I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Abe Lincoln performance to air on Channel 5.
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and members of the Mayor’s Commission on Women will hold a news conference, Wednesday, February 16th, 9:30 a.m., at 555 S. 10th to discuss the issue of domestic violence.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Winners announced for Mayor’s Arts Awards.
4. Correspondence to Joe Kelly, County Attorney, from Kathleen Uhrmacher, Chair of Mayor’s Commission on Women, regarding domestic violence and copy of the Issue Statement on Dating/Domestic Violence sent to the Mayor’s office.
5. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor’s Commission on Women urges prosecution of abusers.
6. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor to honor residents who helped apartment residents escape fire.
7. NEWS RELEASE. Water customers urged to complete cross connection survey.
8. NEWS RELEASE. Residents invited to complete online health survey.

WEST HAYMARKET JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY
1. The February 24, 2011 West Haymarket Joint Public Agency meeting has been cancelled.

III. DIRECTORS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Administrative Approved, Waiver No. 10030 to Administrative Final Plat No. 02061, approved by the Planning Director on February 10, 2011.

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES: STREET AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS
1. Scott Opfer, Street & Traffic Operations Manager, reply to Kimberly Sykes regarding installing a traffic signal at the intersection of 24th and Superior. (Director’s Agenda, 02.07.11, VI. Correspondence from Citizens, #1)

URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
1. The City Urban Development Department’s quarterly newsletter, The Urban Page, now available online.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. MISCELLANEOUS
VI. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
   1. InterLinc correspondence from Mark Garrett inquiring if a smoking ban could be placed on apartment buildings.

VII. ADJOURNMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 15, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

ABE LINCOLN PERFORMANCE TO AIR ON CHANNEL 5

The one-man play presented as part of the City’s 11th annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Celebration February 13 will air on 5 CITY-TV (government access cable channel 5) at 7 p.m. Sunday, February 20. “Abraham Lincoln Carved in Stone” is a 90-minute play written and performed by Chicago actor Richard Marlatt. About 500 people attended the play Sunday at Lincoln Southeast High School.

The celebration was presented by the City of Lincoln with support from the Nebraska Humanities Council, Lincoln Benefit Life, the Lincoln Public Schools and Cornhusker Bank.

Marlatt, a member of Actor’s Equity Association and Screen Actors Guild, presented the first workshop production of the play in Lincoln in the summer of 2009 as part of Nebraska Repertory Theatre’s “Destination” series. He also has appeared in Nebraska Rep mainstage productions – The Drawer Boy, Metamorphoses, Moonlight and Magnolias and Anatomy of Gray.

A working professional actor and director since 1980, Marlatt has a Fine Arts Degree in Theatre and Interpretation. He has trained at The Royal National Theatre of Great Britain’s Acting Studio in London and was the first Philip Meister Scholarship recipient at the National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York. He has taught independent Masters Workshops as a Guest Artist in schools, colleges and universities since 1981.

Photographs from the Celebration are available on the City website at lincoln.ne.gov.

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DATE: February 15, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler and members of the Mayor’s Commission on Women will discuss the issue of domestic violence at a news conference at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 16 in Room 303 in the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR MAYOR’S ARTS AWARDS

The Lincoln Arts Council (LAC) has announced the winners of the 2011 Mayor’s Arts Awards, which will be presented the evening of Wednesday, June 8 at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. Mayor Chris Beutler and the LAC present the awards to formally recognize artistic contributions and achievements in the Lincoln area.

Reservations will be accepted at a later date. Event sponsors are Union Bank & Trust Company, Jerry and Annette Hall, Rena Kaplan, The Landing at Williamsburg and the Lincoln Community Foundation. Video sponsors are The Kinder Porter Scott Family Foundation and Liberty First Credit Union.

Mayor Beutler has chosen playwright Becky Boesen and her play “In My Daughter’s Name” to receive the Mayor’s Choice Award. The play, presented in October by the Angels Theatre Company, told the true story of a young woman who was abused and eventually murdered by her domestic partner.

“We can appreciate art for many reasons, including its intrinsic beauty, its interpretive or abstract nature or how it makes us feel,“ Mayor Beutler said. “It is also important to recognize art like this play that sensitizes us to important social issues, creates awareness and encourages people to take action. ‘In My Daughter’s Name’ created a community dialogue about the important issue of domestic violence.”

The Mayor’s Choice Award is sponsored by Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson and Oldfather. Also being honored are the following individuals, organizations and projects:

- The **Arts Organization Award** will be presented to **MEDICI**, which supports the UNL Department of Art and Art History. The award recognizes an arts group that has made significant contributions to Lincoln’s arts community over a period of years and is sponsored by Runza.

- The **Outstanding Event Award** will be presented to the “**Textiles and Settlement: From Plains Space to Cyber Space**,” the Textile Society of America’s 12th Biennial Symposium. The award recognizes a performance, exhibition, event or project in the previous year that will be notable in the community memory for years to come and is sponsored by Joe and Judye Ruffo.

- The **Artistic Achievement Award - Visual Arts** will be presented to painter **Judith Burton**. The award recognizes excellence and accomplishment in any of the visual arts.

- more -
The Artistic Achievement Award - Performing Arts will be presented to Dan Stratman, Director of Production and Facilities at the Lied Center. The award recognizes excellence and accomplishment in any of the performing arts and is sponsored by Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska.

The Artistic Achievement Award - Youth will be presented to award-winning visual artist Madeline Cass, a Lincoln High School senior who also writes poetry and plays the violin. The award recognizes excellence and accomplishment in any arts discipline by a young person age 18 or younger and is sponsored by Lucy Buntain Comine in memory of Anne Buntain.

The Gladys Lux Education Award will be presented to Ann Gradwohl, an artist and Project Coordinator of the Art in Society curriculum for the Sheldon Museum of Art. The award recognizes special initiatives in or dedication to arts education and is sponsored by the Gladys Lux Foundation.

The Heart of the Arts Award will be presented to Don Gill, a member of the Nebraska Broadcasters Hall of Fame, for his leadership of the Lincoln Municipal Band, his NET radio show featuring big band music and his many other volunteer activities. This award recognizes individuals or organizations for outstanding volunteer dedication to the arts or for making a major overall impact on the arts in Lincoln. The award is being sponsored by Talent Plus, Inc.

The Halcyon Allsman Benefactor of the Arts Award will be presented to Bets and Larry Frederick. The award honors an individual, family, organization or business making significant financial contributions to the arts in Lincoln and is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank.

The Oliva Family “Arts for Kids” Award will be presented to Jason Schmit who started the Northeast Family Center’s Academy of Rock program. The award honors an individual or organization from outside of the arts professions whose leadership has enhanced arts activities and experiences for children. It is sponsored by the Giacomo and Dorothy Oliva Family.

The “ArtScene Backstage Award” will be presented to Bill Stibor of NET Radio for extraordinary service to the arts through behind-the-scenes efforts. The award is sponsored by A to Z Printing.

The Literary Heritage Award will be presented to former bookstore owners Jim McKee and Linda Hillegass. The award recognizes a writer or an individual or group who promotes excellence in writing and literature in Nebraska and is sponsored by the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association.

Except for the Literary Heritage and Mayor’s Choice awards, honorees are selected by a panel of arts professionals. This year’s award is being created by Joe Ruffo, a Mayor’s Arts Award winner in 2004 and a former President of the LAC.

The public is encouraged to submit names of members of the Lincoln arts community who have died since the last awards ceremony in June 2010 for memorial recognition at the awards event to mayorsartsawards@artscene.org.

For more information, visit artscene.org.
February 14, 2011

Joe Kelly  
Lancaster County Attorney  
575 S. 10th St.  Fourth Floor  
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The Lincoln Mayor’s Commission on Women is committed to informing ourselves and others on the issues that affect women and their families in Lincoln and Lancaster County. One issue that is of concern is domestic violence, specifically dating violence. We have investigated what is being done in our community regarding the implementation of the Lindsay Burke Act, passed by the Legislature in 2009. We continue to gather information on the statistics, consequences and need for education about domestic violence of all kinds.

The Lincoln Mayor’s Commission on Women advocates having many appropriate options for families who are experiencing domestic violence. We explicitly support intervention programs that might prevent domestic violence issues from escalating to the point that law enforcement needs to be involved.

We understand that the facts and circumstances of each case vary, and that your office is afforded considerable discretion in determining whether to prosecute a particular case. Our daughters, sons, sisters, brothers, mothers, and fathers deserve a community that supports their efforts to establish and maintain safe and healthy family relationships.

When escalation does occur, however, the commission strongly encourages you and your office to prosecute perpetrators of domestic violence to the fullest extent of the law. Our families deserve nothing less.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Issue Statement on Dating/Domestic Violence sent to the Mayor’s office. You will notice reference to our program on Dating Violence which was aired on City TV Channel 5 for several months in the fall.

Please contact me if the Women’s Commission could be of assistance to you on domestic violence issues.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Uhrmacher

Kathleen M. Uhrmacher  
Chair, Mayor’s Commission on Women

Enc.

Cc:  Rod Confer, City Attorney  
John McQuinn, Chief Assistant City Prosecutor  
Denise Pearce, Mayoral Aide
Dating/Domestic Violence

Young women today between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rates of relationship violence, whether physical, emotional or financial. Surveys have shown that 1 in 5 high school girls are the victims of some kind of physical or sexual abuse by a dating partner. Unfortunately, the majority of the adults in these young women’s lives, including their parents, are unaware of the abuse.

It is estimated that there are 50,000 to 60,000 domestic violence victims per year in Nebraska and an average of three people in Lincoln every day who are arrested for assault of a partner. There are many who are never arrested or assaults of a physical, verbal and/or emotional nature that are not reported. Nationally, about 75 percent of the deaths related to domestic abuse occur when the woman is either separated from or has left the abuser.* The recent deaths of two young Lincoln women at the hands of former partners highlight the serious need to educate our community about the consequences of domestic violence.

As a response to the severity of this problem, the Nebraska Legislature passed the Lindsay Burke Act. Lindsay Burke, a 23-year old young woman from Rhode Island, was killed in 2005 by an ex-partner. Having had no previous information on dating violence, her family and friends began working toward getting legislation passed in all states. The Nebraska law states that as of July 1, 2010, all Nebraska public schools had to have a policy in place dealing with educating young people and the adults that work with them on dating violence. Lincoln Public Schools has instituted educational programs for both staff and students regarding dating violence: what it is, how to recognize it and what to do if one suspects abuse. On a recent Women Talk program, Sue Andersen from Voices of Hope and Susan Bond, an LPS School Social Worker, talked candidly about the dangers of dating violence, its prevalence in our community and how adults should respond.

The Mayor’s Commission on Women will continue to highlight this issue and support education and outreach related to dating and domestic violence. “Dating Violence,” our Women Talk program can be seen on City TV/Channel 5. Listed below are websites with more information.

www.voicesofhopelincoln.org
www.loveisnotabuse.org
www.respect2all.org
www.loveisrespect.org
www.breakthecycle.org

*US Department of Justice, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 16, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
                    Kathie Uhrmacher, Mayor’s Comm. on Women, 488-8859

MAYOR’S COMMISSION ON WOMEN URGES
PROSECUTION OF ABUSERS

The Mayor’s Commission on Women has sent a letter to the Lancaster County Attorney’s Office encouraging the office to prosecute perpetrators of domestic violence “to the fullest extent of the law.” The Victim Witness Unit of the Lincoln Police Department estimates that an average of three people are arrested every day in Lincoln for assault of a domestic partner.

“We understand that the facts and circumstances of each case vary and that your office is afforded considerable discretion in determining whether to prosecute a particular case,” reads the letter, signed by Commission Chair Kathleen Uhrmacher. “Our daughters, sons, sisters, brothers, mothers and fathers deserve a community that supports their efforts to establish and maintain safe and healthy family relationships.”

Mayor Chris Beutler commended the Commission for its efforts “to stay informed on the issue, to advocate for victims, to support prevention programs and to increase awareness of domestic violence.”

Among the issues explored by the Commission is the Lindsey Burke Act passed by the Nebraska Legislature in 2009. The act is named for a young Rhode Island woman who was killed in 2005 by her domestic partner. Her family has worked to get legislation passed in the states that requires all public schools to educate young people on the issue. The Lincoln Public Schools now has programs for both students and staff about dating violence.

More information on the Commission and the its issue statement on domestic violence are available at friendsofmcw.org.

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 16, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

MAYOR TO HONOR RESIDENTS WHO HELPED
APARTMENT RESIDENTS ESCAPE FIRE

Mayor Chris Beutler will present the Mayor’s medallion tomorrow to Karen Jordan-Anderson and Criz Sanchez who helped residents of an apartment complex escape a December fire. The presentation will take place at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, February 17 at UPS, 3133 N. 33rd Street. Sanchez is a UPS driver, and Jordan-Anderson is a family program manager for the Nebraska Air National Guard.

Sanchez was on his way home from work the evening of December 22nd when he saw flames coming from a second-story balcony at 1510 S. Folsom Street. He called 911 and then ran to the building. Jordan-Anderson was visiting a friend at a nearby building when she saw Sanchez running and heard him yell, “Fire!” The two ran to the building to alert residents and help them evacuate.

After pounding on first-floor doors, Jordan-Anderson went to the second floor, and entered the apartment with the balcony was on fire, where she convinced a woman with developmental disabilities to evacuate. City Fire Inspector Ken Hilger said if Jordan-Anderson had not persuaded the woman to leave, the apartment would soon have filled with fire and smoke and evacuation would have been very difficult. The apartment was a total loss.

Sanchez pulled himself up to a second-story balcony and pounded on the sliding glass doors before heading to the back of the building to escort residents outside. He then ran to the third floor and helped a family including an elderly woman and a child escape.

No one was injured in the fire, which fire investigators say was caused by an improperly discarded cigarette. Damage was estimated at about $150,000.

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MEDIA NOTE: The UPS entrance is just north of Cornhusker Highway. Take the first left (west) past the convenience store. Use the employee entrance on the east side of the building.
WATER CUSTOMERS URGED TO COMPLETE CROSS CONNECTION SURVEY

Lincoln Water System (LWS) customers are encouraged to complete a survey to help identify plumbing cross connections in their homes and businesses that could pose a hazard to the public water supply. The State requires all water utilities to conduct the survey every five years. Surveys have been mailed to customers in some parts of southeast Lincoln based on billing cycle. When the survey is received, it can also be completed online at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: plumbing survey).

Examples of potential cross connections in homes and businesses include private wells, automatic lawn irrigation systems, hoses submerged in a sink or container, swimming pools, hot tubs or other boiler-type heating systems. If the plumbing connection is not protected with a backflow device, contamination could enter the plumbing system and public water supply if the water system loses pressure. A loss of pressure can occur during a water main break or when large amounts of water are used to fight a fire.

“The self-inspection survey is very important in educating and informing water utility customers about the hazards of unprotected cross connections,” said Doug Woodbeck, Field Services Manager for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. “Having a large majority of the water customers complete the survey is a fundamental element of a community’s cross connection control program to protect public health.”

Steve Owen, LWS Superintendent of Water Distribution, said that in the past, surveys were mailed to all customers as part of their water and sewer bill. “Five years ago, we had few surveys returned, and we think customers did not notice them in their bills,” Owen said. “We hope that sending them out in a separate mailing will increase the number of surveys returned and help us better protect Lincoln’s drinking water system.” Owen said the survey takes less than five minutes to complete, and a postage paid return envelope is included in the mailing.

Owen said water utilities, plumbing codes, plumbing contractors and regulatory authorities have all practiced good backflow prevention for many years, and plumbing systems are normally installed in a safe manner by licensed contractors. Where needed, backflow devices are installed as part of Lincoln’s Plumbing and Water Service Codes.
“A customer may alter a plumbing system or unknowingly add a source of contamination in their home or business that creates an unprotected cross connection,” said Bob Siemsen, the City’s Chief Plumbing Inspector. “The self-inspection survey can help identify these connections so that a proper backflow device can be installed. Each customer has a responsibility to keep their connection to the community water system safe for everyone.”

Owen said commercial water customers have a higher potential for unprotected cross connections. LWS has licensed technicians who routinely inspect commercial properties for potential cross connections and ensure that proper backflow protection is installed, tested and operating. Owen said LWS relies heavily on the self-inspection process and return of surveys because it would be impractical to have staff inspect homes and smaller commercial properties.

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RESIDENTS INVITED TO COMPLETE ONLINE HEALTH SURVEY

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department is asking residents to help identify the community’s strengths and weaknesses through an online Community Health Survey. The 10-minute survey is available at health.lincoln.ne.gov. (Click on the “community survey” link under the “What’s New” heading.) The survey is voluntary and confidential, and those who complete it will not be identified or called.

The survey asks for perceptions on health care, risk behaviors, housing, transportation, jobs, public safety, neighborhoods, schools and other quality of life issues. It is part of a local community health strategic planning effort called Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). Survey results will be used to identify the most pressing health issues that can be addressed through community action, and the MAPP Steering Committee will create a plan to meet the prioritized community needs.

“It is very important that we hear from as many residents as possible about their perceptions of the quality of life in our community,” said Dr. Karla Lester, Co-Chair of the MAPP Steering Committee. “The survey is a key component of one of four assessments that are part of the MAPP process. The survey results, along with input from focus group results, will highlight what people consider to be the strengths and weaknesses in our community.”

The three other assessments will document the health status of residents; measure the capacities of the local public health system; and address opportunities and threats in the social, medical, economic and political environment. The Steering Committee will use the four assessments to determine opportunities to improve health that are not being addressed by other task forces and coalitions.
CONGRESS

A turbulent week on Capitol Hill leaves core local programs in peril. The House leadership’s commitment to a more deliberative and open legislative process crashed into the reality of a Republican Caucus that is clearly willing to dig in its heels on core issues.

Twice this week, the House defeated bills, a rare occurrence in a body where party discipline ensures that the outcome of most votes is known ahead of time. On the heels of these setbacks for the leadership, the House Appropriations Committee spent Thursday and Friday scrambling to revise a draft FY 2011 spending bill after the Republican Study Committee, the 170-member caucus of conservative Republicans, deemed the package insufficiently frugal.

The original package would have cut overall spending by three percent ($34.9 billion) from the FY 2010 level. Sticking to the Republican promise to spare Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs from cuts, non-security spending would have borne the brunt of those cuts, falling nine percent ($42.6 billion) from the FY 2010 level. At the specific program level, the package included major cuts to a wide variety of programs, including a cut of 12 percent ($530 million) to the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the elimination of the COPS Program and a cut of 47 percent (-$1.18 billion) for Community Health Centers.

After a lot of public teeth gnashing by Appropriations Committee leaders, a new proposal was unveiled a bill that would bring FY 2011 spending $58 billion below the FY 2010 level, with Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs again held harmless. The details of the proposal were not available at press time, but it is hard to imagine that a proposal with such deep cuts does not seriously cut or eliminate funding for a number of core local government programs.

The House is expected to take up the FY 2011 spending bill next week. Even if the latest proposal from Rogers passes muster with rank-and-file House Republicans, the Senate and the Administration also have a say on the final FY 2011 funding package. Although key senators have expressed openness to some cuts, the Senate is unlikely to agree to the deep cuts outlined by Rogers this week.

The federal government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution that expires March 4. With that date quickly approaching, negotiations between key players are already taking place. It has been reported that the Congress is likely to consider another short-term Continuing Resolution to keep the federal government operating beyond March 4, an indication that reaching a final agreement on FY 2011 spending will not be easy or imminent.

In contrast to the events on the House side of Capitol Hill, the Senate spent much of the week methodically working on legislation (S 223) that would reauthorize federal aviation programs. That measure continues to be stalled over provisions related to slots at National Airport in Washington, DC and Senate leaders are hoping to force a final vote on the bill next week.

The Senate plans to continue its work on the aviation bill next week while the House will focus on FY 2011 appropriations. In addition, even as work on FY 2011 spending remains incomplete, House and the Senate committees will spend much of the week holding hearings on the Administration’s FY
2012 Budget Proposal, which President Obama will release on Monday morning.

**BUDGET**

President to present FY 2012 budget to Congress next week. President Obama will formally enter the budget process on Monday when he presents his proposed FY 2012 budget to Congress.

The President called for a five-year spending freeze in his recent State of the Union address, so significant increases are not expected for most domestic discretionary programs. In fact, the White House Budget Director earlier in the week mentioned two programs of note that would be recommended for cuts: the Community Development Block Grant program at HUD, which would be reduced by 7.5 percent, and the Community Services Block Grant program at HHS, which would be cut by 50% and be reconstructed into a competitive grant program.

**New Initiatives**

The White House budget is also expected to include a recommendation to invest $10.7 billion to support the development and deployment of a nationwide wireless public safety broadband network. Of that amount, $3.2 billion would be available to reallocate the section of broadcast spectrum known as the “D-Block” for public safety purposes, $7 billion for deployment of the network, and $500 million through a Wireless Innovation Fund to tailor the network to public safety requirements. The proposal is part of a larger plan by the White House to expand high speed wireless access to 98% of the nation, details of which can be found here: http://bit.ly/h4VxfM

The Obama Administration will also recommend an investment of $53 billion over the next six years to continue the development of a national high speed and intercity passenger rail system. High speed rail has been a priority of the President’s since he took office, and the funds would be used to compliment the $8 billion for high speed rail from the 2009 Recovery Act. Additional details can be found in the White House press statement on the high speed rail proposal: http://bit.ly/e8dYou

While the unveiling of the President’s budget is expected to create headlines, the focus on shaping the FY 2012 budget will quickly shift to Congress, which will have the ultimate say in how federal agencies are funded.

**MUNICIPAL FINANCE**

SEC proposed rule poses threat to local governments; comments due February 22. The Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) issued a proposed rule in December regarding the registration of municipal advisors under the requirements of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform & Consumer Protection Act (PL 111-517). Under the proposed rule, elected officials and municipal employees would not be required to register; however, appointed commission and board members who make decisions about bond issues would be required to register. In the proposed rule, the SEC argues for this position as follows:

“The Commission believes that this interpretation is appropriate because employees and elected members are accountable to the municipal entity for their actions. In addition, the Commission is concerned that appointed members, unlike elected officials and ex officio members, are not directly accountable for their performance to the citizens of the municipal entity.”

If the proposed rule is enacted, the registration forms and requirements could potentially subject persons serving on a city board or commission to a burdensome and intrusive registration process. It could also expose members of boards and commissions to considerable fines and liability to the extent that they may discourage many people from serving. In addition, the SEC is considering charging a filing fee for those registering as municipal investment advisors, creating yet another disincentive for citizens to serve on boards and commissions.

Comments are due February 22, 2011 and must be filed electronically. See the proposed rule at: http://bit.ly/h4VxfM

In a related event, this week during a markup of legislation regarding federal aviation programs in the Senate Finance Committee, an amendment was offered to repeal a provision that will require local governments to withhold three percent of all payments to vendors beginning next year. The amendment was ultimately withdrawn, but not before both the Chairman and Ranking Republican on the committee indicated their interest in addressing the matter this year. A coalition of local government and business organizations supports full repeal of the provision.

**GRANTS & NOTICES**

Corporation for National & Community Service

CNCS announced the availability of approximately $5.7 million for Youth Engagement Zones grants. These grants will provide support for “eligible partnerships” to develop coordinated school- or community-based service-learning opportunities for secondary school students. Eligible partnerships are defined in Section III of the NOFA and may include units of local government. CNCS anticipates awarding 5 to 7 grant awards that will range from $700,000 to $1.5 million. Awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Applicants must submit a letter of intent to apply by March 10. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2011: http://bit.ly/gBJwM8.

Department of Housing and Urban Affairs & Department of Veterans Affairs

HUD and VA released a joint report concerning the demographics of homeless veterans, how veterans compare to others who are homeless, and how veterans access and use the nation’s homeless response system. The report, entitled “Veteran Homelessness: A Supplement to the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,” is based on an annual report HUD provides to Congress but is the first of its kind. The report highlights key statistical findings, as well as the joint efforts of HUD and VA to address homeless veterans: http://bit.ly/fapiWE.
Department of Justice

Economic Development Administration
EDA is currently accepting public comments on any obstacles created by current EDA regulations and on ways to improve them to help foster innovative economic development. EDA is particularly interested in learning about barriers that impact the creation and growth of Regional Innovation Clusters (RICs). Comments are due March 9, 2011: http://bit.ly/eeFXA4.

Environmental Protection Agency
EPA issued a determination to regulate perchlorate in public drinking water systems. EPA will initiate the process of proposing a national primary drinking water regulation (NPDWR) for perchlorate within 24 months of this regulatory determination. EPA will consider public comments on the proposed regulation and expects to issue a final regulation within 18 months of the initial proposal: http://bit.ly/gl9G2s.

Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA is currently accepting comments on a proposed policy for Rehabilitation Assistance for Levees and other Flood Control Works. Comments are due March 10, 2011: http://bit.ly/gxLAPx.

Federal Transit Administration
FTA issued the FY 2011 program guidance and partial apportionment of formula funds. Full year apportionments will be released when the FY 2011 budget is finalized: http://bit.ly/hKXLDU.

Office on Violence Against Women
OVW is currently accepting applications for the FY 2011 Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program. This program provides an opportunity for communities to support children in situations involving domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, child abuse, or stalking. Eligible applicants include State and local governments. Awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Letters of intent to apply are due March 1, 2011 and final applications are due March 15, 2011: http://bit.ly/hif4IH.

OVW is also accepting applications for the FY 2011 Transitional Housing Assistance Program. Grants under this program support programs that provide assistance to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services. Awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Letters of intent to apply are due March 3, 2011 and final applications are due March 17, 2011: http://bit.ly/fxHDAO.
From: Mary M. Meyer
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:28 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Cancelled - Feb. 24 West Haymarket JPA Meeting

From: Trish A. Owen
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:19 AM
To: Dave B. Norris
Subject: Feb. 24th West Haymarket JPA Meeting

The February 24th, 2011 JPA meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting of the WH JPA will be held on Wednesday, March 9th, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room 303.

Thank you-Trish

Trish Owen, MPA
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Mayor
555 S. 10th Street, Suite 301
Lincoln, NE 68508

(402) 441-7511 (Office)
(402) 430-3390 (Cellular)
(402) 441-7120 (Fax)
Memorandum

Date:    ✦ February 15, 2011

To:    ✦ City Clerk

From:  ✦ Teresa McKinstry, Planning Dept.

Re:    ✦ Administrative Approvals

cc:    ✦ Jean Preister

This is a list of the Administrative Approvals that were approved by the Planning Director from February 8, 2011 thru February 14, 2011:

Waiver No. 10030 to Administrative Final Plat No. 02061, approved by the Planning Director on February 10, 2011, requested by Dial-Salt Creek, LP., to extend the time for two years to install paving and removal of temporary turnaround for Salt Creek Center 1st Addition. The improvements shall be completed by February 10, 2013. Property is generally located south of Interstate 80 at N. 27th St. and Husker Circle.
Dear Ms. Sykes,

My name is Scott Opfer, Manager of Street & Traffic Operations for the City of Lincoln. Your request for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of 24th & Superior, was forwarded to me by our City Council office. Every intersection that is a candidate for the installation of a traffic signal must first be evaluated to determine if the current vehicular and/or pedestrian activity taking place at the location meets minimum requirements as spelled out in the Federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The use of this nationally accepted manual for installation of traffic control devices is mandated by State Law and is intended to assist in a process which is consistent no matter where you are in the country. The requirements contained in this manual take into account vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle volumes, crash history, sight distance, vehicle speeds, delay and other engineering considerations. If a location meets these requirements, we must then determine if the installation of a signal will improve the overall safety and operations of traffic in the area. A final determination is then made on whether or not to install a new traffic signal.

As mentioned above, our goal is always to evaluate whether or not installation of a new traffic control device, will improve the overall safety and operations at the intersection. A key piece of information that we analyze, is the recent crash history at the intersection in question. Most folks don’t realize that the installation of a traffic signal at an intersection, often actually increases the number of crashes which occur at that intersection. So, we want to make certain that we don’t cause more problems than we solve.

In closing, we will schedule a complete evaluation of this intersection during the next 3 months. Once completed, we will make a determination if any changes need to be made to the traffic control. We will then inform you of our findings. If you should have any questions, you may contact me by email at sopfer@lincoln.ne.gov or by phone at 441-7851.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Opfer, Manager
Street & Traffic Operations

Mary M. Meyer
Hello!

The winter issue of *The Urban Page*, the City Urban Development Department’s quarterly newsletter is now available at: [http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/urban/reports/urbanpg/v14i4w11.pdf](http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/urban/reports/urbanpg/v14i4w11.pdf)

This issue includes articles on:

- Community Gardens and Rain Gardens
- New Neighborhood Mini-Grant Program
- Block 38 and Telesis/Dairy House Redevelopment Projects
- Business Associations – Thank You!
- Civil Right Conference on March 22, 23
- syNErgy & reEnergize: New Energy and Jobs Programs
- Antelope Valley Construction Update
- NSP Homes for Sale
- Hayward Park – New & Improved this Spring!

If you would prefer not to be notified about The Urban Page, please email [urbandev@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:urbandev@lincoln.ne.gov) and tell me “No Newsletter”!

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I live in an apartment building and the amount of cigarette smoke smell that filters into my apartment from other residents is disgusting and sometimes actually hurts my throat. Has anyone considered having a ban on smoking in apartments in apartment buildings like the one for other public places. I know that grills are not allowed on balconies because of fire safety, what about all the fires that happen in apartment complexes because of cigarettes, I just think something has to be done.

Thanks