children (WIC) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), USDA is partnering with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Treasury Department for a multi-year Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI).

This new initiative will make available over $400 million in financial and technical assistance grants, loans and loan guarantees to address the healthy food needs of communities. The primary goal of HFFI is to substantially reduce the number of “food deserts,” a term used for communities in which residents do not have access to affordable and healthy food options.

Also included in the USDA budget proposal is $2 million to support the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Initiative established in September of 2009. This funding will be used to develop data and conduct research on accessibility to affordable and nutritious local foods in low-income communities.

Additional funding addressing child nutrition in the USDA proposed budget includes:

- $6.4 million for research on children’s nutrition and health and ways by which childhood obesity can be prevented,
- $2 million for a Farm to School Tactical Team to facilitate linkages between schools and their local food producers, and
- $700,000 for the HealthierUS School Challenge to help students learn about making healthier eating and lifestyle choices.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Firefighter assistance grants would decrease by $200 million. The FY 2011 White House budget proposal would increase the Department of Homeland Security’s funding for the next fiscal year by approximately 3 percent. The budget includes a notable decrease in funding for the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER).

The $610 million provided for AFG and SAFER would be split evenly between the two programs. However, the President noted that Congress is likely to add an additional $500 million for SAFER as part of an emergency jobs package. The House included the $500 million for SAFER in a jobs bill that was approved in December.

The White House budget also proposes $734 million to support the deployment
of up to 1,000 new Advanced Imaging Technology screening machines at airports and new explosive detection equipment for baggage screening.

The Administration continues to focus on strengthening border security and immigration verification programs. The Budget includes funding to support 20,000 Border Patrol agents and complete the first segment of the virtual border fence. More than $1.6 billion is provided for Immigration and Customs Enforcement programs, including $146.9 million to continue the Secure Communities program.

State and local programs, including the firefighter assistance grants, received $4 billion in the budget request. This is a four percent decrease from FY 2010. State and local programs receiving an increase include Urban Area Security Initiative Grants, which would be funded at $1.1 billion, an increase of $213 million, and State Homeland Security Grants, which would increase by $110 million to $1 billion. The Port Security Grant Program and Transit Security Grant Program are each slated to receive $300 million, the same level as FY 2010. Funding to provide program support and technical assistance to state, local and tribal governments to support pre-disaster mitigation projects remains $100 million.

Several programs are scheduled for termination within the budget, including the Citizen Corps, Metropolitan Medical Response System, Interoperable Emergency Communications Grants and Real ID grants.

**STIMULUS WATCH**

Weekly update on stimulus activities.

**Department of Homeland Security**

DHS announced more than $23 million in Fire Station Construction Grants (SCG) funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The 14 Fire Station Construction Grants announced this week were selected through the ARRA review process. These grants come in addition to the previous announcement of 96 SCG grants in October, 2009. The Recovery Act provided $210 million for SCG grants:

[http://tiny.cc/zwC1D](http://tiny.cc/zwC1D)

**Corporation for National and Community Service**

CNCS announced the availability of $2.7 million for competitive Senior Corps RSVP Grants. This funding is for the establishment and expansion volunteer activities that recruit volunteers ages 55 and over. Eligible applicants include state and local agencies and governments, non-profit organizations and institutions of higher education. Applicants must submit a Concept Paper by February 22, 2010 and the deadline for applications is April 6, 2010:

[http://tiny.cc/aiRln](http://tiny.cc/aiRln)

**Department of Labor**

DOL announced nearly $190 million in ARRA green jobs training grants. The 34 awards range from approximately $2 million to $6 million and were awarded to state workforce investment boards in partnership with their state workforce agencies, local workforce investment boards or regional consortia of boards, and One-Stop Career Center delivery systems. These grants are part of a larger ARRA initiative to fund workforce development projects that promote economic growth by preparing workers for careers in the energy efficiency industries:

[http://tiny.cc/i89Dd](http://tiny.cc/i89Dd)

**Department of Transportation**

Federal Transit Administration grantees must complete the February, 2010 Section 1201 job reporting through Fat’s (Transportation Electronic Award and Management (TEAM) webpage:

[http://tiny.cc/k5T82](http://tiny.cc/k5T82)

FTA has published a detailed questions and answers page regarding Section 1201:

[http://tiny.cc/jaj16](http://tiny.cc/jaj16)

**GRANTS & NOTICES**

**Department of Transportation**

The Federal Transit Administration is extending the deadline for applications for the $150 million Bus and Bus Facilities Program and the $130 million Urban Circulator Program. The deadline for applications is now February 10, 2010:

[http://tiny.cc/Ub8L5](http://tiny.cc/Ub8L5)

**FEMA**

The first two rounds of 2009 Assistance to Firefighter Grants were released. Over 1,500 awards have been granted to date. FEMA will continue announcing these awards on a rolling basis. A list of grantees can be found online:

[http://tiny.cc/zy1fc](http://tiny.cc/zy1fc)
Free Saturday H1N1 Flu Immunization Clinic

The Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department is taking appointments for a Saturday, February 13, 2010, free H1N1 vaccine flu clinic for children and youth, 6 months to 18 years. Parents or legal guardians must accompany children for this or any H1N1 Flu immunization clinic offered by the Health Department. Children under 10 years of age need 2 doses of H1N1 vaccine and the second dose is recommended 4 weeks after the first dose.

Adults wanting to obtain the H1N1 vaccine are also welcome to attend the Saturday clinic. To make an appointment call 441-6262. The vaccine is only being offered by appointment to reduce the wait and make the process convenient for all.

The clinic will be at the Health Department, which is at 32nd and O Street. Hours of operation for this H1N1 flu immunization clinic are from 8:00AM – 12 noon on Saturday, February 13th. Park and enter on the east side of the building (towards Woods Park and 33rd St).

The Health Department is offering this Saturday clinic to accommodate those who may not be able to schedule an appointment for the regular week day H1N1 flu immunization clinics that are held Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:15 pm.
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

A Technical Committee meeting is scheduled as follows:

DATE: February 11, 2010
TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Room 113, County/ City Building

AGENDA

● Roll Call and Acknowledge the "Nebraska Open Meeting Act"

1. Review and action on the draft minutes of the November 10, 2009 Technical Committee meeting

2. Briefing on the Lincoln MPO Technical Subcommittees as identified in the MPO Management Plan and Subcommittee reports.

3. Review and action on revisions to the current FY 2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.
   ○ a) State of Nebraska program funding revisions and amendments.
   ○ b) Lancaster County program funding revisions and amendments.
   ○ c) City of Lincoln: Streets and Highways program funding revisions and amendments.
   This is a notice to make revisions to the current Lincoln-Lancaster FY 2010-2015 TIP to accommodate the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funding.

4. Review of the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization draft "Public Participation Plan" and action to end the public review and recommend MPO adoption.

5. Other topics for discussion
Memorandum

Date: ♦ February 9, 2010
To: ♦ City Clerk
From: ♦ Teresa McKinstry, Planning Dept.
Re: ♦ Administrative Amendment approvals
cc: ♦ Jean Preister

This is a list of the Administrative Amendments that were approved by the Planning Director from February 2, 2010 thru February 8, 2010:

**Administrative Amendment No. 10008** to Special Permit No. 991, approved by the Planning Director on February 5, 2010, requested by Gilbert Eley, to rescind Special Permit No. 991, originally approved for a mobile home park, on property located at 3720 Adams.

**Administrative Amendment No. 10007** to Use Permit No. 04005A, approved by the Planning Director on February 8, 2010, requested by Dan Klein of Regal Building Systems, Inc., to reduce the rear yard setback from 40 feet to 35 feet on a portion of Lot 14 for the office building and add Note 21 to allow eaves, overhangs, etc., to encroach over setback lines or building envelopes, but not lot lines, on property generally located at N. 1st St. and Barons Rd.
NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 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.

The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, February 10, 2010, in Conference Room 113 of the County/City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska, from 12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m. for a briefing by Public Works and Utilities on the Lincoln Water System Facilities Master Plan.

**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, FEBRUARY 10, 2010

[Commissioners Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held January 27, 2010. **APPROVED 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent)**
1. CONSENT AGENDA
(Public hearing and Administrative Action):

PERMITS:

1.1 Special Permit No. 1988B, an amendment to the Tamarin Ridge Community Unit Plan, to allow a percentage of parking spaces located on a driveway behind a garage attached to a dwelling unit to be considered as required parking stalls for the apartments, on property generally located at S. 27th Street and Tamarin Ridge Road. *** FINAL ACTION ***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated January 28, 2010, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Resolution No. PC-01189.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

CHANGE OF ZONE:

4.1 Change of Zone No. 10002, amending Section 27.63.110 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to Special Permits for Garden Centers to clarify that garden centers are a permitted special use in the R-2 zoning district; to include the B-2, H-1, H-4, I-2 and I-3 districts to the list of districts the land for the garden center must be adjacent to; to clarify that the 100-foot setback for buildings and parking lots from all exterior lot lines is limited to the AG and AGR districts; to correct the districts listed in subsection (e) to correctly reflect the title of Section 7.5 in Chapter 3.50 of the City’s Design Standards for Zoning Regulations; and repealing Section 27.63.110 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010, 3:00 p.m.
CHANGE OF ZONE WITH RELATED ITEMS:

4.2a Change of Zone No. 10001HP, to designate the Tuttle-Schaupp House as a historic landmark, located at 3008 “O” Street.

Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Ed Zimmer, 441-6360, ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010, 3:00 p.m.

4.2b Special Permit No. 10001, for Historic Preservation, to adjust the parking and yard requirements of the Tuttle-Schaupp House, on property located at 3008 “O” Street.

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Ed Zimmer, 441-6360, ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010, 3:00 p.m.

PERMITS:

4.3 Special Permit No. 10002, for a garden center, on property generally located at Lucile Drive and Preserve Lane. *** FINAL ACTION ***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated January 27, 2010, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Resolution No. PC-01190.
Special Permit No. 10004, for excavation of soil, on property generally located at N. 56th Street/Highway 77 and Interstate 80.

*** FINAL ACTION ***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Mike DeKalb, 441-6370, mdekalb@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated January 26, 2010, 5-0 (Sunderman, Partington, Lust and Larson absent).
Resolution No. PC-01191.

** ** ** ** **

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

** ** ** ** **

** PENDING LIST: **

1a. Change of Zone No. 09027, from R-3 Residential District to B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District, on property generally located at Lucile Drive and Pioneers Boulevard.

(1-13-10: Planning Commission voted 9-0 to continue public hearing on April 7, 2010, at the request of the applicant.)

1b. Use Permit No. 125A, an amendment to expand the use permit to allow a garden center in the B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District, on property generally located at Pioneers Boulevard and Lucile Drive. *** FINAL ACTION ***

(1-13-10: Planning Commission voted 9-0 to continue public hearing on April 7, 2010, at the request of the applicant.)
Planning Dept. staff contacts:

Steve Henrichsen, Development Review Manager . . 441-6374 . . shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Long Range Planning Manager 441-6363 . ntooze@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
Thanks to Jess for forwarding this information. . .many others have brought this to my attention and today’s Wall Street Journal has a major article on the Google pilot program.

By all means, Lincoln should actively pursue this opportunity.

Jon

Jon A. Camp
Lincoln City Council
402.474.1838 (personal office)

Please go to this link to see about a new program from Google. This high speed network would tie in perfectly with Innovation Campus!

http://www.google.com/appserve/fiberrfi
Ms. Jane Snyder  
555 South 10th Street  
Lincoln, Ne. 68508

Re: User friendly city: numbers on buildings

You are on a Visitor Promotion Committee, among other duties and assignments. You are also considered to be a reasonable woman and might actually ask for directions, and thus differ from your colleagues on Council.

I request that you and fellow council members consider having all businesses and private organizations put address numbers on their buildings. Try going into an unfamiliar part of town and finding a building, unless the signage is conspicuous. Try finding the business in the Stuart building on the corner that has an undecipherable signage on its windows. Try finding a store or business in a place in which all building subunits look alike. It would save aggravation, gas use and time. And perhaps make Lincoln a friendlier city and easier to get around in for visitors, as well as current inhabitants. It would be a minimal cost to businesses and perhaps could be part of a bright, readable sign depicting the business.

I hope you discuss this request.

Sincerely,

Anne Vidaver
I encourage you to vote in favor of the West Haymarket Arena. It will add great value to the City of Lincoln and its citizens. Thank you.

Laura M. Bell
Broker/Manager
Commercial Realty Group, LLC
5505 Red Rock Lane, Suite 500
Lincoln, NE 68516
(402) 484-5333-office
(402) 432-9914-cell
(402) 484-6333-fax
lbell@crgnebraska.net
www.crgnebraska.net
PLEASE PUT THE ARENA ON THE MAY 11th BALLOT!
LINCOLN NEEDS THIS! IT IS A VERY WELL THOUGHT OUT
PLAN AND WOULD CREATE JOBS AND MORE
SALES/HOTEL/INCOME TAXES FOR THE CITY....HOPEFULLY
KEEPING PROPERTY TAXES FROM GOING UP!

Drew Sasse
HOME Real Estate - Cotner
225 N. Cotner Blvd. #101
Lincoln, NE 68510
Cell: 440-7628
Desk: 436-3341
drew.sasse@homerealestate.com
dsasserealtor@gmail.com

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To Whom it may concern:

To get you up to date, I’ve attached a copy of the original complaint that was sent to the city on Monday, December 28, 2009. Since then we have received two letters back and each letter indicated a different contact person and a different date as to when the next city council meeting is, so not sure who this is supposed to be address to or when it will be considered. From the response letters we’ve received with different information on each and the way our yard looks it is clear that the city of Lincoln could care less what kind of workers they hire, our tax dollars hard at work.

I understand that the city has a duty to perform functions such as removing snow, however, removing the snow and removing sod and destroying a sprinkler system from ones yard are two different functions. Because of a city workers negligence our yard has severe damage and I’m being told that it is our fault and our responsibility to pay for the damage that was caused by a city worker? If you come to the corner of 91st & Colby Street, you can see where the careless driver of the maintainer also hit the curb so hard that they actually took a large piece of cement out of the street drain, is that our responsibility too?

I feel that this claim being denied and the inconsistency in the letters is the city showing lack of respect for its residents and tax payers. I would like this claim to be under further review.

You can come to our address to date and see the pieces of sod laying on top of the snow piled in the sidewalk space or right-of-way passage from being torn up by the city.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Joshua Treptow
9035 Colby Street
Lincoln, NE 68505
(402)-610-4446
February 9, 2010

555 South 10th Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Sir or Madam:

Janice informed me at telephone number (402)-441-7281 on December 28, 2009, that I needed to send in our complaint in writing.

This letter is to inform you that the 2009 Christmas Snow storm that hit Lincoln December 23, 24 and 25 that we had a road crew in our neighborhood clearing streets on Saturday night/Sunday morning (December 26th & 27th) at approximately 4:00 am on Sunday, December 27, 2009. There was a blue taxi cab mini van stuck at our intersection of 91st and Colby Street and in order for the maintainer/plow to get around it, the driver of the unit drove up and through our east yard at 9035 Colby Street. Our fear is that come springtime when it is time to get our sprinklers running that we may have several broken heads and/or hoses and possible sod damage. If this is the case we wanted you to be informed of this complaint immediately as we do not feel this is our responsibility to cover any repair costs that were inquired during this time.

Then when the maintainer/plows came around for a second time on Monday, December 28, 2009, removing snow from the intersection that was missed earlier, they again were in our yard, this time on the north side of our home. We know for fact there is damage, as have huge pieces of sod missing from our yard and they are lying on top of our snow; that is how far they had the blade down. Again, we do not feel we are reliable for having to repair our yard and sprinkler system come springtime since we had no part in doing any of the damage. We do have pictures as proof if you would like to see them.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (402)-610-4446.

Sincerely,

Joshua Treptow
9035 Colby Street
Lincoln, NE 68505
(402)-610-4446
Hello there…

I would like to express my utmost support for this arena complex. We can no longer afford to lose such events as State volleyball and wrestling. These events bring immense revenue to this city. The shortfall will surely come back on the taxpayer. Since the taxpayer is already on the hook for Stimulus projects, I feel this is a very necessary project to keep this city afloat.

I cannot tell you how many times I go to the Qwest Center for concerts. I would much rather spend my money here supporting local merchants!!

Please, please - put this intiative on the ballot..

Thank you for your time…

Lori Crowder
Dear City Council Members,

I would like to express my support to place the Lincoln Haymarket Arena issue on the May 11th, 2010 ballot.

I have been involved in the real estate industry for 8 years working at a Title Insurance and Escrow Closing Company and also worked in Commercial Real Estate Development at a locally owned and operated bank. Through my experience, I see the need to help the City of Lincoln grow and expand. As you know it has been very difficult over the past few years to continue to develop this city due to the current market conditions and the cost and time to create the infrastructure to support future expansions. They only way I see Lincoln growing is to vote yes for the Lincoln Haymarket Arena development. This would help to create revenues for Lincoln that would help in future infrastructure expansion.

I also work part time at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as an on call employee for the Athletic Concessions department. I currently work events at Memorial Stadium and the Bob Devaney Sports Center. To help answer the question on what would happen to the employees of the Sports Center if the Men’s and Women’s Basketball Games move to the new arena, I would say that there will continue to be other sporting events at the Sports Center that will require current employees to be employed. Along with that, my opinion is that we would be able to utilize additional events that could be held at the sports center, since there wouldn’t be scheduling conflicts with the Basketball games. By allowing the Sports Center to open up its venue to other events, this would allow for additional patrons to come to Lincoln, stay in Hotels, dine out at restaurants and do some shopping and Lincoln would benefit from this additional sales tax revenue.

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration of reading this email and hope that this will help to encourage this issue be place on the ballot.

Best Regards,

AnDee Harris
Escrow Closing Officer/Office Manager
Union Title Company, LLC
3800 Normal Blvd, Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68506
Phone: 402-323-1862
Fax: 402-488-2834
Email: andee.harris@uniontitle.com

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Move Lincoln forward with a YES vote for the Lincoln Haymarket Arena.

Create new jobs and collect more tax revenue.

Vote YES!

Scott Fitzgerald
President

6701 Cornhusker Hwy
Lincoln, NE 68507
(402) 467-1627
www.generalexavating.com

This message has been scanned for malware by SurfControl plc. www.surfcontrol.com
Dear City Council,

On behalf of my entire firm, we whole-heartedly support the development the Haymarket Arena and encourage the City Council to put the public financing elements on the ballot in May. Please vote in support of this ballot measure to make sure Lincoln progresses into the 21st century with a stimulating economic plan that will show the country we are a community of value, destination and pride.

Mike Eckert, AICP
Civil Design Group, Inc.
8535 Executive Woods Drive, Ste 200
Lincoln, NE 68512
O: 402-434-8494
F: 866-215-8747 (toll free)
M: 402-770-4850
meckert@civildg.com
www.civildg.com
I am unable to attend the hearing on the Arena Project today due to a funeral; however, I did want to express my desire and excitement to have the project on the May ballot.

Thank you for all you have done to research and support this project. It is just the boost Lincoln needs.

Sincerely,

Anissa Schroeder  |  Ameritas Group  |  Sales Technology Trainer
475 Fallbrook Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68521  |  p: 800.776.9446 ext 82345  |  f: 402.309.2512
aschroeder@ameritas.com  |  http://www.ameritasgroup.com

Group Sales Training – The Relentless Pursuit of AHA℠
Dear Lincoln City Council Members -

I do not know yet if I will be able to attend today's Lincoln City Council Meeting and I wanted to make sure I took the time to add my "voice" as another individual that fully supports the proposed Haymarket Arena and your decision as a Council to put the issue on the May 11th Ballot.

There are a numerous reasons why you should vote for the Ballot Measure, and to support the Arena in general. I would like to mention two in this email, Entertainment Options and our Young Professionals in Lincoln, and moving Lincoln in a Positive Direction.

Lincoln needs to work harder to support and keep our young professionals in this community. For years there has always been talk of a "Brain Drain" as we both as Nebraskans and Lincolnites work with the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska College System to keep as many of our young people working in Nebraska after graduation. I am one of the few who went out of state to attend college, at Purdue University in Indiana, but returned to Nebraska to live and work.

As a member of the Lincoln Young Professionals Group, as a former out of state collegiate, and as someone who works with younger members of our community on our staff at Campbell's, I can tell you that entertainment including a venue such as the proposed Arena is something that weighs heavily on the minds of young people on whether they choose to live and work in Lincoln. The opportunity to offer new and exciting entertainment options in and surrounding the Arena would only increase the potential to keep the younger members of our community working and living in Lincoln.

On making a positive move for Lincoln, too many times I feel we hear the negativity from those around us more than the positive. Statements like, Lincoln's taxes are too high, there are too few high paying jobs, there is too little to do around Lincoln, etc. etc.. all are heard around town. I for one though, believe we need to stop being negative about our town and begin to make moves that encourages Lincoln to grow in positive directions. While the Arena will not solve every problem Lincoln faces, it will definitely be a great step in a positive direction.

Many will tell you that they believe the costs, size and scope of the Arena project, and the current state of our economy mean we should hold off on the Arena project. I, and many others I know, believe the exact opposite. Once again negativity vs. being positive about Lincoln. The number of jobs created, the amount of money infused into our local economy, and the possibilities the Arena would offer to our citizens I believe outweigh any potential negatives. I believe we need to move forward with this project now versus later.

I hope you see fit to pass the Arena Ballot measure today and take another step in continuing to move Lincoln in a positive direction.

Thank you for your time and attention. If any of you have questions or wish to discuss this issue further please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Andrew Campbell
Can not be at meeting.

Others say why bother.

We do not support more burden for:

the unemployed
the fixed income
those having to accept lower paying jobs to have a job.

Why vote when you can see Omaha can not make it work.

Why try to put something in a corner of the town with no access.

Why not expand the Lancaster Event Center in a few years IF there is a recovery.

John Olson
Vote NO for the arena. In this economy Lincoln needs to focus on fixing the current broken and gaps in our city. There are too many open questions for the arena. Too many gaps in the funding - having gaps filled by property tax owners is unacceptable. As a property owner in Lincoln I would much rather see my tax dollars going toward building new schools, improving infrastructure. The arena is a bad idea for Lincoln!!!
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry
I am excited to get out and vote on the arena issue. I think this development is exactly what Lincoln needs. It is more than just entertainment – it is a jump-start to our economy which we desperately need.

Thanks for your consideration in adding the arena vote to the ballot.

- CLOVER FREDERICK

*****************************************************************************
Clover Frederick, director
nonprofit marketing network
clover@nmn-online.org
402-416-8255
www.nmn-online.org
*****************************************************************************
I meant to send this earlier, please vote to have the Haymarket Arena on the May 11 primary ballot today!

Thanks.
Kevin and Krista Stevens
5224 S Windlesham Ct
Lincoln, NE 68516

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This is good for everyone.....

Nanci Burchess-Smith
Woods Bros. Realty- Country Club Plaza
402-730-8407
Website: www.nbs.woodsbros.com
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Please vote to put the Lincoln Haymarket Arena on the ballot.

Brad Martin
Dear City Council Members:
I believe it is vital to the economic development of Lincoln to build the Haymarket Arena as proposed. Please do the citizens of Lincoln a favor and put this on the upcoming May ballot. While I personally am in favor of the Arena, put it on the ballot so all of Lincoln can decide its fate.

Sincerely,
Sue Wilson

Sue Wilson
Director, Advertising & Membership
Nebraska Trucking Association
402-476-8504 (voice)
402-476-8570 (fax)
We deliver...so you can.
Dear Council members:

As Board Chair of Open Harvest and resident of the Near South Neighborhood I encourage you to support the creation of the South Street Business Improvement District.

Open Harvest is a Cooperative natural and organic food grocery. We currently have 3300 members. Over the past few years Open Harvest has sought to expand and relocate if necessary. The improvements that were made along South Street by the City influenced Open Harvest's decision to remain on South Street. It was with great reception by our members that we expanded at our current location.

A BID is a sensible way for each of the property owners and businesses along the South Street corridor to preserve the improvements that the taxpayers have invested in their location. Your support of the BID is appreciated.

Keith Dubas
Chair, Open Harvest

1712 E Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508