I. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

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1. Proposed Chicken Production Facility, opposition - Melissa Cummings
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I think of this quote by Hartley Burr Alexander on our state capital building every time I need courage. “The salvation of the state is watchfulness in the citizen”.

Today I need to find the strength to say to you as a very concerned citizen we can not allow CostCo/LPP to destroy our state - our HOME!

Currently the Lancaster County Planning Commission is addressing an application, Special Permit No.18025 for the construction of commercial feedlot just south of Lincoln. The 4 proposed barns would house approximately 190,000 birds at once. Lincoln Premium Poultry (LPP), who is owned by Costco, would own and control every aspect of this operation. This is just one "industrial" farm out of a network that is expected to exceed 500 barns with over 18 million new chickens packed into Eastern Nebraska.

At the recent hearing the Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) testified in seeming support of this application. Yet, it was surprising they didn’t address the John Hopkins University letter that warns of the health concerns surrounding industrial poultry, which I personally gave a copy to every board member. I also gave the board members each a copy of the recent Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) water quality report which should strike us as alarming that we already have many Category 5 waterways (which is the highest impaired category our state ranks) in our area. Adding any more large scale operations would be extremely neglectful of our leaders and dangerous for our water supply and natural resources in Eastern Nebraska. Does anyone else miss the days we could swim and fish in our lakes and streams without the worries we have today of toxic, hazardous water and mercury filled fish?

The sheer scale of this poultry operation and how this can seriously affect Nebraskans was dismissed as neighbors over-reacting. The representative from LLCHD seemed unphased standing with LPP reps and it came across very alarming to me the lack of discussion and acknowledgement that Lancaster County has virtually no regulations in place to protect us from large companies whose primary focus is their bottom line, not of the well-being of Nebraskans.

I was also disturbed by LPP rep saying they prefer working with farmers who have no background nor education in chicken farming. It looks very clear that LPP also likes counties with zero regulations so they can take advantage of an unaware community in order to implement Costco's low standards regarding animal welfare, human rights with labor in the Fremont plant, risky grower contracts, environmental and health issues.

Why would a public health department not address a study from nationally renowned health experts like those at Johns Hopkins University? Why would LLCHD shrug off the serious concerns from the public and John Hopkins with issues of air and water contamination, public health risk, and suggest the NDEQ will be the followup to complaints when we all know the NDEQ does not have the budget nor staff to keep up with all of the other industrial operations that are already leading to our water being more degraded?

This study was initiated because the NDEQ did NOT do a comprehensive study. So John Hopkins did a study and their conclusion was “There are serious human health and environmental concerns associated with large poultry processing plants, including occupational risks, exposure to air pollution and pathogens, and the environmental impacts of excessive water use and wastewater discharge.”
As a citizen of Lancaster County I am deeply disturbed about the issues surrounding the proposed Costco operation. It seems LLCHD has not come anywhere near to doing their due diligence. Why must the people of Nebraska be put at risk for Costco profits? Why do we not have any regulations and oversight in Lancaster County to ensure massive industrial ag companies can not come here and take advantage of our farmers and destroy our natural resources?

I urge the public to ask more of their leadership and that leadership listens more to the concerns of area residents, and not blindly assume some dude from the poultry industry in Virginia, with shiny boots, holds Nebraska's best interests in minds.

Sincerely,

Melissa Baker

7125 Yosemite Dr.
Lincoln NE 68507

Phone # 402-217-1547
Email subred62@yahoo.com
Distinguished city council members:

1. I am writing to ask what the procedure is to request that a member of the city council resigned her post because she has a conflict of interest and is unwilling to enforce the city civil rights statutes because she is a board of directors member for the People's City Mission

2. I am a blind and disabled pregnant mother who was evicted from The People's City Mission in retaliation for filing a safety complaint with the city and a complaint with Lincoln Human Rights Commission regarding the lack of accessibility in the program and building at the People's City Mission. I was verbally attacked to the extent that a professional health provider called Adult Protective Services after hearing the verbal assaults my family was experiencing from the staff at the People's City Mission, because I refused to drop my civil rights complaints and safety complaints necessary to make the program safe and accessible to all persons including those with sensory and print related disabilities The People's City Mission force me out of the program illegally denying me access to prenatal care, medical care and Disability Services they knew were only available to me in the Lincoln area and depriving me of the ability to have a necessary surgery to preserve the life of my unborn baby and prevent me from having excessive bleeding in my pregnancy endangering my life as well. In my family we have children with cardiac conditions and a child with severe disabilities therefore the shelter Knew by putting me out onto the street they were endangering of Health and Welfare of a disabled child and other children with medical problems and by pushing me out of the area they were depriving these children of special education medical and disability related Services only available in the Lincoln Nebraska area.

3. Miss Lamb chose to refuse to protect me as a member of the Lincoln Nebraska community and a citizen of the city of Lincoln and refused to enforce civil rights statutes in place both on a local state and federal level to protect me and my disabled child I believe she took these actions because she has a conflict of interest and I believe because she did this she should have to resign her post with a city council or be impeached.

4. Miss Lamb is aware that to prevent me from working with civil rights investigators and Adult Protective Services investigators the staff at her agency people City Mission forced my family into a van in for sister travel 4 hours away from Lincoln with full knowledge that I had a surgery scheduled for my high-risk pregnancy within a few days and that they were endangering my safety and Welfare and that of my disabled children, their actions are a Akin to kidnapping and are certainly retaliatory, medically negligent and meant specifically to interfere with a state civil rights investigation and investigation by Adult Protective Services. The shelter staff knew I would have no cellular phone service and instructed the driver to drive as fast as he could which was almost 90 miles an hour at certain points and to refuse to allow me to eat and take my life sustaining insulin knowing that I was pregnant knowing that I was high risk and knowing that I had scheduled medical procedures within a few days and that my child with disabilities needed to be in the Lincoln Nebraska area in order to complete the process to put his IEP in place so that he would have access to the education system when the school year begins. it is my belief that by putting me out in the middle of nowhere denying me access to Medical providers and Adult Protective Services who was advocating on my behalf and preventing me from working with civil rights Advocates from disability rights Nebraska and from Adult Protective Services the shelter was trying to cover up their abusive Behavior towards me and their ongoing systemic discrimination.
I would like information about how I can start the process to have her removed from the city council and to have appropriate consequences to her for failing to protect me feeling to protect my children and failing to enforce civil rights regulations of both the city state and the federal government. My family is willing to do interviews provide medical documentation and recordings of the abusive behavior by the staff that Miss Lamb refused to review even though she is a lawyer and she knows the actions of the staff including the retaliation forcing my family out onto the street and out of the Lincoln area is a violation of law and a violation of our civil rights not to mention endangering the Health and Welfare of myself my unborn child my children with health conditions and my disabled son. Please email me the information regarding how to start the process to have her removed from city council I believe that she has a conflict of interest if she cannot represent the city of Lincoln and its citizens and enforce civil rights regulations meant to protect us she should not be able to be on the board of directors and participate in discriminatory activity towards persons with disabilities and also claim that she is representing the citizens adequately.

Mrs. McCoy
Dear Council Members,

The Everett Neighborhood Association writes to you in support of the 13th Street Improvements Project. We believe the project promotes the safety, bikeability, and maintains the driveability of our neighborhood. As residents that would be directly impacted by these changes, we believe that our neighborhood’s perspective should be strongly considered in supporting the increased safety of our neighborhood through this project.

This project would promote safety for all – drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. We recognize the significance of 13th Street in our neighborhood. However, for us it is more than a street to get into and out of downtown. 13th Street holds some of the most vital necessities in our neighborhood – such as the F Street Neighborhood Church, the F Street Rec Center, and El Chaparro. Especially considering that children and families visit these and other neighborhood establishments on or near 13th Street frequently, we want to see the safety of the street improved. With less lanes of traffic to cross, children might not have to sprint across the street to get to the other side. With a left-turning lane, cars might not have to wait behind a car waiting to turn in a lane of traffic. We have also examined the resources that the Public Works department has used to create the plan and agree that the reduced likelihood for vehicle crashes is a great reason to implement this plan. It will be important that these changes be coupled with changes to the traffic signals so that traffic flow is maintained. Currently the signals from Highway 2 all the way to downtown are timed poorly and already leads to drivers speeding to make the next light or running stale yellows. This problem may grow if lanes are reduced unless the signals are timed better.

Our community is also very mobile on all modes of transportation. Many residents live in our wonderful neighborhood because of the easy access to their jobs on foot or by biking. While our neighborhood is separated from the Near South neighborhood by 13th Street itself, many residents also like going to events in both neighborhoods, oftentimes on foot because of the walkability of the neighborhood. We want to make sure that our streets are as safe as possible for the residents who prefer to or simply have no other option but to walk or bike as their main mode of transportation.
Thank you for your time and consideration of our support for the 13th Street Improvements Plan. We believe this plan serves the interests of the neighborhood schools, churches, businesses, and of course, our neighbors in the Near South Neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Everett Neighborhood Association
Dear Members of the Lincoln City Council,

I am a homeowner near the corner of 13th and C Streets. I like to take walks in the neighborhood regularly and I've noticed that 13th Street is very dangerous to cross. I always feel like I have to run to make it across all 4 lanes of traffic. It's even difficult to cross in my car or turn left to get onto C St. I also use 13th St. to bike home from downtown when I'm around 14th St. further North. I'm not fond of sharing the lane with fast-moving cars.

For all these reasons, I support the plan to improve 13th St. by slowing down traffic, making it a 3 lane road, and adding a bike lane. I'm excited about the improvements and confident it will make my neighborhood safer and more connected—no more choosing to stay just on the West side of 13th to avoid crossing it.

I'm happy that the city already has the funding to pay for these common sense safety and livability improvements. I fully support using that funding for its intended purpose.

Thank you,
Cassandra Lottman
1225 C St.
Lincoln NE 68502
Rosina

Thanks for your email in support of the Budget. Among the items detailed for funding, you omitted the “elephant in the room”, namely our streets and roads infrastructure, which have suffered for more than a decade.

Best regards,

Jon

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City Council - Contact

Date : 8/6/2018 5:45:22 AM

name Rosina Paolini
address 1850 Dakota Street
  city Lincoln
state NE
Good morning,

I am glad to see a budget that is starting to restore departments that were cut repetitively for a number of years in a row. This year's budget is the beginning to restoring all of the departments that got hit hard: Aging, Star Tran, Parks and Recreation. Restore Aging Partners who lost $800K in one year, Star Tran's Sunday service, evening and night service, 61 jobs in Parks and Recreation, pool hours, recreation center hours, increase mowing schedules, library hours and jobs. We have a lot of services to be restored before thinking cutting our property taxes is a good idea.

Our city is growing, with that growth comes services: parks, fire stations, libraries, police stations and trails requiring increase revenue to build and maintain.