I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR
   1. NEWS RELEASE. Facilities continue accepting tree debris.

III. DIRECTORS

   FINANCE DEPARTMENT
   1. Audit Advisory Board activity.

   HEALTH DEPARTMENT
   2. Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department meeting minutes of July 12, 2011.
   3. NEWS RELEASE. Bats and rabies awareness.

   PLANNING COMMISSION
   2. Notice of final action by the Planning Commission, August 10, 2011.

   PLANNING DEPARTMENT
   1. Administrative Amendment No. 11019 approved by the Planning Director on August 8, 2011.

   WEED AUTHORITY
   1. Combined Weed Program City of Lincoln, July 2011 monthly report.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
   1. Wilbur Dasenbrock. Support Council’s approach to restore important city services.
   2. Ed Schnabel. Hope Council studies and see where the money goes and make staff cuts and not cuts to the services the little guy needs and uses.
   3. Joan Westphal. The mayor is only asking for $41 per $100,000 property tax increase. Why is state giving credits? Lincoln is taking the largest hit for the state.
   4. Kathleen Wiens, President: Salt Valley View Neighborhood Association. Support the 6 + 1 amendment to support our parks.
   5. Stanley Tryon. Say no to increase of property tax and wheel tax fees. Ask residents if they received an increase in their take home pay, and if their cost of living went down.
6. Dan Morgan. Increasing taxes does not represent the thousands of citizens who cannot afford the increases. The middle of a bad economy is not the time to expand government.

7. William Carver, Near South neighborhood Association. Supporting maintaining our parks, pools and libraries, and restoring the 4 hours cut from the Saturday bus schedules. These services are essential.

8. Lynn Darling. Concerning the budget knowledge and understanding need to be accompanied by compassion.

9. Kathryn Westwood. Birdsall should not get an increase in funds. The economic boom is not happening. The Council needs to listen to the people.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**
FACILITIES CONTINUE ACCEPTING TREE DEBRIS

Public Works officials today advised Lincoln residents to continue hauling fallen tree debris to the City Transfer Station at 5101 N. 48th St. The facility is open the following hours:

- 6:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Friday
- 6:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday
- 6:45 a.m. to noon Sunday

Regular disposal charges and fees apply. To avoid an extra charge, residents are advised to “tarp and tie” their load. For more information, visit the City website at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: landfill).

Residents also can continue hauling tree debris to Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 S. Folsom Court. Hofeling Enterprises is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. There is a $10 fee for a pickup or trailer load.

To report streets that are blocked due to storm debris, contact the Lincoln Police Department non-emergency line at 402-441-6000. For branches on sidewalks or in the public right of way between the sidewalk and the curb, contact Community Forestry Office at 402-441-7035.

The City Forestry Office is acting on all messages left on the Forestry Office voice mail. Calls are being recorded with names and residences added to the list for service.
Memo

To: Mr. Gene Carroll, Chair City Council
From: Mike Justus, Chair
Audit Advisory Board
CC: Lincoln City Council
Mayor’s Office
Marcee Brownlee, Assistant City Attorney
Date: August 10, 2011
Re: Audit Advisory Board Activity

This memo is to update you on the activity of the Audit Advisory Board (Board) with respect to the two Council resolutions that have been forwarded to us for action.

Resolution A-86238. This resolution requested the Board to determine an appropriate examination of StarTran. The Board completed its work on this resolution.

Resolution A-86267. This resolution directed the Board to conduct an examination and/or audit of the functions, programs and activities of Public Works in the areas of its Engineering Services Division and its use of collected impact fees.

The Board has met numerous times to work on this latest request and has determined that this request will need to be divided into two or three separate engagements.

The Board first determined that the examination of collected impact fees could best be analyzed through the use of an agreed upon procedures engagement. Under this approach, an outside CPA firm would be hired to determine the City’s compliance with the collection and use of impact fees in accordance with the impact fee ordinance established in January, 2003. The Board has completed its work on this portion of the Council’s request and it is our understanding that a firm has been selected and a resolution will be coming forward to the Council for approval.

The second portion of the request has consumed most of the Board’s attention. After interviewing the Councilman who introduced the Resolution and interviews with Public Works staff, it appears that the focus of the request should be on the Engineering Services Revolving Fund within Public Works. It appears to the Board that the broad request to conduct a performance audit of all of Engineering Services was not the focus of the request and if so, there would be very little likelihood of conducting such an engagement within the $100,000 limitation imposed by the City Council.

The Board is recommending to the City Council that two separate engagements be pursued. The first would again involve an agreed upon procedures engagement to determine that the activity within Engineering Revolving are being accounted for accurately. Again a firm would be hired to select a
sample of financial transactions and determine that costs are properly allocated and charged to the appropriate projects that Engineering Services is working on.

The second engagement would attempt to compare the rates that Engineering Services charges in comparison with other Cities and other private engineering firms. An attempt would be made to determine a benchmark for the comparable City’s and private firms and then compare the rates charged by Public Works. To the extent possible, other benchmarks would be developed and compared.

The Board believes that these two engagements would be the most efficient way to analyze what we believe is the intent of the latest Council resolution.

We would appreciate if the Council would review the Board’s proposed method of analyzing Engineering Services and either affirm or deny our proposed course of action.
DEPARTMENT REPORT
JULY, 2011

HEALTH DIRECTOR

- The Department’s budget was reviewed by the City County Common on July 12, 2011. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the budget on August 8 and a final vote on August 22, 2011.

- The Health Director continues to work with Lincoln Fire & Rescue on a community-wide citizen CPR initiative and the Lancaster County Medical Society on a “Know Your Medications Program”.

- The Department participated in the City/County Food Drive for the Food Bank of Lincoln July 11-22, 2011. Staff raised over $2,200 in cash through donations and fund raising projects and collected food items for the Food Bank!

- The Health Director continues to work with the Mayor’s Office on development of a City Wellness Program.

- The Health Director continues to work on Educare initiatives with Parks & Recreation, Community Action Program, and Lincoln Public Schools for the Buffett Early Childhood Initiative.

- Met with the Nutrition Director from the Nebraska Department of Education regarding the transition of the Small Family Child Care providers to another program option for the USDA Food Program.

- Solid Waste Enforcement meeting with John McQuinn from the Law Department and Environmental Public Health staff to eliminate gaps and coordinate documentation for prosecution under City code.

- Collaborating with the Lincoln City Libraries for possible Early Childhood Literacy pilot project.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control July Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sep 08-Sep 09-Jun</th>
<th>Sep 09-Jun</th>
<th>Sep 10-Jun</th>
<th>Sep 11-Jun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pet Licenses Sold</td>
<td>48,050</td>
<td>48,133</td>
<td>51,584</td>
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### Cases Dispatched

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigation</td>
<td>15,156</td>
<td>12,446</td>
<td>18,336</td>
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### Animals Impounded

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<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dogs</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>1,651</td>
<td>1,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cats</td>
<td>1,299</td>
<td>1,360</td>
<td>1,304</td>
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### Court Citations Issued

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<tr>
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<th>June 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>191</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>386</td>
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### Warnings/Defects Issued

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<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,847</td>
<td>1,864</td>
<td>10,439</td>
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### Bite Cases Reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>348</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>411</td>
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### Attack Cases Reported

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
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### Dogs Declared (PPD, DD, V)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>112</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>136</td>
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### Animal Neglect Investigations

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>614</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>555</td>
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### Injured Animal Rescue

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<tr>
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<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>580</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>588</td>
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### Wildlife Removal

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<tr>
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<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>337</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>377</td>
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</table>

### Dead Animal Pickup

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,294</td>
<td>1,237</td>
<td>1,600</td>
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### Lost and Found Reports

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<tr>
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<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,723</td>
<td>1,989</td>
<td>1,897</td>
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### Phone Calls

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36,331</td>
<td>31,587</td>
<td>37,846</td>
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</table>

### Average Response Time (in mins)

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>July 2011</th>
<th>June 2011</th>
<th>May 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>27</td>
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</table>

- The Animal Control Manager met with NE Department of Agriculture Inspector Rick Herchenbach to discuss the Commercial Dog and Cat Inspection Program and where we may need to work together on issues in the City limits. Animal shelter permits and permits for rescue groups and boarding kennels were topics of the discussion and the information was educational and useful.

- License sales continue to increase and our overall revenue income has been good. For the time period 9/1/10 - 6/30/11 we had sold 51,584 licenses. That figure is approximately 3,330 more licenses the same time for FY 08/09 and FY 09/10.

- We have had a couple officers and one in particular that has done an outstanding job with license follow-ups and renewals. We have had one officer that has generated $ 57,431.00 in her follow-ups. The total for November 2010 through July 22, 2011 is $ 160,150. This additional revenue has helped the Animal Control budget since we had a deficit to make up in salaries and union negotiations.

- Reported bite cases are up somewhat from last year 411 compared to 370 for the same time frame. We are not sure what is happening that would cause this increase. There are more pets as indicated by license sales so it may be an increase in the pet population.

- The City’s Interlinc Action Center provides the public to another way to register
complaints with City Departments. The Action Center receives numerous complaints regarding dead animals (almost exclusively squirrels and wildlife). These calls get sent to Animal Control and as a result our dead animal pick up has increased to approximately 325 more dead animals our officers have picked up a total of 1600 for the past 10 months.

- Asst. City Attorney Tim Sieh continues to meet twice a month with the Animal Control Division Manager regarding issues that need legal review and assistance. This has proven very useful to the Division and the Department.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

REFUGEE HEALTH PROGRAM

- The Refugee Health Program is funded by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Under the Refugee Act, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is responsible for provision of medical screening and initial medical treatment of all arriving refugees. LLCHD’s Public Health Clinic manages two refugee grants, the Refugee Medical Assessment and Health Prevention Grants.

- “Refugee” status encompasses a variety of entrants into the United States. A refugee is a person outside his or her country of nationality who is unable or unwilling to return because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality and membership in a particular social group or political opinions. Asylum status is a form of protection available to people who: meet the definition of refugee, are already in the United States, and who are seeking admission at a port of entry. A person may apply for asylum in the United States regardless of your country of origin or his/her current immigration status.

- Others served in this program include; victims of human trafficking (sex or labor), survivors of torture- intentional infliction or threatened infliction of severe physical pain or suffering, Amerasians (people from Vietnam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants), and Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)-Afghan and Iraqi national who worked on behalf of the United States as translators.

- People who do not fall into one of the above categories are not eligible for ‘refugee’ services.

- There are two Refugee Resettlement agencies in Lincoln; Catholic Social Services and Lutheran Family Services. New refugees receiving services through the Refugee Medical Assessment program may or may not be sponsored by one of the resettlement agencies. LLCHD collaborates with these agencies and private individuals to assure that clients receive health services in a short amount of time after arrival. Refugees are required to be screened within 8 months of arrival into the United Stated. The desired time for completion of the screening is 90 days within arrival. Ninety-seven (97%) percent of our clients have been seen within the first 90 days. To receive services, clients must show
proper documentation (i.e. I-94 or Visa). Refugees seeking services after 8 months of entry to the U.S. may receive immunizations only through the Health Prevention grant. All other services are provided one time.

- In calendar year 2010, LLCHD provided health screening services to one hundred eighty-eight (188) refugees through the Refugee Medical Assessment Grant from the following countries; Burma 72 (38%), Iraq 62 (33%), Vietnam 30 (16%), Congo 12 (6%), Cuba 4 (2%), Iran 4 (2%), Thailand 3 (2.5%), and Zimbabwe 1 (.5%).

**DENTAL HEALTH & NUTRITION**

**WIC**

- WIC is about building relationships. One of the greatest relationship builders or connectors is social media. Things like Facebook, MySpace, and YouTube connect people, allow for self-expression and provide an opportunity for quick updates and reminders. This generation of clients tends to be on the move, which requires reaching them where they are. Cell phones appear to be prevalent with the WIC population. At the National WIC Association Annual meeting, there was a session on social media encouraging WIC programs to set up WIC Facebook pages, YouTube messages, and applications for smart phones. The session provided a mass of tips on how to strengthen web pages, blogs and videos. The direction LLCHD is taking with social media will be a benefit to the WIC program. The upcoming computer system upgrade will also aid WIC in heading toward the direction of texting client appointment reminders and nutrition tips. The opportunities will be endless once the door has been opened.

**Dental Health**

- The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services notified LLCHD that phase 2 funding will be available for the Early Head Start Fluoride Varnish Program. The program will be funded at the same level of 12 months as the current contract for 8 months. However, the Dental Program will be allowed to carry over any unused funds to supplement next year’s contract. LLCHD anticipates enough carry over funds for the 12 month contract. Sixty-four Early Head Start children participated in the Fluoride Varnish Program and LLCHD hopes to increase participation next year to include more home based enrolled children and families. Community Action Partnerships is reformatting some of their activities, to include the dental program staff more regularly to improve outreach and service delivery.

- During the summer months, the Dental Clinic has been very busy with getting children in for their back to school exams, cleanings and treatment services. In order to accomplish the task of prioritizing children for dental services, the dental staff has held appointments for scheduling children only to assure timely access and dental care. But our Dental
Clinic has seen a higher demand for adult emergency care, since People’s Health Center has implemented a $53 emergency dental fee (collected at time of check-in) for none patients of record. It appears that many customers are electing to call our dental clinic to obtain services at our minimum fee of $20, adding stress and strain to our existing resources. Our dental clinic will be increasing the minimum fee for services to $25 effective September 1.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Graffiti Prevention Program

- The KLLCB Graffiti Prevention Program was established in June 2009 with funding from the Mayor’s Office. The Graffiti Prevention Program’s primary focus is to use educational approaches to minimize graffiti in Lincoln by: utilizing a graffiti complaint process; coordinating the delivery of anti-graffiti messages to the community; and initiating community and business owner collaborations and programs that empower Lincoln to address and prevent graffiti.

- The cornerstone of the program is the complaint process: the part-time Graffiti Prevention Coordinator documents the graffiti with a photo and enters the complaint into the Permits Plus software. A letter, along with the photo, is sent to the property owner advising them of the complaint and of their responsibility to remove the graffiti within 15 days from notification per Lincoln Municipal Code 8.52. The letter explains the negative impact of graffiti, encourages removal of the graffiti in 24 to 48 hours and offers the assistance of volunteer groups. If the graffiti has not been removed after seven days, the property owner is contacted. If upon inspection, the graffiti remains after 15 days special intervention options are considered.

- There were 776 graffiti complaints received from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. A 27% reduction from the previous 12 months. Gang graffiti is down 12.5% due to the great efforts of law enforcement. With the arrest of one of the more prolific hip-hop taggers and constant police pressure on one of his colleagues, the top four hip-hop taggers have
stopped tagging in Lincoln. As a result, hip-hop graffiti is down 13%. The Permits Plus software used for reporting graffiti complaints has been enhanced to include: GIS Mapping Coordinates to track graffiti complaints by longitude and latitude and ability to identify individual gangs and taggers. When a graffiti vandal is arrested, LLCHD reports are pulled and the vandal is held responsible for all of their graffiti complaints.

- The continued success in reporting and removing graffiti, and the apprehension and subsequent prosecution of graffiti vandals, are attributed to the public awareness, police efforts, and sharing of information between LPD and the Graffiti Prevention Program. We firmly believe that by educating the property owners about the importance of quick graffiti removal, we will see a drop in repeat graffiti. KLLCB program’s cornerstone is that community improvement occurs through individual engagement.

West Nile Virus

- Beginning in June, the Water Quality Section conducts surveillance activities for the presence of West Nile Virus - primarily the trapping of mosquitos on a bi-weekly basis. Traps are set in the evening and collected very early in the morning. Staff do a “quick count” by genus only (i.e. Culex, Aedes, etc.), then the mosquitos are then sent to the state lab where they are counted and identified down to the species level (i.e. Culex tarsalis). The primary vector that spreads West Nile Virus is Culex tarsalis (see photo). The mosquitos are then sorted into pools (groups) and tested for the presence of the West Nile Virus. Along with surveillance activities, staff work with Parks and Recreation and Public Works and Utilities Departments to ensure that sprayers are ready and can be put into operation within 24 hours in the case of a West Nile outbreak. Surveillance activities typically continue until the first frost or late October when the threat of West Nile Virus is greatly reduced.

Photo Credit: http://www.maricopa.gov/EnvSvc/VectorControl/Mosquitos/MosqInfo.aspx

Indoor Air Quality Program

- The goal of the LLCHD Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) program is to protect human health by responding to complaints on poor indoor air quality and making recommendations or taking actions to prevent illness and disease. It is designed to provide guidance to occupants of residences and businesses with poor indoor air quality, to investigate IAQ situations that may result in poor human health outcomes, and to collaborate with the Building and Safety Department when poor IAQ is caused by housing situations that do not meet minimum code standards.
Of the 138 complaints in FY2011 to date, 134 were from residential properties, of which 132 were in rental properties. The majority of complainants have not been successful in getting help from their landlords to correct IAQ problems that have led to adverse health impacts. In most cases, LLCHD is the only source of help for these residents who are typically low income renters with children, disabled, or for those for whom English is a second language. Total complaint numbers for the current year are anticipated to be somewhat lower than last year.

LLCHD is mandated by LMC 5.38 to assess conditions that may pose health risks in apartments. Staff respond to complaints of poor IAQ; provide phone consultation; conduct onsite inspections; coordinate with B&S on enforcement actions; monitor IAQ with specialized equipment; and receive referrals from physicians. If no immediate health risks are reported, complaints from people living in rental properties are responded to by sending a certified letter to the landlord informing them of the complaint and informing them to take action to address the problem within a specified time. So far in FY2011, such letters have resulted in acceptable action 53% of the time; however, on-site investigations had to be performed in 71 cases. 31 of those visits were in response to alleged health impacts (allergies, exacerbation of asthma and/or COPD).

LLCHD works in conjunction with Building & Safety to assure compliance with housing codes when necessary to protect human health. LLCHD encourages private parties to use licensed contractors trained in IAQ for remediation or HVAC modifications. LLCHD also serves as a resource and referral agency, as many callers do not have the financial resources available to address housing issues creating poor indoor air quality.

The chart below details: number of complaints received in the current fiscal year, the number of cases in which an alleged health impact occurred, onsite inspections conducted by LLCHD staff, and the number of complaints which were substantiated.
Example of mold in an apartment in Lincoln.

HEALTH DATA & EVALUATION

- Final plans are being made for a September exercise to test the Health Department’s readiness to accept medical assets (pharmaceuticals and medical supplies) from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). The exercise will involve a scenario where the Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and a two other local health department directors will ask for a supply of resources from the SNS to address a public health emergency requiring access to SNS resources due to an outbreak or event that exhausts local supplies of pharmaceuticals or other medical supplies.

- The SNS exercise is a grant deliverable and LLCHD will be judged on how successfully:
  - The Director and staff follow the procedures and process to ask for the SNS assets,
  - The appropriate resources are in place to receive the “SNS package” (pallets) upon arrival of their arrival.
  - LLCHD staff and volunteers correctly process all forms, including chain of custody for any controlled substances,
  - HDE staff members appropriately manage the exercise. Evaluators from the CDC, NDHHS, and other local health departments will monitor the exercise and provide feedback (both positive and negative).

- In preparation for the exercise, HDE staff members are working with the Nebraska State Immunization Information System (NESIIS) to use their system to correctly accept medical supplies from their inventory and indicate how we will redistribute the supplies to dispensing sites within the county. As would be the case in real life, for the exercise the
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) will receive the SNS supplies (empty boxes on pallets), then deliver them to LLCHD at our shared hub site. LLCHD will receive the assets for the department and two other local health departments (Public Health Solutions and Four Corners) and then transfer their portion of SNS supplies to them.

- To be ready, HDE staff members are recruiting volunteers to help tear down the SNS pallets when they are received from the NDHHS, follow a “pick list” to select the right supplies for each dispensing site, load the pallets for each dispensing site with supplies and then have them ready for transportation to the dispensing sites (simulated). Volunteers will be a combination of LLCHD staff from across the Department, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers and students from Union College’s International Rescue and Relief program.

- One of the next MAPP activities will be assessment of how well the local public health system is performing the ten essential public health services. Partner agencies are being invited to participate in scoring how well the community public health system meets the National Public Health Performance Standards. Sessions will be held on August 19th and 22nd with each session addressing a particular service. Participants are being invited to the sessions based on their affinity and understanding of the service being assessed.

HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

Injury Prevention

- HPO Injury Prevention Staff, the Child Passenger Safety Task Force of Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County, and staff from People’s Health Center coordinated a car seat check at People’s Health Center (PHC) for Spanish speaking families. Of the 29 seats checked, 21 were found to be improperly installed or used and 3 children arrived with no car seat. Twenty car seats were provided to families with children arriving without seats or to replace recalled or otherwise unsafe seats. Clients for this event were recruited by PHC, Healthy Homes, and Loren Mestre-Roberts (the Hispanic/Latino liaison for Lancaster County). Interpretation was provided by PHC staff, Ms. Mestre-Roberts, and the Spanish-speaking staff member of Healthy Homes. Funding for the car seats used for this event came from NDHHS, Safe Kids Nebraska.

- Staff provided child passenger safety information to 200 employees at Novartis in response to a request from the company’s wellness team for safety information for an employee health and safety fair. As a result of this contact, Novartis staff requested $350 from Novartis administration to provide a community car safety seat check which will be promoted among Novartis staff. The company’s sponsorship will be used for seats and other expenses related to the safety check on August 18.
Worksite Health Promotion

- WorkWell released a report to the media and community of its five-year health trend data. This data came from the analysis of more than 24,000 health risk appraisals completed by employees of WorkWell member companies. A press conference was held at Haymarket Park with media representatives from radio, television, and the newspaper attending. Jim Abel, CEO of NEBCO; Charlie Meyer, President of the Lincoln Salt Dogs; Beau Reid, WorkWell Board Member; Michelle Willet, Small Business Coordinator; and Lisa Henning, Director of WorkWell participated in the press conference. The information provided at the press conference was also picked up by media outlets in Fort Worth, Texas and in Wisconsin. In addition to the press coverage after the press conference, the Lincoln Journal Star featured worksite health and WorkWell in an editorial (July 20). Much of the health data released at the press conference is very promising. Worksites are reporting progress in lowering overweight/obesity, increasing physical activity, increasing fruit and vegetable consumption (but still low), and lowering risk for diabetes. Among areas of concern are binge drinking and low fruit and vegetable consumption.

- For its July delegate meeting, WorkWell offered a program to its member companies entitled Services for the Working Poor. A panel of several health and human service providers presented on services for medical, dental, food, housing, utility assistance, transportation, job training, and more. This program was offered to the worksite delegates in response to the increasing number of requests, especially from human resource departments, for information on community services available for the working poor. These requests are being initiated by employees asking for help. Approximately 30 business representatives were in attendance.
I. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 5:03 PM by Karla Lester at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Members present: Lisa Peterson, Ed Schneider, Deb Schorr, David Smith, Heidi Stark, Brittany Behrens (ex-officio), Trish Owen (ex-officio), Tim Sieh (ex-officio) and Karla Lester.

Members Absent: Rodrigo Cantarero, Tony Messineo and Jayne Snyder.

Staff Present: Judy Halstead, Scott Holmes, Steve Beal, Andrea Mason, Charlotte Burke, Steve Frederick, Kathy Cook, Gwendy Meginnis, Bernice Afuh, and Elaine Severe.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Lester asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Smith that the Agenda be approved as mailed. Second by Dr. Peterson. Motion carried by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Lester asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Stark that the June 14, 2011 Minutes be approved as mailed. Second by Dr. Peterson. Motion carried by acclamation.

PUBLIC SESSION

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Health Director Update

Ms. Halstead stated the Department’s budget was reviewed by the City-County Common on July 12, 2011. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the budget on August 8, 2011 and vote on the budget on August 22, 2011.

The Department received grant funding from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the Tobacco Program and the Minority Health Program and from the Environmental Trust Fund for the Local Pharmacy Medication Disposal Program.

Dr. Schneider asked about the Homeless Connect-Lincoln Project and whether illegal immigrants are eligible for immunizations. Ms. Mason replied they are eligible. He
asked about the Behavior Risk Factor Survey and participation by Lincoln Public Schools. Mr. Frederick responded all Lincoln Public High Schools participated in the survey. He asked about the percentage of multi-unit housing complexes that are smoke free. Ms. Burke stated there are 120 (1,319 units) currently registered. Staff continue to work with the owners and managers to encourage them to be smoke free.

VI. **CURRENT BUSINESS (Action Items)**

VII. **CURRENT BUSINESS (Information Items)**

A. **Budget Update**

Ms. Halstead provided information on the Department’s budget and proposed changes. Total budget is $18,439,832 ($12,762,182 in City/County funds and $5,677,650 in grants and contracts). The Department has 163 FTEs (109 FTEs in the City Budget and 54 FTEs on grant funds). She reviewed the proposed positions eliminated and/or moved/funded for one year. She reviewed the positions that were reallocated and positions that will be added. Revenue changes include increases in fees in Animal Control, Environmental Health, Community Health Services and the Dental Health Division. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the budget on August 8, 2011 and formally vote on the budget on August 22, 2011.

B. **Community Health Services Division Update**

Ms. Mason provided an overview and future direction of the Community Health Services Division. Components include coordinating care and reducing waste, measuring risk & outcomes and a public health role. Coordinating care/reducing waste includes the Information & Referral System and working with community partners to provide low or no cost diabetic supplies for the poor and uninsured. Measuring risk & outcomes includes the Healthy Families America Project and the General Assistance Program. The Division also provides immunizations, STI Clinic, and provides refugee medical assessments. She reviewed the makeup of the Division and statistics for the clinics and maternal and child health services.

C. **Tobacco Program Update**

Ms. Burke provided an update on the Tobacco Program. She reviewed the smoking/tobacco related indicators from 2005 to the present time. She stated the number of Lancaster County adults and youth smoking has decreased. The number of individuals utilizing the Tobacco Cessation Quitline continues to increase. Staff continue to work with the Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office on tobacco retailer compliance checks. Staff also work with the Police Department to enforce the Lincoln Smoking Regulation Act. She reported an increasing number of businesses are smoke free and tobacco free and provide tobacco
cessation as part of their benefit plan. Multi-Unit Family Housing Complexes continue to express interest in being designated as smoke free.

VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting is August 9, 2011 - 5:00 PM.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.

Elaine Severe
Recording Secretary

Heidi Stark
Vice-President
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 11, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Steve Beal, Animal Control Manager, (402)441-7900

BATS AND RABIES AWARENESS

The number of calls to Lincoln’s Animal Control from the public reporting bats in their homes and other locations will increase in the next few weeks and will continue through this fall due to cooler temperatures. Bats are potential carriers of rabies. If you have a bat in your home, Animal Control officers will come to your location and in most cases, remove the bat for rabies testing. This year, so far, only one bat has tested positive for rabies and there was no human contact.

The Animal Control division of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department has responded to 3,627 bat calls since January 1, 2006. The Animal Control Division received an average of 656 bat calls each year over the last five years (2006-2010). Animal Control has received 345 bat calls from January 1, 2011 through August 5, 2011.

Rabies remains a potentially serious public health problem in Lincoln and the state. Vaccination of pets remains the most effective measure to reduce human exposure. In addition to bats, rabies infections are found in skunks, horses, cattle, dogs and cats. If a person or a pet comes in contact with a bat, you should contact Animal Control at 402-441-7900 and your local veterinarian.

Bats are able to enter a home or building in holes as small as ½ inch in diameter. To prevent bats from entering your home, you should cover any openings and cover windows with screens where possible. Rabies is preventable if you take the appropriate steps.
NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 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, (402) 441-7491.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of “FINAL ACTION”. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council or County Board by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk or County 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, AUGUST 10, 2011

[All members present]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 27, 2011. **APPROVED, 7-0 (Gaylor Baird abstained; Taylor absent at time of vote)**

The Planning Commission unanimously adopted Resolution of Appreciation No. PC-01245 for Mike DeKalb’s 36 years of service in the Planning Department.

1. **REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL:** None.
2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:**

**CHANGE OF ZONE:**

2.1 Change of Zone No. 11027, amending Title 27 of the Lincoln Municipal Code by amending Sections 27.25.020, 27.27.020, 27.28.020, 27.31.030, 27.37.020, 27.41.020, 27.43.020, and 27.45.020 to allow adult care centers as a permitted use in the O-1 Office District, O-3 Office Park District, R-T Residential Transition District, B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District; B-5 Planned Regional Business District, H-2 Highway Business District, H-3 Highway Commercial District and H-4 General Commercial District, respectively; and repealing Sections 27.25.020, 27.27.020, 27.28.020, 27.31.030, 27.37.020, 27.41.020, 27.43.020, and 27.45.020 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

Staff recommendation: Approval

Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.

Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 9-0.

Public hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 29, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

2.2 Change of Zone No. 11028, amending Section 27.35.025 of the Lincoln Municipal Code to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises in the B-4 Lincoln Center Business District as a permitted conditional use; and repealing Section 27.35.025 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

Staff recommendation: Denial

Staff Planner: Brian Will, 441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.

Applicant's request for 16-week deferral granted, with CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 1:00 p.m.

2.3 Change of Zone No. 11029, amending Section 27.45.025 of the Lincoln Municipal Code to allow hotels and motels in the H-4 General Commercial District as a permitted conditional use; and repealing Section 27.45.025 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

Staff recommendation: Approval

Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.

Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 8-0 (Gaylor Baird absent at time of vote).

Public hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 29, 2011, 5:30 p.m.
PERMITS:

2.4 Special Permit No 1174H, an amendment to the Chateau Development Community Unit Plan, to expand the boundaries of the existing Community Unit Plan to the north and add 36 multifamily dwelling units, on generally located at 1313 N. 63rd Street. *** FINAL ACTION ***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Rashi Jain, 441-6372, rjain@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 27, 2011, as amended on August 9, 2011, with amendment to Condition #1.6, as requested by the applicant and agreed upon by staff, 7-0 (Francis and Gaylor Baird absent at time of vote).
Resolution No. PC-01246.

* * * * * * * * * *

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

* * * * * * * * * *

Note: The Planning Commission will hold a Special Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, at 5:00 p.m., in the Hearing Room on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street, on the “draft” 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan and the “draft” MPO Long Range Transportation Plan.

PENDING LIST:

1a. Change of Zone No. 11009, amending Section 27.63.500 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to Zoning Code Special Permits for Scrap Processing Operations, Salvage Yards, and Enclosed Disassembly Operations, to allow outdoor salvage material to be located closer than 500 feet from certain entrance corridors if land forms or screening completely obstructs the view by the traveling public of the salvage material, and to authorize the City Council to decrease the 500-foot setback under limited circumstances; and repealing Section 27.63.500 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.
(6-11-11: Planning Commission voted 8-0 to place on pending, no date certain, at the applicant’s request.)

1b. Special Permit No. 11006, for a scrap processing operation and to allow salvage material kept outside a building to be located closer than the 500 feet to the West “O” Street entrance corridor, on property generally located at West O Street and Sun Valley Boulevard (545 West “O” Street).
(6-11-11: Planning Commission voted 8-0 to place on pending, no date certain, at the applicant’s request.)
2. Change of Zone No. 11019, amending Title 27 of the Lincoln Municipal Code, the Zoning Code, by amending Chapter 27.03 to add the definition of “Entertainment Restaurant” as Section 27.03.218 and to renumber existing Section 27.03.218 (Existing Urban Area) as Section 27.03.219; amending Sections 27.31.040, 27.33.030, and 27.37.025 to allow entertainment restaurants as a conditional use in the B-2, B-3, and B-5 zoning districts, respectively; amending Section 27.47.020 to prohibit an entertainment restaurant as a permitted use in the I-1 Industrial District; and repealing Sections 27.03.218, 27.31.040, 27.33.030, 27.37.025, and 27.47.020 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.

(7-27-11: Planning Commission voted 8-0 to continue public hearing on August 24, 2011 at the applicant’s request.)

Planning Dept. staff contacts:

Steve Henrichsen, Development Review Manager . . 441-6473 . . shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Long Range Planning Manager . 441-6363 . . ntooze@lincoln.ne.gov
Mike Brienzto, Transportation Planner ............. 441-6369 . . mbrienzo@lincoln.ne.gov
Tom Cajka, Planner ..................................... 441-5662 . . tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, 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
Sara Hartzell, Planner ................................. 441-6371 . . shartzell@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 .......... 441-6370 . . ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov

* * * * *

The Planning Commission meeting which is broadcast live at 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday will be rebroadcast on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. on 5 City TV, Cable Channel 5.

* * * * *

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

TO : Mayor Chris Beutler
     Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Preister, Planning

DATE : August 11, 2011

RE : Notice of final action by Planning Commission: August 10, 2011

Please be advised that on August 10, 2011, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution No. PC-01246, approving Special Permit No. 1174H, requested by Chateau Development, LLC, for authority to expand the boundary of the existing Chateau Community Unit Plan to add approximately 1.41 acres of R-2 zoned property to the north and adding 8 units to the existing total of 1,294 approved dwelling units, on property generally located south of N. 63rd and Holdrege Streets.

This is final action unless appealed to the City Council within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission Resolution may be accessed on the internet at www.lincoln.ne.gov (Keyword = PATS). Use the “Search Selection” screen and search by application number (i.e. SP1174H). The Resolution and Planning Department staff report are in the “Related Documents” under the application number.
Memorandum

Date:  ♦  August 9, 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 August 2, 2011 thru August 8, 2011:

Administrative Amendment No. 11019 to Special Permit No. 1870A, Stevens Creek Ridge Community Unit Plan, approved by the Planning Director on August 8, 2011, requested by Gerry and Dianne Krieser, to add two lots, as provided for in Resolution PC-00863 and R-82824, on property generally located at N. 134th St. and Holdrege St.
The following article was published in the Sunday, July 31st Lincoln JournalStar and written by Kathryn Cates Moore.

Warning: Encroaching branches too close to the sidewalk could be hazardous to your hedge. Weeds over six inches tall are subject to involuntary mowing. And if your front yard landscape plants grow over 30 inches tall, you may be in violation of city ordinances.

Be on alert, homeowners. City ordinances govern "weeds and worthless vegetation" over six inches tall in your yard, or landscaping in the "park space" -- the area between the street curb and your sidewalk -- growing over 30 inches tall or encroaching on public areas. You can be cited by the city or county plant police.

Two agencies work on these issues, answering complaints that arrive by phone, mail and email. And with today's smartphones, photos often accompany many of those complaints.

The Lancaster County Weed Authority oversees violators of the Lincoln "weed abatement ordinance." It mandates property owners to cut or clear weeds more than 6 inches high. Brent Meyer, weed control superintendent, said he and his staff do 4,500 to 6,000 site inspections a year based on complaints.

At the city's Public Works department, Greg Topil, an engineering specialist, keeps track of another city ordinance aimed at keeping the public park space unobstructed. His team tracks about 75 to 100 vegetation complaints a month, he said.

For decades the Lancaster County weed authority has overseen vacant lots and other overgrown areas on private property. In 2003, the City Council passed an ordinance to allow the right-of-way strips of city property to be planted with annuals, perennials and vegetables under the height allotment, and a separate department was created to monitor it. Budget cuts over the years eliminated that department, and eventually the job was assigned to Topil's crew.

Cara Bentz is very familiar with the ordinances. She's been cited in past years and is trying hard this year to keep up with the quick-growing vegetation in her "hell strip," which is what gardeners often call the piece of property between the street and sidewalk.

"With the amount of rain we've had this summer, it's a challenge," she said. "I sympathize with the city inspectors this year. Everything is much taller than usual."

As an active member of Lincoln's gardening community, Bentz knows the difference between a weed and an acceptable landscape plant. She's worked hard to find plants that work in an area that is hot, not irrigated and gets salt-treated snow melt spray in the winters. Asters, hibiscus, native grasses, coneflowers and daylilies make up the mix in her street-side garden.
But it was goldenrod that triggered a complaint from a former neighbor several years ago, she said. With his farm background, he felt like goldenrod and native grasses were weeds and not fit for city gardens, so he called authorities.

"We resolved it," she said. "But he was terribly irate."

Topil said safety is their main concern, wanting to avoid obstructions of street views or driveways.

"Appearances are in the eyes of the beholder," he said.

If the plants meet the criteria and are maintained, it really doesn't matter if neighbors don't like it, Topil said.

Front yard gardens are popular because they offer an alternative to grass (and mowing) and give homeowners the opportunity to have flowers in their yards. Since they became legal and are more and more common, complaints about them have increased, Topil said.

Those that end up being neighborly disagreements are costly to the city. Sending inspectors to the properties costs anywhere from $25 to $75 a visit, depending on the time spent inspecting the area.

Foreclosures and abandoned lots are the top-reported problems for Topil and Meyer this year. Abandoned properties are every neighbor's nightmare, and there often is no one to notify of the complaint.

When a homeowner doesn't respond to a complaint, or he or she does not comply with the request to take care of the problem in the allotted time, the city is authorized to have the area mowed and send the owner a bill for the work.

Usually, after the initial conversation, homeowners are cooperative about taking care of the problem, but there always are a few who aren't interested in complying, Topil said.

"When you plant sunflowers that grow to 6 feet and we ask you to take them down, then you plant them again the next year, it is pretty obvious," Topil said.

**Inspection Activity**

3,149 inspections on 1,675 sites have been made this year within the City of Lincoln.

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**Noxious Weeds**

- Made 650 inspections on 405 sites on 3,711 acres.
- Found 319 violations on 493 acres.
  - 204 Musk thistle
  - 38 Leafy spurge
  - 43 Phragmites
  - 18 Knotweed
  - 8 Purple loosestrife
  - 4 Canada thistle
  - 2 Saltcedar
  - 2 Plumeless thistle
- Found no violations on 86 sites.
- Sent 56 notices, 204 letters, 49 trace cards and made 33 personal contacts.
- 84 control plans have been received.
- 154 sites controlled by landowners.
- 7 sites controlled by our contractors.
- Control is pending on 158 sites.

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**Weed Abatement**

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**August Planned Activities**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Management Team Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nebraska Invasive Species Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Lower Platte WMA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Management Team Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>County Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Inventory due</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I support your approach to restore important city services.

Thank you

Wilbur Dasenbrock
1449 Meadow Dale Drive
Lincoln, 68505
Dear Sirs

Watching the Budget Hearings as I write.

I for one DO NOT use a credit card at the drop of a hat. I use CASH, no hidden fees when you use CASH.

I do not feel the city needs to spend $600,000 dollars for new meter heads. This is one area that the city could cut out of the budget.

Buying new meter when they need to be replace is one thing, but to do it just for the use of credit cards.

I also feel that the city does have way too many offices with staff that are not needed or are over staffed.

As today, why could not the Mayor come and speak for himself? No, he has his appointee, Rick Hoppe. Just what does Rick Hoppe do, that the Mayor could not do for himself? What does he get paid, this and other appointees is one area that really could be cut.

The Mayor and Council and other Department Heads need to step up and SHOW LEADERSHIP buy taking a major cut in their pay and benefits. Why does the Department Head have to be paid more that those who work for him/her?

I hope you will really study each city department and see just where they money goes and make cut of staff and not services that the little guy need and use.

Sincerely

Ed Schnabel
488-0814
eds19495@aol.com
I watched the public hearing on the proposed budget last night and I think I am living on another planet. Why was there no mention of the property tax credits we have been receiving since 2007? I have always felt that if we paid the assessed tax we owed, we would not be in this bind. Raising taxes in tough economic times is not wise but why give credits?

Since 2007 we have been receiving credits through the Property Tax Credit Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 77-4209 through 77-4212). These credits are as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>AMOUNT PER $100,000 PARCEL VALUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>$83.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>86.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>80.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>78.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011 &amp; 2012</td>
<td>80.42</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The mayor is only asking for $41 per $100,000. This is only half of what we should be paying. Lincoln is unique in the state of Nebraska in that we are home to the University of Nebraska and the state offices, penitentiary, and state hospital. A large part of our population is employed by these entities. In order to balance the state budget, our citizens are having to take furlough days, pay cuts, no raises and no new hiring so I feel that Lincoln is taking the largest hit for the state. Therefore, I think we should take advantage of these state credits to use for our city. That seems convoluted that people already struggling should pay more tax but they were getting an unexpected reprieve since 2007.

I only live in Lincoln for part of the year and in the past 7-8 years when we come back, we are taken back at the deterioration of the city. I was disappointed that some citizens feel that volunteers or "non-living wage" persons could help. A city should hire and pay for it's maintenance and a community should provide amenities for everyone. We passed a bond issue to build an arena which will not be used by the majority of citizens. We didn't ask those who will profit from this to pay. We pay for schools when our children are grown. I pay wheel tax on two cars for using the streets only six months. I pay for police and fire and have never had to use their services. I could go on but my main point is that I want Lincoln to be the beautiful city I remember moving to 50 years ago.

Thank you,

Joan Westphal
Please be advised I support the 6+1 Amendment that supports our Parks. We need to be able to replace broken playground equipment, trees and keep parks up. I hope you will pass this and keep Lincoln's neighborhood parks a proud and safe place for our children and families to enjoy.

Thank you,
Kathleen L Wiens
President - Salt Valley View
Neighborhood Association
1107 Clearview Blvd
Lincoln, Ne 68512
402-423-1412
Desk of:

STANLEY G. TRYON

4241 D Street, Lincoln, Ne 68510

TO

Lincoln City Council
Rm. 111, 555 So. 10th St.
Lincoln, Ne 68508

Re: Mayor's Budget

Council Members:

Personally, I say NO TO INCREASE OF PROPERTY TAX and WHEEL TAX FEE'S.

Based on current Economic Situation. Ask all city residents if they got a increase in their take home Income...Ask if their cost of living went down, such as electricity, heating gas or just any petroleum products in general, only thing not is the air we breath. Ask if value of property went up....

I got a few complaints about the city in General.

1. Streets are in the worst shape since the early seventy's. Oh yes certain ares short repairs or new. I can show or drive each Council Member over approximately four hundred miles of street in Lincoln, Nebraska, that you almost need a farm tractor to drive on those streets. This poor maintenance and street deterioration is not all fault of present Mayor, it goes back three to four prior Mayor's.

2. Street traffic lights, need synchronize, uniform flow, so traffic can get some place with out going to sleep at light or need a motel room, just get though this town. Street lights were synchronize in the late seventy's but change in the eight's to stop and go. Lets get out of the 40's into the twenty first century.

3. New industrial business, past Mayor's have over looked great opportunities in the past. Those business would have put people to work gave the city more money for operation. You got make the city look like it knows what its doing, and not forty years ago.

Thanks, Stanley G. Tryon, 4241 D. Street, Lincoln, Ne. 68510
Dear City Council members,

I am writing to oppose any tax hikes at this time. I have two college degrees, but due to the bad economy and my age, the best job I can get is retail. We don’t make much income, and by my calculations the tax hikes proposed will cost me a paycheck. My budget is very tight, and this will be hardship.

The store I work has approximately 100 employees. Some are college students that graduated but still can’t get jobs. Many employees live in trailers and low rent apartments. I listened to several sharing information about the food net to subsidize meals. Landlords won’t just eat the property taxes. They pass them on as increased rent. For everyone at work that I asked, all said an increase in rent or the electric bill will be a hardship.

The store next to us has around 80 employees, and the store after that has around 120 employees. We’re all in the same or similar financial bind. Look around town and see the number of other stores with people that are just getting by with low income. Whoever started this campaign of “we want our taxes increased” does not represent the 1000s of us that can’t afford the increases.

Let me urge the council and mayor to govern with a little more compassion on whom you are effecting. The middle of a bad economy is not the time to be expanding government. Most of us have to cut back on our plans and spending. You should too.

Regards,

Dan Morgan
Dear City Council,

The Near South Neighborhood Association supports maintaining parks, pools and libraries at the 2010 level for the upcoming budget year. In addition, we support restoring the 4 hours cut from Saturday bus schedules. These services are essential not just to our neighborhood, but to many Lincoln families. We encourage you to find a way to keep these services.

Thank You,

William Carver

President NSNA
Concerning the budget

COMPASSION

Tashi would remind me that knowledge and understanding were not sufficient in themselves. In fact they could be dangerous, he would say, if not accompanied by compassion.

—Helena Norberg-Hodge
Writing about Ladakhi wisdom

Knowledge and information are never enough. No one ever healed from understanding. We can understand absolutely everything about a situation and that doesn’t heal the situation. In our technological, information-oriented society, we have been lulled into thinking that if we just have all the information and understanding about what is happening, we have everything we need. Even wars have made us media addicts. Our insatiable quest for information (or misinformation) keeps us glued to our television set for hours, days, weeks.

Where is compassion? Every now and then we try to insert a human-interest story and hope that this can be construed as compassion. Yet, deep in our souls, we feel farther and farther removed from the skills that balance knowledge with compassion.

Knowledge, information, and understanding are dangerous without compassion.

Lynn Darling
Telephone message:
08.11.11  12:43 p.m.

Kathryn Westwood

Listened to the City Council meeting. Wendy Birdsall should not get an increase in funds. The economic boom she speaks about is not happening.

The arena has cost Lincoln. The property tax and wheel tax is really for the arena and the university.

The City Council needs to listen to the people.
I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS

MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Lincoln selected to receive Green Design assistance.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Roundabouts northwest of Memorial Stadium schedule to open on Saturday, August 13, 2011.
   a) Map of the two roundabouts.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Public invited to comment on draft of LPlan 2040.
5. NEWS RELEASE. 21 Sports announces Nebraska Wesleyan football telecast schedule.

III. DIRECTORS

PLANNING COMMISSION
1. Planning Commission public hearing on draft Lplan 2040, August 17, 2011 in the City Council Chambers, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Historic Preservation Commission meeting agenda for August 18, 2011.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT
1. Summer issue of The Urban Page available on the net.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP
1. Bob Kittelson’s correspondence to Councilman Camp regarding 70th Street and Old Cheney Road.
2. Correspondence from Bob Kittelson regarding the right turn lane on 70th Street onto Old Cheney Road.

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL
1. D. Saenz. Despicable that property taxes will increase. Struggling/worrying about jobs and the Council raised taxes instead of finding spending cuts.
2. LES Administrative Board meeting agenda for Friday, August 19, 2011.
3. Letter from John Votta. Pleased with City Council recommendations on budget, and a couple of suggestions to consider.

VI. INVITATIONS
See invitation list.
Subject: Greening America’s Capitals release

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
901 N. Fifth St., Kansas City, KS 66101

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Nine Tribal Nations

Lincoln, Neb., Selected to Receive Green Design Assistance

Contact Information: Kris Lancaster, (913) 551-7557, Lancaster.kris@epa.gov

Environmental News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Kansas City, Kan., Aug.12, 2011) - EPA has selected Lincoln, Neb., for green design assistance that includes incorporating green solutions to manage stormwater runoff and building pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods. The Agency will organize teams of urban planners and landscape architects to provide technical assistance as requested by Lincoln, Neb., officials.

“This project will address environmental concerns, enhance green infrastructure and help revitalize neighborhoods, spurring economic development in Nebraska’s capital city,” said Karl Brooks, regional administrator. “Plans include improvements to streets and alleys to make them more pedestrian-and bike-friendly. In addition, the project will enhance the work of local neighborhood and community leaders to connect Lincoln’s historic area with the State Capitol building, which was completed in 1932.”

Lincoln and four other state capitals were selected from a total of 23 cities that responded to a solicitation of interest by EPA. Through its Greening America’s Capitals program, EPA will also fund private sector experts to provide sustainable design assistance to Montgomery, Ala.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Washington, D.C.; and Jackson, Miss.

Greening America’s Capitals is not a grant program, but provides direct technical assistance to communities by working with private sector experts and leveraging federal and state partnerships. In addition to helping the selected state capitals build civic pride and a greener future, this assistance will help create models that many other cities can look to in creating their own sustainable designs.

Lincoln is actively working to revitalize a densely built South Capitol neighborhood, which is 287-acre primarily residential neighborhood directly south of the Capitol. The city and neighborhood are addressing many challenges including a high number of older homes and businesses, aging sanitary sewers and water mains, and lower per capita income than the rest of the city.

Learn more about Greening America's Capitals: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greencapitals.htm

Connect with EPA Region 7 on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion7
Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of August 13 through August 19, 2011
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, August 13
• Special Olympics Nebraska 2011 Sports Classic, remarks - 6 p.m., Abbott Sports Complex, 7600 N. 70th St.

Monday, August 15
• International visitors from Azerbaijani - 9 a.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
• Mayor’s Award of Excellence - 3 p.m., Council Chambers, County-City Building

Tuesday, August 16
• KLIN - 8:10 a.m.

Thursday, August 18
• Mayor’s Commission on Women, remarks - 6:15 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room
The two multi-lane roundabouts northwest of Memorial Stadium are scheduled to open for traffic at 8 a.m. **Saturday, August 13.** (The August 4 release follows this advisory and a map is attached.)

The media are invited to join Public Works and Utilities officials at **10 a.m.** to see a StarTran bus, a Lincoln Fire and Rescue ladder truck, and Crete Carrier semi drive through the roundabouts. The nearby pedestrian bridge will provide a good view of the east roundabout.

Public Works and Utilities Director Greg MacLean and Assistant City Engineer Randy Hoskins will meet the media in the large parking lot north of Memorial Stadium, just west of the Hawks Championship Center. From Stadium Drive, turn right onto Salt Creek Roadway. The parking lot entrance is the first right turn off eastbound Salt Creek Roadway. The pedestrian bridge can be reached from that lot.

MacLean and Hoskins also will be available for interviews and to assist any members of the media who want to shoot video from a vehicle driving through the roundabouts.
scheduled to open to traffic Saturday, August 13. The roundabouts at 10th Street and Salt Creek Roadway are the City’s multi-lane roundabouts that will see heavy traffic. They also are the first roadway improvements to be completed as part of the new traffic system for the West Haymarket area. The Mayor encouraged the public to visit the City website, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: roundabout), to learn more about the roundabouts and how to drive them.

“Roundabouts have a proven track record of improving safety and traffic flow and also have environmental benefits,” said Mayor Beutler. “Because multi-lane roundabouts are new to the community, it is important that drivers educate themselves on how they function. The website provides not only written driving instructions but also a simulation of traffic flow at these two roundabouts and a very helpful video produced by the Nebraska Department of Roads.”

The construction cost for the 10th and Salt Creek Roadway project including the two roundabouts is $2.9 million. The project was designed by Olsson Associates of Lincoln and the quality assurance and quality control for the roundabouts was handled by Ourston Roundabout Engineering. The project was funded through the West Haymarket Joint Public Agency.

The roundabouts have been designed to handle year 2030 demand of 2,100 to 3,000 trips during the afternoon peak hour. Plans for traffic flow before and after Husker games are being developed and will be posted on the website.

The roundabout at 33rd Street and Sheridan Boulevard was the first of its kind in Nebraska when it opened in June 2002. In the three years following its completion, total crashes at the intersection dropped by 83 percent, with a 95 percent reduction in injury crashes. According to a study by the Institute for Highway Safety of locations where stop signs or traffic lights were replaced by roundabouts, all crashes were reduced by 37 percent and serious crashes fell by 75 percent, including a 90 percent reduction in fatalities.

The City has two other multi-lane roundabouts on N.W. 12th St. and on Amaranth. With the two new roundabouts, the City now has 26 roundabouts, and about five more are planned at locations including:

- 14th and Superior (multi-lane)
- 14th and Alvo
- 1st and Adams (including Laramie Trail)
- Coddington and Van Dorn
- 85th and Windmill (private)

The State Highway System now includes four roundabouts at Blair, Plattsmouth, Winnebago and Kimball and a fifth is opening near Pleasant Dale this fall. For the first time, information on roundabouts was included in the 2010 Nebraska Driver’s Manual.

Roundabout brochures prepared by the Nebraska Department of Roads are available at City recreation centers and libraries.
PUBLIC INVITED TO COMMENT ON DRAFT OF LPLAN2040

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department invites the public to review and comment on the draft LPlan2040, the 10-year update to the Comprehensive Plan and the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Together, these plans look ahead 30 years at how Lincoln will grow, where residents will live and work, and how they will travel.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold three public hearings to receive input on the plan before finalizing their recommendations to the City Council and County Board in September. Members of the public can attend one of the following meetings in the Council Chambers, 555 South 10th Street:

• Wednesday, August 17, 5 to 7 p.m.
• Wednesday, August 24, during the regular meeting which begins at 1 p.m.
• Wednesday, September 7, during the regular meeting which begins at 1 p.m.

Residents also can also review the draft plans and submit feedback in the following ways:

• Visit lplan2040.lincoln.ne.gov to view the draft LPlan 2040 document and LRTP and make online comments. The plans also are on Facebook, and residents can follow the public review process on Twitter.
• Review printed copies of LPlan 2040 at any library branch. A printed copy of the LRTP and Technical Report can be reviewed at the Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th St., or at the City-County Planning Department, 555 S. 10th St.
• Contact the Planning Department at plan@lincoln.ne.gov or 402-441-7491.
• Invite a member of the Planning staff to discuss LPlan 2040 with your organization.

The City Council and County Board are expected to hold hearings and take action to adopt the plans in October.

The LRTP is required for the City and County to receive federal transportation funds, and it must additionally be adopted by the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), a separate agency with representation from the City, County and State. The MPO Officials Committee is expected to review and adopt the LRTP this year.
21 SPORTS ANNOUNCES NEBRASKA WESLEYAN FOOTBALL TELECAST SCHEDULE

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

21 SPORTS will carry the following NWU football games:
• Saturday, September 10 vs. Midland University
• Saturday, September 24 vs. Doane College (homecoming)
• Saturday, October 15 vs. Dordt College
• Saturday, October 29 vs. Briar Cliff University
• Saturday, November 12 vs. Hastings College

“It’ll soon be fall, summer’s about over, the kids will be back in school and that can only mean one thing – Channel 21 and Prairie Wolf football,” said NWU Head Football Coach Brian Keller. “The Nebraska Wesleyan University football program proudly looks forward to our seventh season of partnership with 21 SPORTS in showcasing the best of small college football in the Midwest.”

Viewing times can be found at lincoln.ne.gov by clicking on the 5 CITY-TV logo. NWU games will air on 21 SPORTS the Sundays following the games at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., as well as various other times throughout the week. Games also can be viewed through video-on-demand at lincoln.ne.gov and on Nebraska On Demand (Time Warner Cable channel 411) and through video-streaming at lincoln.ne.gov. The November 12 game against Hastings College will be aired on KOLN-KGIN TV’s sister station, “My TV” (Time Warner Cable channel 110).

Jeff Motz will again call the play-by-play with Lucas Mohrman providing analysis.
As a reminder, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a special public hearing on the draft LPlan 2040 and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) on August 17th, 2011 from 5-7 pm in the City Council Chambers. Additional information has been forwarded to the Planning Commission for this meeting, including some proposed revisions to the July 8th version of these draft plans. The information can be found at the website below:


Some additional revisions are still expected to both the Transportation chapter of LPlan 2040 and the LRTP. We anticipate the proposed revisions being available by August 24th, with time for review before the final public hearing scheduled for the Planning Commission on September 7th.

The July 8th LPlan2040 and LRTP documents, together with the schedule for public hearings (which will continue to be updated), can be viewed on our website at LPlan2040.lincoln.ne.gov. Please feel free to contact me with questions at ntooze@lincoln.ne.gov or 402-441-6363.

Nicole Fleck-Tooze
Long Range Planning Manager
Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department
402.441.6363
The City of Lincoln Historic Preservation Commission will hold a regular public meeting on Thursday, August 18, 2011. The meeting will convene at 1:30 p.m. in Room 214, 2nd floor, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, to consider the following agenda. For more information, contact the Planning Department at (402) 441-7491.

Agenda of August 18, 2011

1. Approval of HPC meeting record of July 21, 2011.
2. Opportunity for persons with limited time or with an item not appearing on the agenda to address the Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION

* Memo from Ed Zimmer
3. Application by Scott Sullivan for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 6106 Havelock Avenue in the Havelock Avenue Landmark District.
4. Application by Scott Sullivan for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 6127/6129 Havelock Avenue in the Havelock Avenue Landmark District.
5. Application by Scooter's/Cherry on the Top for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 151 North 8th Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.
6. Application by Dozo Sushi for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 151 North 8th Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.
7. Application by Craig Smith for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 151 North 8th Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.
8. Application by Jeanne Heim for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 611 S. 31st in the Woods Park Bungalow Landmark District.
10. Application by Kappa Foundation for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 3611 Holdrege, and 1358, 1400, and 1430 Idlywild Dr. in the East Campus Neighborhood Landmark District.

DISCUSSION

11. Staff Report

For further information on Historic Preservation in Lincoln, visit: http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/hist/index.htm

The Historic Preservation Commission meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. For more information, email the Planning Department at plan@lincoln.ne.gov, or call 441-7491.
Hello,

It's that time again! The Summer issue of The Urban Page is now available at: http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/urban/reports/urban-page.htm

This issue includes:

- North 27th Street News
- Neighborhood Mini-Grant Updates
- How to Appeal Your Parking Citation
- Youth Education and Support Services available at the One Stop Career Center
- Yolande Avenue Blight Study
- Graywater at Trago Park
- Review the new draft Comprehensive Plan
- 2011 Annual Action Plan has been submitted
- New 17th & Q/ Credit Union Project in Downtown
- Civic Plaza Update

The Urban Page is the quarterly newsletter of the City of Lincoln Urban Development Department. As always, if you prefer to not receive this announcement, please call or email me (see info below).

Opal G. Doerr  
Planning Assistant  
City of Lincoln DSC / Urban Development Dept.  
555 S. 10th St, Suite 205  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
402-441-7852
My wife and I purchased our Townhome located at 7114 Culwells, CT. in October of 2004, this property backs the proposed right-hand turn lane on northbound 70th St. at Old Cheney.

When we purchased our property we understood that a strip of land behind our home on the east side of 70th was commons area upon which a fence had been constructed and trees had been planted, both, in an effort to screen us from 70th St.

As per page 5, Paragraph 16 of our first amended restrictive covenants the developer/ owner agreed to convey the Commons area to the corporation free from encumbrances on or before January 1, 2003, this was complied with but sometime between the writing of these restrictive covenants and the conveyance the developer/ owner had sold a portion of said commons area to the city of Lincoln for the purpose of construction of a right-hand turn lane.

The sale of this strip of commons area was not made known to our association and was a complete surprise.

The construction of this turn lane would bring traffic approximately 14 foot closer to the back of our home but of more importance it could, as presently planned lower the elevation of the fence to a point where traffic could look into the back of our home and would also require the removal of trees that now provide screening.

City planners have told us that the reason for constructing the right-hand turn lane is for safety.

I don't believe that a right-hand turn lane would serve that many vehicles.

I observed this intersection on an average Monday morning from 6:50 a.m. to 7:45 a.m., the light at the intersection went through 24 cycles an average of 24 cars through each cycle for a total of approx. 576 vehicles.

Of those 576 vehicles, 44 turned right off of northbound 70th on to East bound Old Cheney.

17 of these 44 right turners had to wait in a line-up until the light turned green.

I don't see an increase in future right hand turning vehicles because of any future development to the east.

Under present plans there will be an additional eastbound lane on Old Cheney at the intersection with 70th, this alone would give right-hand turn vehicles and additional lane to enter old Cheney and should improve the vehicle flow in itself.

I believe that advanced warning lights could be constructed on northbound 70th, just south of Stevens Ridge Road and that this very much improve safety conditions that planners are concerned about.
There is presently a suggested speed sign of 35 mph at Stevens Ridge Road and 70th St; the posted speed limit is 45 mph.

Traffic exiting Edenton South on Stevens Ridge Road have a difficult time safely turning left, right or crossing into the Sheraton Lutheran Church property (of which we are members.)

Because of this difficulty to enter 45 mph traffic and because the suggested speed is 35 mph I feel that reducing the posted speed limit to 35 mph from Highway 2 to Old Cheney would be logical and would greatly improve safety.

Besides being a owner of one of the affected properties I am on the board of the Edenton South Townhome Association.

I am self-employed as a Real Estate Salesperson and am fully aware of the negative impact to our property values as we would become closer to the traffic and lose our screening.

We would at the very least like to have our screening maintained and are property values affected in the least possible manner.

We feel that nothing really need be done on 70th St other than reducing the speed limit to 35 mph but also offer the advanced stop warning lights as an added safety feature.

I would be very happy to discuss this with you at any time.

Thank You.

Bob Kittelson

Home Real Estate
402-440-8344

Bob Kittelson
Nebraska Home Sales
440-8344 (C) 327-0116 (H)
From: Bob Kittelson [bkittelson@nebhomesales.com]  
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 9:10 AM  
To: Council Packet  
Subject: FW: Rt. turn lane on 70th onto Old Cheney.

From: Bob Kittelson [mailto:bkittelson@nebhomesales.com]  
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 9:57 AM  
To: 'Jon Camp (jcamp@lincoln.ne.gov)'; 'Jon Camp'  
Subject: Rt. turn lane on 70th onto Old Cheney.

Jon,  
I would like an opportunity to explain/discuss the photos that I recently to you. I understand that you will be attending the Edenton So. Association meeting at 7 P.M., on 8-15-11. We are just across 70th to the east of Sheridan Lutheran Church. If we could meet for just 10 minutes prior to that meeting you could see first-hand the impact.

We know there will be a right-hand turn lane, the fence will need to be moved approximately 14 ft. at most, but the limits of construction are much greater. Here are the proposed footages along the project, North to South. The first number is the fence shift, the second number is the additional feet of limits of construction as proposed: 14'-4.65', 14'-7.87', 14'-5.98', 14'-4.5', 14'-2.92', 14'-5.87', 14'-9.38', 10'-17.02', 8'-20.75', 6'-22.19', 4.5'-16.4'. As you can see in some areas the limits of construction are much greater than the distance of the fence move.

I have solution and would like to explain. Could you please take 10 minutes before the association meeting and let me explain my views?

My address is 7114 Culwells, Ct. Can we meet at my home on the 15th?

( I am a member of the Townhome Association Board, other members would attend)

Bob Kittelson  
Nebraska Home Sales  
440-8344 (C) 327-0116 (H)
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: D Saenz
Address: 700 Dale Dr
City: Lincoln, NE 68510

Phone: 
Fax: 
Email: 

Comment or Question:
I think it's despicable that you've voted to increase the already HIGH property taxes by 10%. We are already struggling and worrying about our jobs and you choose this instead of spending cuts?? Hopefully the five of you that voted for this and the wheel tax increase, will be voted out of office at the earliest opportunity.
AGENDA
LES ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
Friday, August 19, 2011 – 9:30 A.M.
LES Board Room
1040 “O” Street

9:30 A.M.

1. Call to Order

2. Introduction of New Board Member (Nominee)

3. Approval of Minutes of the July 15, 2011 Regular Meeting of the LES Administrative Board

4. Comments from Customers

5. Introduction and Recognition of Staff
   1. Mike Murphy, Manager, Information Technology
   2. Brent Bolte, Relay/Electronics Specialist, Substation

6. Committee Reports
   A. Operations & Power Supply Committee
   B. District Energy Corporation Report

7. Administrator & CEO Reports
   A. 2012 Budget Process
   B. City Dividend for Utility (LES) Ownership

8. Chief Operating Officer’s Reports
   A. Miscellaneous Operations Update
   B. Sustainability Target Update
   C. Southwest Power Pool Part IV Energy Markets
   D. Update on EPA Rulemaking - Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR)

9. Other Business
   A. Monthly Financial and Power Supply Reports
   B. Miscellaneous Information

10. Adjournment

Next Administrative Board meeting Friday, September 16, 2011.
8730 Fontaine Drive
Lincoln, NE 68526
August 11, 2011

Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th Street, Room 111
Lincoln, NE 68508

City Council members:
My wife and I recently moved to Lincoln, and we enjoy the quality of life here in
the capital city. Like most people in Lincoln, we want the libraries and pools kept open;
we want enough fire fighters and police; we want parks maintained by qualified people,
ot volunteers; we want streets kept in good shape; we want buses to keep running. I was
pleased with the recommendations the majority of the city council made on August 10th
to maintain these important services to maintain the city's high quality.

I also believe that most people like me who want services expect that we will
have to pay for them, which means higher taxes. Some, like council members Hornung
and Camp, were opposed to these services and higher property taxes. However, the taxes
are a fair trade off for what we get in return. According to the recommendations,
property taxes will be raised from $40-60 for most people, depending on the price of their
homes. This amounts to no more than $5.00 per month—about the cost of a cup of coffee
per week. It is interesting many are complaining about this modest increase, but those
same people are more than willing to pay hundreds for an I-pod or other electrical
devices.

Here are a couple of ideas for the city council to consider. One, due to the lack of
passengers on our buses, couldn’t we start using smaller buses, similar to those used at
Eppley Airport? This would save gas, and still allow those who need buses to get around
the city. Second, rather than property taxes, has the city considered raising the city sales
tax 1 per cent on non-food and non-medicine items? I would add alcohol, tobacco, and
pop to those items to be taxed. I think this would affect people less than property taxes.
For example, if I bought a $100 pair of running shoes, it would cost me one extra dollar,
and if I bought a $25 shirt, it would only cost me an extra quarter. Thank you for your
time and consideration, and best of luck with the upcoming budget.

John S. Votta
MINUTES
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2011
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
2:00 P.M.

Present: Gene Carroll, Chair; Adam Hornung, Vice Chair; Jayne Snyder; Jon Camp; Doug Emery; Jonathan Cook; and Carl Eskridge

Others Present: Rick Peo, Chief Assistant City Attorney; Joan Ross, City Clerk; Denise Pearce, Senior Policy Counsel; Lynn Johnson, Parks and Rec Director; Don Herz, Finance Director; Mary Meyer, City Council Office

Chair Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:59 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. CITY CLERK
Ross stated the items to be called together at the formal meeting, starting on page 2 and including items on page 3. On page 5, items 25 through 29 deal with pay schedules for certain employee groups and thought to possibly call together. Peo disagreed and consensus reached to call separately.

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Facilities continue accepting tree debris.
   No comment

III. DIRECTORS

   FINANCE DEPARTMENT
   1. Audit Advisory Board activity.
   No comment

Herz stated the West Haymarket Joint Public Agency issued their bonds last Tuesday, despite it being a couple of days after the downgrade, but did receive a decent rate. Interest rates are at a all time low but it is still a difficult market.

   HEALTH DEPARTMENT
   2. Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department meeting minutes of July 12, 2011.
   3. NEWS RELEASE. Bats and rabies awareness.
   No comment

   PARKS AND RECREATION
   Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director, spoke on storm related activities from August 6th and 11th. The initial effort is to get arterial streets open, then residential streets. They then remove trees from houses, garages, and vehicles. By mid last week, with Public Work’s help, had all streets open, but had a couple more trees fall on houses during the storm Thursday night, into Friday. By the end of Friday had all trees off of houses. There were approximately 600 service calls. Estimate 20 trees were downed on vehicles, and 8 to 10 trees on houses.
   Johnson added they continue to pick up brush in neighborhoods and the next step is taking care of damage
in the trees. Numerous hanging limbs and branches will have to be trimmed. Estimate a month to complete.

Snyder asked when residential streets were being cleaned? Johnson replied doing now. Initially targeted the area south of the Capitol, the hardest hit. Do know of a damaged tree in your neighborhood. Snyder replied next door and partially blocking the street.

Camp asked in regard to trees falling on cars, will our standard procedure be we’re not liable? Peo stated we had no awareness and these situations are acts of God. Camp asked if there were situations where we might be involved? Do we document or take photographs in case we receive correspondence? Johnson answered immediately after a storm they go to all locations with damage caused by trees on homes, or cars. To his knowledge they didn’t have prior knowledge of any tree defect which came down and caused damage.

Johnson added after every storm Hofeling Enterprises opens their yard to collect private and public brush. A significant assistance in getting streets, public and private property, cleaned. We appreciate his assistance.

PLANNING COMMISSION
2. Notice of final action by the Planning Commission, August 10, 2011.
   No comment

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Administrative Amendment No. 11019 approved by the Planning Director on August 8, 2011.
   No comment

WEED AUTHORITY
1. Combined Weed Program City of Lincoln, July 2011 monthly report.
   No comment

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS
   No additional comments

V. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. Wilbur Dasenbrock. Support Council’s approach to restore important city services.
2. Ed Schnabel. Hope Council studies and see where the money goes and make staff cuts and not cuts to the services the little guy needs and uses.
3. Joan Westphal. The mayor is only asking for $41 per $100,000 property tax increase. Why is state giving credits? Lincoln is taking the largest hit for the state.
4. Kathleen Wiens, President: Salt Valley View Neighborhood Association. Support the 6 + 1 amendment to support our parks.
5. Stanley Tryon. Say no to increase of property tax and wheel tax fees. Ask residents if they received an increase in their take home pay, and if their cost of living went down.
6. Dan Morgan. Increasing taxes does not represent the thousands of citizens who cannot afford the
increases. The middle of a bad economy is not the time to expand government.

7. William Carver, Near South neighborhood Association. Supporting maintaining our parks, pools and libraries, and restoring the 4 hours cut from the Saturday bus schedules. These services are essential.

8. Lynn Darling. Concerning the budget knowledge and understanding need to be accompanied by compassion.

9. Kathryn Westwood. Birdsall should not get an increase in funds. The economic boom is not happening. The Council needs to listen to the people.

No comment

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Carroll adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m.