DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2014
555 S. 10TH STREET
LUXFORD STUDIO
2:00 P.M.

I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Beutler recognizes impact of National Service.
3. Administrative Regulation, No. 9. Use of Vehicles by City Employees, Volunteers, and Contractors.

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

PLANNING COMMISSION
2. Action by the Planning Commission, corrected. Pending Item, Change of Zone No. 13015, has been withdrawn.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. InterLinc correspondence from Charles Sadler regarding Lincoln’s wheel tax and not seeing improvements from the tax collection.
2. Correspondence from Randy Price on the excessive and unacceptable noise in downtown Lincoln.
   a) Response from Councilman Carl Eskridge regarding the construction noise experienced with the P Street work.
   b) Councilwoman Leirion Gaylor Baird responding to Mr. Price and including information on the P Street Meeting.
      1. P Street Retail Corridor Project Meeting/Discussions invitation.
3. Tina Peterson, email regarding Time Warner Cable. Suggest Consumer Reports and/or other ratings be consulted next time as part of the decision making process.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 31, 2014
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-441-7831

MAYOR RECOGNIZES IMPACT OF NATIONAL SERVICE

Mayor Chris Beutler is joining more than 1,500 mayors across the country to observe the second annual Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service, a bipartisan effort highlighting the impact of national service in tackling urban issues. The Mayor has issued a proclamation which will be presented at a free public celebration from 1 to 2 p.m. tomorrow at Aging Partners, 1005 “O” Street.

“National service is a vital resource for our City,” said Mayor Beutler. “AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers make our cities better places to live. I am grateful for the dedication and sacrifice of these citizens, who are helping make our great city stronger, safer, and healthier.”

Tomorrow’s event will feature the debut of “Tah Ka Pal,” a multimedia storytelling project led by AmeriCorps member Kelsey Lee. It was written and produced by seven Karen students attending Lincoln High School who tell stories about the Karen community. The Karen people are indigenous to the Burma (Myanmar)-Thailand border. Many Karen people have been displaced due to conflicts in Myanmar, and Lincoln has welcomed over 250 Karen refugees.

Speakers at the event will include Lincoln Parks and Recreation Director Lynn Johnson; Aging Partners Director June Pederson; State Program Director Julie Nash, Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS); and Cathy Plager, ServeNebraska Director.

Lincoln has seven AmeriCorps projects with 122 members. The City sponsors the Youth on the Move project with 35 members serving students at 21 locations, providing academic support, mentoring, service learning, nutrition and fitness. AmeriCorps members are located at recreation centers, Community Learning Centers, nonprofit agencies and schools. About 750 youth from low-income, minority and new American families have been served so far this school year.

Aging Partners, a division of the City of Lincoln, sponsors the Foster Grandparent program. Currently, 33 older volunteers serve over 110 students with special needs. Volunteers help children to learn how to read, provide one-on-one tutoring, mentor troubled teens, care for premature infants or children with disabilities, and help children who have been abused or neglected.

Beutler is one of 26 Nebraska mayors recognizing the day, which is sponsored by the CNCS, the National League of Cities, Cities of Service and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. As the federal agency for service and volunteering, CNCS annually engages more than five million citizens in service in 8,500 U.S. cities through AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and other programs. More information is available at nationalservice.gov/mayorsforservice.
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Public Works and Utilities/Water Operations  DATE: 3-21-14

NEED For the past several years, LWS has attempted to connect to a live CMMS database with mobile computers in the field using the EVDO cards supplied by Verizon. Between the phone connection, the security software, & 3G / 4 G service at various locations throughout the community, the connection are lost and a new log in is required each time, causing a great deal of frustration and lost productivity.

Many of our peer utilities have been using a ‘mobile’ software, where by all of the data can be entered into the laptop or other mobile device, and when a secure and stable connection is made, the data is then uploaded to the database. Marshall GIS is one of the preferred providers for the Hansen (Infor) CMMS system that LWS uses, and they have the necessary experience and software to make a system like this work for LWS. See attached proposal and scope of services for a total cost of $36,092. The annual cost of $11,200 for the Service & Maintenance Agreement is in the proposed O&M Budget for LWS.

The following capital outlay items and services will be underspent, and are available for this purchase (Move from 70110.6998 ($6,500), 70205.6998 ($3,100), 70315.6950 ($11,400), 70110.6815 ($16,000) to 70405.6998)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUTURE IMPACT:</th>
<th>x Ongoing</th>
<th>Limited</th>
<th>Projected Completion Date 7-31-14</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>REVENUES GENERATED</td>
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<table>
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<th>LEGISLATIVE CHANGES</th>
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<tr>
<td>City Yes □ No X</td>
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<tr>
<td>County Yes □ No</td>
</tr>
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<td>State Yes □ No</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>IMPACT</th>
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<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL (full time equivalents)</td>
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<td>PERSONNEL (cost) business unit:</td>
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<td>SUPPLIES business unit:</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES &amp; CHARGES business unit: 6950 - SMA</td>
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<td>$11,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>EQUIPMENT business unit: 70405 object code: 6998 description: GeoKNX Mobile &amp; LiGO software</td>
<td>$36,092</td>
<td>$11,200</td>
</tr>
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</table>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

SOURCE OF REVENUES Water Revenues

DIRECTOR  DATE 3-21-14
WHEN TO USE FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1. Requesting transfer of operating appropriations.
2. Requesting increase in personnel (full time equivalents) appropriations.
3. Requesting transfer of capital improvement appropriations.
4. Requesting operational change not authorized during the budget process.
5. Requesting appropriations based on receipt of additional funds from outside sources.
6. Requesting use of Contingency funds.

HOW TO USE FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NEED: There should be a detailed explanation of why a change to the previously approved budget is necessary. If the change will have any impact beyond the current fiscal year, it should also be noted.

FUTURE IMPACT: One of the boxes should be checked. An example of an item with ongoing impact would be a request for additional fte authorization that will also be requested in upcoming budgets. This would necessitate filling out the "Next Fiscal Year Annualized" column. An example of an item with limited impact would be asking for authorization to use salary savings for the one time purchase of equipment. If "Projected Completion Date" applies, please fill in.

REVENUES GENERATED: Please note if the request will affect current and future revenues.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES: These boxes should be marked yes or no. Some of the actions this form is used for (transfer of capital improvement appropriations, Contingency Funds) require a City Council ordinance.

PERSONNEL (full time equivalents): Please note the number of fte’s the request involves, if applicable.

PERSONNEL (cost), SUPPLIES, OTHER SERVICES AND CHARGES, EQUIPMENT: All entries in these boxes must have the business unit, object code, and object code description along with the dollar amount. Negative amounts must be indicated by brackets.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: This box should contain the sum of the dollar amounts in the various expenditure categories.

SOURCE OF REVENUES: This box should contain the name of the fund the action is required for.
Sources of Funds for Fiscal Impact Statement on GeoKNX Mobile

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Capital Outlay</th>
<th>WO #</th>
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<th>70200</th>
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<td>AMR - Software Hosting contract</td>
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<td>$8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMR - Hardware Maintenance contract</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| On-Going Costs                 |      |       |       |       |       |
| Annual Mobile SMA              |      |       |       | $10,780|       |
| Monthly LiGO SaaS              |      |       |       | $420   |       |
|                               |  |       |       |       | **Total** | $11,200|

N McElvain
3.21.14
PURPOSE:

To establish policies and procedures governing the use of vehicles owned by the City and privately-owned vehicles used by City employees for official City business.

SCOPE:

Applies to all employees and cooperating law enforcement officers, contractors, or volunteers or interns who have permission to operate City-owned vehicles as provided herein.

GENERAL:

The privilege of operating a City-owned vehicle within the scope of an employee's official duties shall be considered incidental to employment and under no circumstance shall be considered an assumed right. Volunteers or interns, contractors, or law enforcement officers of other agencies, may operate City-owned vehicles only in accordance with the policies herein. The Fleet Manager of the Police Garage and the Public Works Fleet Services Superintendent will conduct an annual review of City vehicle use. Any violation of this policy may subject an employee to disciplinary action pursuant to the Personnel Code.

POLICY:

(1) The use of all City-owned vehicles is strictly limited to conducting only the official business of the City.

(2) No employee, contractor, volunteer or intern shall be allowed to drive a City vehicle home, except in the circumstances described below:

(a) An individual who is required by a department head to perform after hours work with specially-equipped vehicles may take a specially-equipped vehicle home only when it is authorized in writing by the department head. A request to take a specially-equipped vehicle home shall provide the employee's job title, the type of vehicle and special equipment carried on the vehicle, and the reason it is necessary for the employee to drive the vehicle home. Automobiles, pickups, minivans and sport utility vehicles shall not be considered to be specially-equipped vehicles unless they have been modified by the City to perform a specific public purpose. Vehicles used by Lincoln Police Department K-9 officers are specially-equipped vehicles within the meaning of this policy, which may be taken home as authorized herein.

(b) The department head has authority to approve a vehicle being taken home for a specific scheduled event.

(c) The Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief are authorized to take unmarked police vehicles home for official use arising outside normal work hours.
(d) Chaplains participating in the Lincoln Fire & Rescue and Lincoln Police Department volunteer chaplaincy program may be authorized to take city vans home by the Public Safety Director, Fire Chief or Chief of Police, upon compliance with the requirements for volunteer use of vehicles set forth in Paragraph 9 of this Administrative Regulation.

(3) When a City department head determines that the use of a vehicle will serve the best interests of the City for travel outside Lincoln, preference should be given to the use of a City-owned vehicle rather than a private vehicle. Use of a private vehicle for City business outside Lincoln and the reimbursement of expenses for that use should not ordinarily be approved by a department head if a City-owned vehicle could instead be used by the department employee. A private vehicle may be approved for use and the expense thereof reimbursed when travel is within Lincoln or when no City-owned vehicle is reasonably available for use or when, in the judgment of the department head, circumstances make use of a City-owned vehicle impractical or inadvisable for other reasons.

(4) City Employees who wish to be reimbursed for mileage must first verify if a city pool car is available. If a city pool car is not available the employee, with their Directors permission, may be reimbursed for mileage using a personal vehicle.

No employee shall receive reimbursement for use of a personal vehicle driven between his or her residence and place of employment. At the end of a business day, if an employee has traveled in a personal vehicle from his or her place of employment to another location in the City, the employee may be reimbursed either for the mileage to return to their office or the mileage to drive to their home whichever is less.

No employee shall receive reimbursement for mileage during a lunch break, unless they are on pre-approved per diem out of town travel. Employees driving a City-owned vehicle are only permitted to drive to the nearest eating establishment for lunch breaks.

(5) Pools of vehicles are established by department when necessary. It is the responsibility of the department head to provide for the effective use of the pool vehicles operated by their department and keep department records of the usage sufficient to charge mileage to the appropriate budget. The intent is to have City-owned vehicles available to employees who, because of business mileage driven or type of work performed, have the greatest need to operate a City-owned vehicle. It is also the intent to minimize the amount of personal mileage reimbursement necessary.

(6) Except as provided herein, or as specifically exempted in writing by the Mayor, all City vehicles must be clearly identified by a door decal or conspicuous official markings identifying the department that operates the vehicle.

(a) The Chief of Police may authorize the use of unmarked, City-owned vehicles for undercover or other law enforcement purposes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT: Use of Vehicles by City Employees, Volunteers, and Contractors</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE DATE: March 24, 2014</th>
<th>A.R. NO.: 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPLIES TO: All Departments and Divisions</td>
<td>SUPERSEDES: AR#9 Issued December 10, 2013</td>
<td>Page 3 of 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(7) As stated in AR#23 smoking is prohibited in all vehicles owned by the City.

(8) All persons operating City vehicles shall obey all posted speed limits and traffic laws. Emergency, rescue and public safety vehicles are permitted to exceed speed limits in cases of rescue, emergency and when necessary to enforce the law, protect the public or save lives.

(9) Except as otherwise provided herein, only City employees are permitted to drive a City-owned vehicle.

(a) A contractor, intern or volunteer may operate a City-owned vehicle only upon receiving written authorization of a Department Director for use in official City business. Before such authorization may be given the Director shall obtain the contractor’s, volunteer’s or intern’s driver’s license information and provide information to Risk Management to check the driver’s motor vehicle record and to insure that the contractor’s or volunteer’s use of the City vehicle is properly insured and appropriate.

(b) Law enforcement officers of other government entities or agencies involved in cooperative efforts with the Lincoln Police Department may be authorized to operate City-owned vehicles by the Chief of Police or the Lincoln officer in charge of the City’s participation in the cooperative effort.

The foregoing Administrative Regulation, superseding Administrative Regulation No. 9 effective December 10, 2013, is hereby APPROVED.

[Signature]  
Chris Beutler, Mayor of Lincoln

Date: March 24, 2014
** ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION **
April 2, 2014

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, at 1:00 p.m., in Hearing Room 112 on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska, on the following items. For more information, call the Planning Department, (402) 441-7491.

The Lincoln City/Lancaster County Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, from 12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m. in Conference Room 113 of the County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln Nebraska, for a “Workshop on Watershed Management and Stormwater Quality”.

**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, APRIL 2, 2014

[Commissioners Beecham and Weber absent]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held March 19, 2014. **APPROVED, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent)**

1. CONSENT AGENDA
   (Public Hearing and Administrative Action):

   CHANGE OF ZONE:
   1.1 Change of Zone No. 14003, from H-3 Highway Commercial District to I-1 Industrial District, on property generally located at North 31st Street Circle and Cornhusker Highway (3010 Cornhusker Highway).
   Staff recommendation: Approval
   Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
   Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent).
   Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2014, 3:00 pm.
PLATS:
1.2 Preliminary Plat No. 14002, Alaina Heights, for 9 commercial lots, including a deviation request for the street alignment with South 8th Street, and to waive the requirement for sanitary sewer to run opposite street grade in South 8th Street, on property generally located at South 9th Street and Calvert Street. *** FINAL ACTION ***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval

Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated March 19, 2014, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent).
Resolution No. PC-01386.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:
4.1 Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 14006, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the Northwest Corridors Redevelopment Plan to identify the "West Haymarket Sports Park" project, consisting of youth sports facilities and related commercial uses over approximately 65.7 acres, more or less, generally located west of Sun Valley Boulevard, south of Charleston Street, north of the Union Pacific rail line and east of the View (student housing project). The Northwest Corridors Redevelopment Plan area is generally along Sun Valley Boulevard from West O Street to Cornhusker Highway, along Cornhusker Highway from I-180 to N.W. 12th Street, along N.W. 12th Street from Cornhusker Highway to Highlands Boulevard, along Highlands Boulevard from N.W. 12th Street to N.W. 1st Street, along West Superior Street from N.W. 1st Street to I-180 and along I-180 from Cornhusker Highway to S Street, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska.

Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan

Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.

Planning Commission recommendation: A FINDING OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent).

Public hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2014, 5:30 p.m.
At this time, anyone wishing to speak on an item not on the agenda, may do so.

Adjournment

Pending List:

1. Change of Zone No. 13015, from AGR Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District, on property generally located at Frontier Road and Highway 2 (6061 and 6101 Frontier Road).
   (10-16-13: Planning Commission voted 8-0 to continue public hearing on April 16, 2014, at the applicant’s request.)

Planning Dept. staff contacts:

Stephen Henrichsen, Development Review Manager . 402-441-6374 . shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, Long Range Planning Manager . 402-441-6364 . dcary@lincoln.ne.gov
Paul Barnes, Planner . 402-441-6372 . pbarnes@lincoln.ne.gov
Michael Brienzo, Transportation Planner . 402-441-6369 . mbrienzo@lincoln.ne.gov
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Brian Will, Planner . 402-441-6362 . bwillard@lincoln.ne.gov
Ed Zimmer, Historic Preservation Planner . 402-441-6360 . ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov

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

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

Accommodation Notice

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**Corrected: Pending Item has been Withdrawn**

**ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

April 2, 2014

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**AGENDA**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014

[Commissioners Beecham and Weber absent]

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1. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

**CHANGE OF ZONE:**

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Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent).
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Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated March 19, 2014, 7-0 (Beecham and Weber absent).

Resolution No. PC-01386.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:
4.1 Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 14006, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the Northwest Corridors Redevelopment Plan to identify the "West Haymarket Sports Park" project, consisting of youth sports facilities and related commercial uses over approximately 65.7 acres, more or less, generally located west of Sun Valley Boulevard, south of Charleston Street, north of the Union Pacific rail line and east of the View (student housing project). The Northwest Corridors Redevelopment Plan area is generally along Sun Valley Boulevard from West O Street to Cornhusker Highway, along Cornhusker Highway from I-180 to N.W. 12th Street, along N.W. 12th Street from Cornhusker Highway to Highlands Boulevard, along Highlands Boulevard from N.W. 12th Street to N.W. 1st Street, along West Superior Street from N.W. 1st Street to I-180 and along I-180 from Cornhusker Highway to S Street, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska.

Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
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   (10-16-13: Planning Commission voted 8-0 to continue public hearing on April 16, 2014, at the applicant’s request)
   **WITHDRAWN BY THE APPLICANT on March 31, 2014**

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Stephen Henrichsen, Development Review Manager . 402-441-6374 . shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, Long Range Planning Manager . 402-441-6364 . dcary@lincoln.ne.gov
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InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
  General Council

Name: Charles Sadler
Address: 3910 La Salle St.
City: Lincoln, NE 68516

Phone: 402-261-9960
Fax:  
Email: crsadler04@yahoo.com

Comment or Question:
Moved here from Kearney a year ago. Like it so far, you people do a good job running the
city. My only issue is the wheel tax, think it's a bit much. We are retired living on limited
income and $75 a car plus regular taxes really hurts. I know you were doing street
improvements last spring and summer but I don't see even the pot holes being addressed on La
Salle or a lot of the other side streets. I am probably the only person that feels this way,
but that's how I feel. thank you Charles Sadler
Mayor Beutler,

I am a resident of downtown Lincoln, NE. I reside in a corner building located on N 11th & P Streets. I have been subjected to the annoyances of the “beautification project” for several months which appears to be ongoing with NO end in sight. Beginning yesterday, I was subjected to non-stop jack hammering of the cement in front of the Embassy Suites Hotel. This is directly across from my building and quite annoying to listen to that constant excessive noise for 8+ hours. This morning, the jack hammering began at 6:15AM. It is bad enough we have had to endure this ongoing project at normal business hours for months; but 6:15AM is where I say ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Even with the windows closed the noise is above normal levels and excessive. I work from my home and unable to complete tasks assigned to me due to the excessive noise including having a normal telephone conversation with my clients. Between yesterday and today the excessive noise has reached an unacceptable level. I would like to know what you plan to do about this or are the downtown residents just supposed to live with this inconvenience?

Sincerely,

Randy Price
Randy.Price63@Outlook.com
Mr. Price,

Thank you for your email on the frustrations you are experiencing with the P Street work. This information is helpful as the Council will be meeting with the contractor and the city departments who are involved in this project next Monday.

As a the area representative on Council and a resident at 13th and P, I have following this project now since the beginning. While I think that the outcome will be a welcome addition to the downtown landscape, the actual construction has not gone well for anyone. What was supposed to be a steady project to complete the project in 2 block segments has not worked that way. Construction focused on one 2 block segment for over 7 months and it is still not complete! Now, since the project is behind schedule, decisions have been made to proceed full speed ahead, without much regard for residents, businesses, or visitors.

This morning I went to the Y at 6:45 and was surprised to see and hear the work at 11th and P in front of the hotel. I can imagine there customers were not happy. We had the experience of workers STARTING the work to jackhammer the sidewalk at 13th and P at 10:30 P.M. I have no idea how long they thought they would go. Last night we had chainsaws cutting down trees at 8:30 p.m. And our issues are minor compared to the loss of business experienced by many of our P Street retailers.

There is to be a meeting next Tuesday at Chez Hay about the project. I encourage you to attend and to make your concerns known. The meeting is supposed to be on April 8th from 5 to 8 pm.

Finally, I invite you to contact me directly on this matter. We want them to move as fast as possible so this project is completed by Sept. 1st. But they also need to be reasonable in the impact they are having on our lives.

Carl

Carl B. Eskridge
Lincoln City Council
District 4 (Central and NW Lincoln)
Hello, Mr. Price -

Yes, thank you for writing to share your experiences - as Carl mentioned, no one thinks the project has gone well thus far, many people are very focused on turning it around for the better, and hearing from you is helpful to the Council as it seeks to be part of the solution.

I just wanted to add that the P Street meeting on April 8th originally was scheduled for a later time, but now is being held from **4:30 PM - 6:00 PM** (please see the attached invitation). Contact information for those managing the P Street project on the ground day-to-day is also listed on the invitation, should you wish to discuss your experiences and concerns with them at any time.

All the best,
Leirion

leirion gaylor baird // city council // lgaylorbaird@lincoln.ne.gov
You are Invited to Attend the
P Street Retail Corridor Project Discussions
Where:       Chez Hay, 210 N 14th Street, 2nd Floor
When:        Tuesday, April 8
              4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The City is holding discussions with property owners, business owners, and residents affected by the construction about the P Street Retail Corridor Project. These discussions will be your opportunities to learn more about the project, including final design and construction schedule, and to meet the project managers. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns.

We are scheduling block meetings during the week of March 31 on site, along the corridor. On April 8, we are holding an area-wide meeting with property owners, business owners, and residents at Chez Hay from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Information on the P Street Streetscape Project is also available on the City’s website at www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: pstreet). If you have questions or comments, please contact the Project Manager, Zach Becker. For questions about the meeting schedule or locations, contact Hallie Salem.

Project Contacts:

Zach Becker, Project Manager
City of Lincoln - Engineering Services
(402) 613-3763
zbecker@lincoln.ne.gov

Kris Humphrey, Project Engineer
City of Lincoln - Engineering Services
(402) 326-1176
khumphrey@lincoln.ne.gov

Hallie Salem, Planner, Downtown Redevelopment
City of Lincoln - Urban Development
(402) 441-7866
hsalem@lincoln.ne.gov

Andrew Christensen, Project Manager
Hausmann Construction
(402) 438-3230

Adam Hoebelheinrich, Project Consultant
PC Sports
(402) 405-9311
ahoebelheinrich@projectcontrol.com

Signage: Todd Ogden, Marketing Director
Downtown Lincoln Association
(402) 434-6900
togden@downtownlincoln.org
Dear Lincoln City Council,

The May 2014 issue of Consumer Reports rates cable companies. For TV service Time Warner Cable rates 16th out of 17. Comcast rates 15th. Time Warner also has poor ratings for internet service and phone service.

I realize that Lincoln is locked into a long term agreement with Time Warner, but I would like to suggest that you put into the files to be used in the future a suggestion that Consumer Reports and/or other ratings be consulted as part of the decision making process.

Thank you,
Tina Peterson
I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR & DIRECTORS’ CORRESPONDENCE

MAYOR
1. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s public schedule for the week of April 5, 2014 through April 11, 2014.
2. NEWS RELEASE. StarTran ready for busy weekend of April 12 and 13, 2014.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Volunteers invited to join Rose Garden cleanup.

III. DIRECTORS

WEST HAYMARKET JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY
1. The West Haymarket Joint Public Agency will meet on Thursday, April 10, 2014, 3:00 p.m., at 555 S. 10th Street, in Council Chambers. Agenda and attachments online.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting agenda for April 10, 2014.
   a) Parks & Recreation Advisory Board action Item Fact Sheet regarding tobacco use in outdoor parks and recreation department facilities to include electronic cigarettes.
   b) Proposed amendments to include electronic cigarettes, April 10, 2014, in policy regarding tobacco use in outdoor parks and recreation department facilities.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee meeting agenda for Thursday, April 10, 2014, 1:30 p.m., at 555 S. 10th Street, in the Luxford Studio, Room 113.
2. Urban Design Committee meeting agenda for April 9, 2014, 555 S. 10th Street, Room 214.

WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP
1. Correspondence from D. McIntosh writing against having alcohol where kids and young adults go for entertainment.

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of April 5 through 11, 2014
Schedule subject to change

Tuesday, April 8
• Mayor’s Multicultural Advisory Committee - 4 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.

Wednesday, April 9
• Face the Chamber luncheon, remarks - noon, Lincoln Country Club, 3200 S. 24th St.

Thursday, April 10
• West Haymarket Joint Public Agency (JPA) - 3 p.m., Council Chambers, County-City Building
• Great Plains Trails Network’s 25th anniversary celebration - 7 p.m., Ross Media Arts Center, 313 N. 13th St.

Friday, April 11
• Nebraska Law Alumni Council awards luncheon - noon, Lied Center for Performing Arts, 12th and “R” streets
For immediate release: April 4, 2014
For more information: Kitty Elliott, StarTran, 402-441-7185

StarTran ready for busy weekend

StarTran will participate in three events during the weekend of April 12 and 13:

Big Red Express shuttle service for the Nebraska spring football game, April 12
In addition to regular route service, the Big Red Express will transport fans to and from the game. Buses will leave from two locations:
- SouthPointe Pavilions, 27th and Pine Lake, south side between VonMaur and Coldwater Creek
- North Star High School, 5801 N. 33rd St. (six blocks east of N. 27th and Folkways Boulevard.)

Big Red Express service will begin two hours prior to kick-off. The last buses will leave the lots about 45 minutes prior to kickoff. Drop off and pick up is on “R” Street between 12th and 14th streets. Buses return to the lots immediately after the game. Cost is $5 each way or $10 round-trip, and passengers will need exact change. More information on the Big Red Express and regular route service is available at startran.lincoln.ne.gov and by calling 402-476-1234.

Stuff the Bus for Friendship Home, April 12 and 13
The public is asked to help “Stuff the Bus” by donating new items needed by women and children at the Friendship Home, a 24-hour emergency shelter for women and their children experiencing domestic violence. StarTran buses will be parked at these locations from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day:
- Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club stores at 27th and Superior
- Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club stores at 87th and Highway 2
- Wal-Mart at 84th and Adams
- Wal-Mart at 27th and Grainger

Items needed include diapers, toilet paper, towels, sheets, pillows, kitchenware, pots and pans, toiletries, laundry and cleaning supplies, batteries, hair care products, laundry baskets, lamps, vacuum cleaners and other small appliances. Cash donations also are accepted.

Earth Day at Union Plaza, April 12
StarTran personnel will be at Earth Day to demonstrate how easy it is to use the bike racks on the buses. Those attending should look for the bus with the Bike and Bus wrap. StarTran also will give demonstrations at the Bike UNL event Wednesday, April 16 at Union Plaza.

More StarTran information is available at startran.lincoln.ne.gov.

-30-
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 4, 2014  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Steve Nosal, Parks and Recreation, 402-441-8267

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO JOIN ROSE GARDEN CLEANUP

Residents are invited to join the Public Garden Section of the Parks and Recreation Department for the annual spring cleanup Monday, April 14 through Friday, April 18 at the Hamann Rose Garden, 27th and “B” streets. From 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., staff will demonstrate rose pruning and give information on growing roses as they lead the cleanup of hybrid tea, Floribunda, Grandiflora and shrub roses.

Participants are asked to bring thorn-proof rose gloves and pruning shears. A tool-sharpening station will be available, and staff will give tips on garden tool maintenance. Members of the Lincoln Rose Society will be at the garden from 5 to 7 p.m. April 14 and 16 to answer questions and work with volunteers.

Volunteers do not need to register. For more information, contact Horticulturalist Steve Nosal at 402-441-8267. More information on Parks and Recreation is available at parks.lincoln.ne.gov.

- 30 -
The West Haymarket Joint Public Agency will meet on **Thursday, April 10**, at 3:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers Room 112.

Agenda and attachments are online at [http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/finance/account/jpa-mtgs.htm](http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/finance/account/jpa-mtgs.htm)
TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Mayor, City Council, City Clerk, Media
FROM: Lynn Johnson, Director, Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department
MEETING DATE: April 10, 2014
LOCATION: 2740 “A” Street – Parks & Recreation Dept. (Large Conference Room)
TIME: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
CHAIR: Peter Levitov

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Recognition of ‘Open Meetings Act’

3. Approval of Minutes: * March 13, 2014

4. Comments from Public for Items Not Listed on the Agenda

5. Committee Reports:
   A. Fees & Facilities Committee – Susan Deitchler (Chair) 488-4224
      • No Report
   
   B. Futures Committee – Bob Ripley (Chair) 471-0419 or 488-5131
      • * Recommendation regarding adding restriction of use of e-cigarettes as
designated facility types to Play Tobacco Free policy
   
   C. Golf Report
      • Rounds & Revenue
      • Sustainability Plan Implementation Update
   
   D. Executive Committee – Peter Levitov (Chair) 402-488-2742
      • Recruitment of Student Member

6. Staff Report
   • Program partners for 2014 Party in the Parks events and activities

7. Announcements:

* Denotes Action Items

ACCOMMODATION NOTICE
Lincoln Commission on HUMAN RIGHTS
The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public’s access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Director of Equity and Diversity, Lincoln Commission on Human Rights, at 402 441-7624 as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request.
Meeting Date: April 10, 2014

**Request:** Recommendation regarding amendments to the Policy Regarding Tobacco Use in Outdoor Parks and Recreation Department Facilities (“Play Tobacco Free”) to include electronic cigarettes

**Discussion:** The current Policy Regarding Tobacco Use in Outdoor Parks and Recreation Department Facilities (“Play Tobacco Free”) was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on June 14, 2012. The policy was the result of a joint working committee involving representatives of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Lincoln/Lancaster County Board of Health. The policy was endorsed by the Board of Health and adopted by Executive Order of the Mayor. There was discussion regarding including electronic cigarettes in the initial version of the policy. It was determined not to include electronic cigarettes because the Health Department and Board of Health had not yet formulated a position and policy recommendation regarding simulate smoking devices. Recently the Board of Health has forwarded a recommendation that electronic cigarettes not be allowed in publicly owned buildings. Several reasons for this policy have been cited including the difficulty in enforcing a no smoking policy because it can be difficult to differentiate electronic cigarettes from tobacco cigarettes, the lack of research indicating the use of electronic cigarettes is an effective method to quit smoking, and the research indicating that use of electronic cigarettes in youth may lead to use of tobacco cigarettes. The proposed revisions include definition of “electronic cigarette”, and add the use of electronic cigarettes to the definition of “tobacco use”. Adoption of the revised policy would restrict use of electronic cigarettes in designated facilities identified as tobacco-free. (Please see attached version of the policy with proposed amendments.)

**Conformance with Adopted Plans and Guidelines:** The current Policy Regarding Tobacco Use in Outdoor Parks and Recreation Department Facilities (“Play Tobacco Free”) was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on June 14, 2012. Section 12.08.330 of the Lincoln Municipal Code states that rules and regulations governing the use or activities in any park may be adopted for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Such regulations shall be approved by the Mayor and filed with the office of the City Clerk.

**Staff Recommendation:** Approval.

**Committee Discussion and Recommendation:** Approval. The Futures Committee discussed that use of electronic cigarettes simulates tobacco smoking and thereby models an unhealthy behavior to children and youth. The committee also discussed the difficulty in enforcing the policy because it can be difficult to distinguish between the use of an electronic cigarette and a tobacco cigarette.

**Committee:** Futures  
**Chair:** Bob Ripley, 402-471-5131

**Date:** ________________

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Action:**
City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department
Policy Regarding Tobacco Use in Outdoor Parks and Recreation Department Facilities
Adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on June 14, 2012
Proposed amendments to include electronic cigarettes, April 10, 2014

Purpose and Intent

- The City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department policy restricting use of tobacco products in certain outdoor facilities is intended to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of community residents, particularly children and youth.
- There is documented evidence that use of tobacco products and secondhand exposure to tobacco smoke are related to adverse health risks.
- Parents, coaches and officials serve as role models for youth and should model positive lifestyle choices, including not using tobacco products.
- Use of tobacco products in public places can result in litter and debris that is unsightly and may pose a risk of ingestion by toddlers.
- Smoking is prohibited in City-owned buildings and vehicles.

Definitions

"Electronic cigarette" means any electronic device such as one composed of a heating element, battery, and/or electronic circuit, which can be used to deliver nicotine or any other substance(s) to the person using the device, and the use of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as an e-cig, e-cigar, e-pipe, e-cigarillo, or any other product name or description.

“Tobacco product” is defined as any product manufactured wholly or in part from tobacco that is intended to be ingested by smoking, inhalation, chewing, sniffing, or sucking.

“Tobacco use” is defined as consumption of tobacco products by burning, inhalation, chewing, or other forms of ingestion. The definition of tobacco use also includes the use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and other related devices because their use simulates smoking and therefore models the behavior of smoking that is contrary to the health and well-being of children and youth.

Policy

Pursuant to Section 12.08.330 of the Lincoln Municipal Code, it is the policy of the City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation that the following facilities shall be designated as “tobacco-free” and tobacco use shall be prohibited.

Tobacco-free facilities are as follows:
1. Playgrounds located in areas defined as parkland
2. Skateparks located in areas defined as parkland
3. Picnic shelters located in areas defined as parkland
4. Outdoor swimming pools and aquatics facilities including bathhouses and parking areas
5. Jim Ager Golf Course
6. Ballfields and multi-use sports fields including concession buildings and surrounding areas
7. The fenced area of Pinewood Bowl, with the exception of a designated smoking area away from the amphitheater seating area for use during concerts and performances where the primary anticipated audience is adults.
8. Outdoor performance venues during community performances and events including the Shildneck Bandshell and surrounding area in Antelope Park and the Dickinson Dinsmore Graf Amphitheater in Union Plaza.
9. Pioneers Park Nature Center, including buildings and grounds.
Awareness and Enforcement
This policy is intended to be enforced through public information and awareness. Signage designating facilities as tobacco-free will be posted in prominent locations. The Parks and Recreation Department will identify tobacco-free facilities on its website, in printed brochures, in user guides and rental forms. Parks and Recreation Department employees, parents, coaches, and park facility visitors are encouraged to assist in achieving compliance by bringing this policy to the attention of persons violating the policy. A person found to may be asked to cease tobacco use or to leave the facility premises.
TO: Technical Committee Members
FROM: Marvin Krout, Chairman, Technical Committee
SUBJECT: Technical Committee Meeting

A Technical Committee meeting is scheduled as follows:

DATE: April 10, 2014
TIME: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room #113
County-City Building

Meeting Agenda:

Roll call and acknowledge the "Nebraska Open Meeting Act"

1. Review and action on the draft minutes of the February 6, 2014 Technical Committee meeting. (enclosure)

2. Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) briefing on the Lincoln South Beltway Project and a request to define this as a priority project in the Lincoln MPO 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This will move the Lincoln South Beltway Project from the "illustrative" list to the "funded" list of projects. (NDOR Letter enclosed)

3. Briefing by StarTran, as the designee, on the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program changes and the project selection process for reverse commute projects that are now eligible under the 5307 program. A job access reverse commute project is a "transportation project to finance planning, capital, and operating costs that support the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment, including transportation projects that facilitate the provision of public transportation services from urbanized areas and rural areas to suburban employment locations." (Staff report enclosed)

4. Briefing on the new Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program that is intended to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds for programs to serve the special needs of transit dependent populations. (Staff report enclosed)

5. Other topics for discussion.

Next MPO Technical Committee Meeting: April 24, 2014
URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 3:00 p.m., in Room 214, second floor, County/City Building.

For more information, please contact the Lincoln City/Lancaster County Planning Department, 402-441-7491.

AGENDA

April 9, 2014

1. Adoption of meeting record of UDC meeting of March 12, 2014.

2. Building IV, Nebraska Innovation Campus (TIF-assisted project, project team).

3. Speedway Sporting Village (TIF-assisted redevelopment project).

4. Misc. and staff report: schedule of up-coming meetings, up-coming items.

Accommodation Notice

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ATTACK OF THE ALIEN WEEDS!

Lancaster County is under attack from alien invaders, although they are not from outer space, they are not native to the United States and are affecting our agriculture and natural resources.

These invasive plants cause harm to our economy, the environment and human health. In today’s global marketplace, the volume of international trade brings increased potential for these invaders to enter our county. Interstate 80 is a major pipeline for potential weed invasions. Will it be yellow star thistle from California, musk thistle from Florida or some other invader showing up at our doorsteps?

What Are Invasive Species?

An “invasive species” is a species that is non-native (or alien) to the ecosystem, environment or community and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

An invasive species grows, reproduces and spreads rapidly, establishes itself and persists. Species that become invasive succeed due to favorable environmental conditions and lack of natural predators, competitors and diseases that normally regulate their populations.

This includes a wide variety of plants from exotic places. As invasive species spread and take over ecosystems, they decrease biodiversity by threatening the survival of native plants.

In addition to negatively impacting ecosystems, invasive species are also costly. It is very expensive to prevent, monitor and control the spread of invasives, not to mention the damage to crops, fisheries, forests and other resources.

Most non-native plants do not become problems; but too often, plants out of their natural range crowd out natives and create adverse economic impacts. You can help control known invasive plants and avoid introducing new threats by understanding the problem.

How Do Invasives Spread?

When a species ends up in a new ecosystem, it is considered “introduced.” Often, invasive species are spread by humans who do not realize these plants are highly destructive. This may happen, for example, when people plant garden ornamentals, feed range forage plants to cattle or use plants for erosion control and habitat enhancement for wildlife.

Other species are introduced accidentally on imported nursery stock, fruits and in ship ballast waters, on vehicles, at ATVs and UTV’s, in packing materials and shipping containers, through human-built canals and from human travel.

Lack of natural controls.

Insects and plant diseases that kept the plant in check in its native environment seldom travel to new habitats with their invasive host. Without these natural controls to keep them in check, they spread rapidly.

Why Should I Care?

Everyone who lives in Nebraska should care, because unless we can reduce or stop their spread, invasive species will continue to require significant dollars to treat, control and to remedy damage caused to public resources.

Also, if you love the outdoors, recreate in the outdoors or are in a business that depends on the health of the natural resources, you should care about invasive species. Whether you are a hiker, biker, camper, bird watcher, gardener, fisherman, boater, hunter, logger, forester, rancher or farmer, invasive species can ruin your favorite outdoor activity — or your livelihood.

What Can I Do?

Get involved in the fight. If you find any on your property, eradicate it. Get to know the common invasive threats, inform friends and neighbors. If you see these offered for sale, explain the problem to your nursery, grower or supplier. Support national, state and local efforts of early detection and rapid response to newly-found invasive plants. Volunteer as a Lancaster County Weed Watcher (see next page)!

continued on next page

Thistles of Nebraska — They’re Not All Bad

Lancaster County Weed Control recently updated the “Thistles of Nebraska” identification guide, online at http://lancaster.ne.gov/weeds/pdf/thistlesweb.pdf. We developed this resource to help people learn how to identify all thistles. Identification is the key in knowing if you have a “bad” or “good” thistle. Yes, native thistles are actually good and provide many benefits to our natural environment.

Did you know there are 10 different species of thistles in Nebraska? Thistles, in general, get a bad rap whenever the word “thistle” is mentioned. However, not all thistles are bad for the environment or agriculture. Out of the 10 species identified in the state — five of these occurred in North America before settlement by Europeans. The other five are considered “noxious” or “introduced” thistles.

Out of the five nonnative thistles, only three are considered “noxious”: musk thistle, plumeless thistle and Canada thistle, and are required by state law to be controlled by the landowner. Canada thistle has been on the Noxious Weed List since 1873. Landowners and homeowers realized this plant was a serious problem and needed to be controlled. It wasn’t until 1959 the rapid infestation rate of musk thistle brought out the public concern in Nebraska and was added to the Noxious Weed List in 1962. Plumeless thistle became a noxious weed in 1975.

Thistles commonly found in Lancaster County not considered noxious are wavyleaf thistle, bull thistle and tall thistle.

Thistles not commonly found in Lancaster County but can be found in Nebraska and are not Nebraska noxious thistles include: Platte thistle, flodman thistle, yellowpine thistle and Scotch thistle. (Scotch thistle and bull thistle are listed on some individual county noxious lists.)

Phragmites on a Platte River channel by Lexington. Invasive species can take over ecosystems and create adverse economic impacts.

New Invasives to Watch For: Cutleaf and Common Teasel

Appearance — Cutleaf teasel (Dipsacus laciniatus L.) is a monocarpic perennial (produce seed only once in a lifetime) that form basal rosettes for at least one year until enough resources are acquired to send up flower stalks. Cutleaf teasel can reach 6–8 ft. in height. The plant dies after flowering.

Foliage — Opposite leaves are joined at the base and form cups surrounding the prickly stem.

Flowers — The small, white flowers densely cover oval flower heads and are present from July to September. Spiny bracts are located on the ends of flower stems.

Fruit — A single plant can produce up to 2,000 seeds and can remain viable in the soil for at least two years.

Ecological Threat — Cutleaf teasel was introduced from Europe in the 1700s and spreads by producing abundant seeds. Cutleaf teasel grows in open, sunny habitats preferring roadways and other disturbed areas. It can sometimes, be found in high-quality areas such as prairies, savannas, seeps and meadows.

Cutleaf teasel is currently a noxious weed in Missouri and Colorado and is on Nebraska’s “watch list” for new invasive species. Cutleaf teasel has been found in Lancaster County and should be eradicated, if found.

Cutleaf vs. Common teasel — There are two species of teasel found in Nebraska. Common teasel (Dipsacus fullonum L.) has pale purple flowers while cutleaf teasel has white flowers. Common teasel is typically smaller and the leaves are smoother around the edges. Both varieties can spread rapidly and control is recommended.

More at http://lancaster.ne.gov/weeds
Alien Weeds continued from preceding page
Based on your outdoor hobbies or occupation, here are some actions you can take to prevent the spread of invasive species.

Hikers, bikers, campers and outdoor enthusiasts:

1. To avoid spreading seed of invasive plants, learn to recognize infestations and avoid passing through them.
2. Clean equipment, boots, animals and gear between trips, or preferably, before leaving an infested area. Make sure to remove all seeds and other plant parts.
3. Report any invasive pest sightings to the local land manager or local weed control authority.
4. Always use weed-free hay and feed for your animals.

Award-winning native plants in the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County.
Weed Watchers help protect native plants from the impacts of invasive plants by detecting new occurrences of harmful invasive plants.

Watchers' Guide

• “Weed Watcher Guide” and “Hit invasive plants by Weed Watchers help protect native plants in the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County. Weed Watchers help protect native plants from the impacts of invasive plants by detecting new occurrences of harmful invasive plants.”

Send completed Word Find to:
Lancaster County Weed Control, Weed Book Drawing
444 Cherrycrest Rd., Bldg. B, Lincoln, NE 68528

Hidden Word Find

1. Alien Weeds
2. Weed Watchers
3. Weed-Free Forage Certification Program
4. Funding Available for Weeds in Grasslands and Prairies

Funding Available for Weeds in Grasslands and Prairies

The Five Rivers Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. has received a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust for the “Native Grassland Protection against Invasive Weeds” Project. This money is in use by the Five Rivers Weed Management Area (WMA) to undertake a project that assists in making effective weed control affordable for landowners, land managers and other entities. This program is available on a rating basis; dependent on severity of

Bird watchers:

• To learn about weeds before spreading seed of invasive plants, learn to recognize infestations and avoid passing through them.
• Clean equipment, boots and gear between trips or, preferably, before leaving an infested area. Make sure to remove all seeds and other plant parts.
• Ranchers and farmers:
• To learn to identify the invasive species in your area.
• Report any sightings to your county weed control authority. The sooner invasive species are detected, the easier and cheaper it is to control them.
• Clean your boots, gear, truck bed, tires and harvesting equipment after working a site to make sure you are not spreading seeds to a new location.
• Be sure to control invasive plants along fencerows, ditches and other areas adjacent to fields.
• Always use weed-free hay and feed for your animals.
It is the duty of each person who owns or controls land to effectively control noxious weeds on such land.

Nebraska’s Noxious Weeds

Noxious weed is a legal term used to denote a destructive or harmful weed for the purpose of regulation. The Director of Agriculture establishes which plants are noxious. These non-native plants compete aggressively with desirable plants and vegetation. Failure to control noxious weeds in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock, and to the welfare of residents of this state. Noxious weeds may also devalue land and reduce tax revenue.

### Musk Thistle
- Height: 1.6–9.8 ft
- Flowers: Pink to purple

### Canada Thistle
- Height: 1–3.9 ft
- Flowers: Pink to purple

### Plumeless Thistle
- Height: 1–4.9 ft
- Flowers: Purple

### Phragmites
- Height: 3.2–20 ft
- Young seedhead
- Mature seedhead

### Leafy Spurge
- Height: 3.2–20 ft
- Large yellow leaves (bracts)
- Stems/leaves have milky sap

### Sericea Lespedeza
- Height: 1.5–6.5 ft
- White or cream to yellowish white flowers

### Japanese Knotweed
- Height: 3–10 ft
- Creamy white to greenish white flowers

### Giant Knotweed
- Height: 8–13 ft
- Creamy white to greenish white flowers

### Purple Loosestrife
- Height: 1.3–3.9 ft
- Purple to magenta flowers

### Saltcedar
- Height: 3.3–20 ft
- Pink to white flowers

### Spotted Knapweed
- Height: 1–3.9 ft
- Lavender to purple flowers

### Diffuse Knapweed
- Height: 1–3.9 ft
- White/purplish flowers

If you have questions or concerns about noxious weeds, please contact your local county noxious weed control authority, Nebraska Weed Control Association (www.neweed.org), or Nebraska Department of Agriculture (www.agr.ne.gov/noxious_weed)
Lancaster County Weed Control Authority’s purpose is to educate the public concerning noxious weeds, exercise the necessary authority to obtain effective control of noxious weeds county-wide, educate the public concerning weed abatement and to exercise the necessary authority to cut and clear overgrown weeds and worthless vegetation in the City of Lincoln. We accomplish this by:

- educating the landowners of Lancaster County about the legal requirements and benefits of controlling noxious weeds,
- providing information to the citizens of Lincoln about the legal requirements and benefits of cutting and clearing overgrown weeds and worthless vegetation,
- efficiently and effectively exercising authorization when necessary to obtain acceptable noxious weed and weed abatement control, and
- improving efficiency and effectiveness of operations through management techniques.

### Noxious Weed Program

Lancaster County Weed Control office utilizes a three-phase program to assist landowners in reducing the number of noxious weed infested acres in the county.

#### Phase 1. Prevent the development of new infestations — Prevention is the least expensive and most effective way to halt the spread of noxious and invasive weeds. Integrated weed management includes preventing encroachment into land that is not infested, identifying the pathways in which weeds are spread, detecting and eradicating new weed introductions, containing large-scale infestations using biological and chemical control and often re-vegetation.

#### Phase 2. Provide education and public outreach on noxious and invasive weed control — The public is generally not aware of the economic and environmental impacts of noxious weeds. There is a need to improve awareness of noxious weeds and to provide educational information to cooperators, land managers, and the public. As people become more aware of noxious weeds, the probability of detecting them is greatly increased, which allows for more effective and timely control. Education and awareness assist:

- weed identification
- reporting new infestations
- prevention
- control
- fostering cooperation and partnerships

#### Phase 3. Provide for ongoing management of State of Nebraska-regulated noxious weeds — Noxious weed management is the systematic approach to controlling noxious weed impacts and optimize intended land use. It is very important for all infested areas to be treated with effective methods.

Integrated management is a program of noxious weed control that properly implements a variety of coordinated control methods. Types of control methods include mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological. Integrated management greatly improves the success rate for your weed control plan. All noxious weed management must be applied and evaluated over an extended period of time to be successful.

### Noxious Weed Overview

Noxious weeds know no boundaries. They find themselves at home in cities and villages, along creeks, in wetlands and waste areas, as well as in the rural areas.

In 2013, our inspectors documented 1,631 sites infested with noxious weeds, 493 (31.1%) of those were within Lincoln city limits. While the total number of acres infested in the city is small, we continue to find noxious weeds all around the city. Saltcedar, purple loosestrife and knotweed are found more in the city than in rural areas, because they were first introduced as ornamentals and planted in our landscapes. Without aggressive management, these sites will continue to grow and spread.

**Musk Thistle** — Musk thistle continues to be a problem on poorly managed pastures, wastelands and roadsides. A total of 1,025 inspections were made on 494 sites. There were 425 sites found to be in violation amounting to 82% acres infested. The Weed Control Office carried out 10 enforcements.

**Phragmites** — Phragmites continue to increase in Lancaster County with 385 sites found to have infestations. The number of sites rose 7.2%, up from 359 sites reported in 2012. It’s important to be aggressive on phragmites while the average site is still less than 1 acre, we are seeing it spread at alarming rates.

**Leafy Spurge** — Leafy spurge is a very difficult to control perennial plant and infests 545 acres in the county and city. Once an infestation is identified, it should be controlled and monitored for many years. Its deep rhizome root system will allow it to continue to grow. In 2013, there were 626 inspections made at 446 locations, finding 386 infestations.

**Purple Loosestrife** — Most of the purple loosestrife found are ornamental plantings. There are a few waterways with wild purple loosestrife, but for the most part, this has been a success story in Lancaster County. In 2001, when purple loosestrife was added to the State Noxious Weed list, we reported 490 locations. In 2013, we had 37 sites that had either ornamental or wild purple loosestrife.

**Knotweed** — In 2013 there were 29 sites of knotweed reported. Almost all of the sites are ornamental plantings with 2 only sites being wild infestations. Most owners have been very receptive to removing the plantings once they realize how much damage it can do. Knotweed is often considered one of the 10 most invasive plants in the world, so early detection and control is important.

**Canada thistle** — Canada thistle is a deep-rooted perennial thistle; it is the most difficult thistle to control. While we don’t have a large number of infestations, what we are finding is that it is showing up in landscaping. Meaning, it is likely we will begin seeing some of the trees and shrubs being planted. Always make sure your root stock you are getting is noxious-weed-free. Currently, we have 13 locations, totaling just over 6 acres infested. Mistaken identity is a great example of Early Detection — Rapid Response (EDRR), getting on a problem early and eliminating it before it gets out of control. Lancaster County has only a few species of saltcedar and those are being eradicated by the owners. We are working on 3 locations and no new locations were found in 2013.

**Sericea lespedeza** — Sericea lespedeza was added to the state noxious weed list in April of 2013. This designation requires this very difficult-to-control perennial to be controlled by the landowner. Our inspectors found 73 sites infested totaling 129 acres.

### NOXIOUS WEEDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of Lincoln Noxious Weeds</th>
<th>425</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musk Thistle</td>
<td>385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leafy Spurge</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phragmites</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sericea lespedeza</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### City of Lincoln Weed Abatement Program

The City of Lincoln Weed Abatement Ordinance requires owners of land within the city limits to maintain the height of weeds and worthless vegetation below 6 inches. This includes all areas to the center of the street or alley that joins their property. Three seasonal inspectors are used in administering this program. Most inspections are carried out as a result of complaints.

In 2013, there were 265 properties pre-selected for inspection because of past violations and the lack of response to correct the violations. Our office received 1,867 complaints from the public and an additional 967 properties were inspected and observed as having violations. It required 7,099 inspections to make the inspections. Landowners cut 2,314 sites and a forced cutting was contracted on 325 sites. Landowners are responsible to pay the cost of control; it remains a lien against the property taxes until paid.

### City Landfills

The Weed Control Authority is also responsible for managing both the 48th Street and Bluff Road landfills for all noxious weeds. Musk thistle, leafy spurge and phragmites are the main problems. Both landfills are annually inspected and mapped. A contractor is then hired to do the control work. We do a follow-up inspection once the contractor spraying is complete to ensure proper control.

### Lancaster County Abandoned Cemeteries

Mowing and general maintenance on 6 abandoned cemeteries throughout the county is also under the supervision of the Weed Control office. Cemeteries included are the County Poor Farm, Dietz, Evangelical, Highland, Jordan and Uphoff. Special recognition goes to the following volunteers:

- **Lincoln Tree Service** for tree trimming and removal
- **Steve Wedige** for mowing Jordan
- **Terry Briley** for mowing Evangelical
- **Boy Scouts of America Troop 64** for mowing Dietz
- **The good Samaritan for mowing Highland & Uphoff (we don’t know who is mowing these, but are very appreciative of them for doing it and keeping them looking great).**
Good Day,

I would like to have the city counsel consider this. How many times have you heard someone say “I wish my kids could have the childhood I did. Playing outside, going downtown, freedom to explore the neighborhood”. If this touches a nerve and you want the old city back then I beg of you do not make it worse. Allowing alcohol into the theatres is just plain crazy. We have enough problems with drunks, we don’t need to add that to a movie theater where kids hang out. It just does not make a bit of sense. Please don’t let greed drive this decision; say no to alcohol where kids and young adults go for entertainment.

Thank you,
D McIntosh (CMSgt ret)
Present: Carl Eskridge, Chair; Doug Emery, Vice Chair; Jon Camp; Roy Christensen; Jonathan Cook; Trent Fellers; and Leirion Gaylor Baird

Others: Teresa Meier, City Clerk; Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff; Steve Hubka, Finance Director; and Rod Confer, City Attorney

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. CITY CLERK
Meier stated on the formal agenda under Public Hearing Liquor Resolutions will call Items 8 and 9 together. Under Ordinances, 2nd Reading, on Item 10 Council received the Motion to accept a substitute ordinance which we will act on next week. She then commented she would call Items 13, 14, and 15 together, and Items 16 and 17 together.

Meier added under Ordinances, 3rd Reading, had a request on Item 23 to delay action for one week to April 14, 2014. Also a Motion to Amend, No. 1, on Item 23.

Cook asked under the liquor resolutions, the criminal history, it said to see attached. But there was no attachment, and was not on line. Confer stated they’re speeding violations and 40 year old DUI’s.

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Beutler recognizes impact of National Service.
3. Administrative Regulation, No. 9. Use of Vehicles by City Employees, Volunteers, and Contractors.

Hoppe stated he did speak to Council Members regarding Item 18 on financing. Steve Hubka, Finance Director, will present additional information.

Hubka stated item, #18, is a $9.5 million Certificate of Participation, which includes street lights, the entryway, and sidewalks. You may, or may not, have noticed the fiber improvements we intended to put in will not be included. The reason is, as we developed the documents for this transaction those would be taxable as they improve private sector activity. When drafting the documents we realized we would need another complete set of documents for the $600,000 piece. Decided to pursue an interfund borrowing transaction, which we will with one of our self insured funds. We’ll sell an investment from one fund to another. This will be a lower interest rate and will avoid having a small piece of this project being taxable and having to have a Trust document. Want Council to be aware this was not included as originally thought with this reason.

Hoppe asked if the fiber and conduit action requires added Council action? Hubka replied is should not.

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

PLANNING COMMISSION
2. Action by the Planning Commission, corrected. Pending Item, Change of Zone No. 13015, has
been withdrawn.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS
No comments

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. InterLinc correspondence from Charles Sadler regarding Lincoln’s wheel tax and not seeing improvements from the tax collection.
2. Correspondence from Randy Price on the excessive and unacceptable noise in downtown Lincoln.
   a) Response from Councilman Carl Eskridge regarding the construction noise experienced with the P Street work.
   b) Councilwoman Leirion Gaylor Baird responding to Mr. Price and including information on the P Street Meeting.
      1. P Street Retail Corridor Project Meeting/Discussions invitation.
3. Tina Peterson, email regarding Time Warner Cable. Suggest Consumer Reports and/or other ratings be consulted next time as part of the decision making process.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m.