I. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE
1. SP20013 - Christie Schwatzkopf Schroff
2. Police - Nancy Russell
3. I support Jacob Campbell - Barbara Haith
4. Street Sales Tax Funding - Russell Miller
5. Fireworks - Lin and Steve Jurgena
6. Stand up for the tax payers of this city - Jan Kujath

II. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE REQUESTING TO DEFUND LPD
See attached items

III. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE IN SUPPORT OF LPD
See attached items
July 9, 2020

To: Lincoln City Council members via email
   Richard Meginnis, Chair rmeginnis@lincoln.ne.gov
   James Michael Bowers, Vice-Chair jbowers@lincoln.ne.gov
   Jane Raybould jraybould@lincoln.ne.gov
   Tammy Ward tjward@lincoln.ne.gov
   Sandra Washington swashington@lincoln.ne.gov
   Roy Christensen rchristensen@lincoln.ne.gov
   Bennie Shobe bshobe@lincoln.ne.gov

RE: Special Permit #20013, Resolution No. PC-01708
   (South 46th Street and Hillside Streets)
   Developer: Phil Euler of Euler Rentals, LLC
   July 20, 2020 Public Hearing

Dear Members of the Lincoln City Council,

Although Rega Engineering Group has had the laboring oar in helping the developer design and plan this Community Unit Plan (CUP), I have worked with Phil Euler as a real estate attorney over the past several months in formulating two possible offers to purchase real estate within this 4-block area. Prior to making an offer, we disclosed Mr. Euler’s vision for the neighborhood and invited each owner to meet so we could better understand each owner’s long-range plans and objectives. Neither owner accepted our invitation.

As a former Planning Commissioner, I am personally very excited about this CUP proposal. Rarely does the City Council have the opportunity to affirm one of its Comprehensive Plan Goals – infill in existing neighborhoods. This application presents you that opportunity.

Infill projects in existing neighborhoods are challenging. Why? Acquiring ownership takes years. Finding little pockets of land is tough. Engineering planning takes vision. Investing in infrastructure requires significant cash. By comparison, it’s much easier to buy and develop raw land on the fringes of the city, contributing to urban sprawl.

Phil Euler has spent years working toward his vision of this “pocket neighborhood” development. Rega Engineering Group has carefully designed and tailored the development to this unique 4-square block site. The planning staff recommended conditional approval. The Planning Commission voted unanimously in favor.
The only portion of this project that is before you for a vote is phase 1. Phase 2 is conceptual and is shown for planning purposes. The most vocal opposition to this project is from a landlord and her daughter who own property in phase 2.

The concern raised by neighbor Del Klever is the stormwater that flows south to north through this property. This project is engineered to address that issue. The detention pond shown as Outlot C will help solve the runoff issue, not contribute to it. In addition, one of the recommended conditions of approval is the satisfaction of Watershed Management.

I direct your attention to 3 particular letters of support, all from property-owners and residents of this area: one from Brian McMullen & Lisa Hernandez, one from Josh Mehlin, and one from Andrew McNeely. These articulate many of the reasons why this project merits your approval.

We understand neighbors’ resistance to change. Many have lived in this neighborhood for years. So has the developer’s family. The reality is this project will utilize underused land and revitalize this 4-block area. It is modest in that it approves only 17 lots (8 of which are existing homes) when 31 lots would be allowed in this density. It adds a pedestrian sidewalk to access the wooded area.

This is your opportunity to stand by the policies stated in our Comprehensive Plan and by the recommendations of Planning Staff and the Planning Commission. I urge you to approve Special Permit #20013.

Respectfully,

Christie Schwartzkopf Schroff

Christie Schwartzkopf Schroff
Review the arrest history. 3000,000 in 2 years? Seems mind boggling. Thanks, Nancy
I support Jacob Campbell.
Thank you.
Barbara Haith

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

According to this Resolution 20-227 it is an annexation agreement whose success requires $2.1 million of Lincoln 1/4 cent sales tax money plus $500,000 Impact Fees plus $1.4 million from something called Developer Loan/Directed Impact Fees.

Lincoln On The Move (LOTM) lists this project (Rokeby road from 31st to 40th Streets) as a LOTM Growth project. By City ordinance the 1/4 cent sales tax is divided into 3 categories: Growth projects, Rehabilitation of Existing Streets projects and RSTD (33rd and Adams street railroad crossing). It is mandatory that Growth project category receives 25% of the sales tax funds.

Rehabilitation of Existing Streets projects are to receive **UP TO 73.5%** of the sales tax funds i.e. **it can be less**. This Resolution 20-227 does not specify as to what ‘pot’ the sales tax money is to come from. My concern is that it could come Rehabilitation of Existing Streets ‘pot’ which would be legal but it would cause fewer residential streets to be rehabbed.

In a ACT (Advisory Committee on Transportation) handout of 17 Oct. 20 titled “Street Conditions Data by Council District” (https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/ltu/streets/act/pdf/2019-10-17-streets-data.pdf) illustrates the huge dollar amounts of street repair/rehab that are necessary. My summary for just arterials from this handout (or non-residential streets) yields:

- 1st District Rehab 38.5 miles or $23.1 million to repair
- 2nd District Rehab 34.1 miles or $20.4 million
- 3rd District Rehab 43.1 miles or $25.8 million
- 4th District Rehab 26.8 miles or $16.0 million

This totals 142 miles or $85.5 million dollars. This large amount exists because about zero work has been done on our arterials for the last 20 or more years. Most of our wheel tax money has been spent on arterials serving new developments i.e. growth.

It is crucial that all 73.5% of the sales tax money is spent on Rehabilitation of Existing Streets. Which is what we were told would happen during the campaign last year.

It appears that the phrase ‘sales tax’ appear 10 times in this Resolution. **I suggest the phrase ‘sales tax’ be changed to ‘the portion of 1/4 cent sales tax designated for Growth projects’** be used or wording that will achieve the effect of insuring that no money from the Rehabilitation of Existing Streets ‘pot’ will be used for this project.

Thank you,

Russell Miller
402-499-2611
Good morning,
I sent an email with attached pictures to my councilman, Mr. Meginnis as well as the Mayor, on July 6. Our neighborhood looked like a bomb exploded filled with paper, plastic and a variety of other objects. Several neighbors start early on the 4th, if not before, setting off their fireworks in the street. I think our city rules should be changed to not permit fireworks that explode and scatter debris into neighbor's property. I am not against all fireworks, but it gets worse every year what is being exploded. I am still finding plastic, cardboard and metal from LAST year's celebrations.
I still hear fireworks north of Normal Blvd. Our dogs are traumatized, won't go out, won't eat and that is with giving them tranquilizers. People were setting fireworks off a full week before the 4th.
I hope the council can revise fireworks permitted within the city limits before next year. We never fired off anything within the city limits that exploded and scattered debris when our kids were little. We went to my in laws that lived in the country.
The city is supposed to be so environmentally conscious, not so much the last few years.

Thank you.
Respectfully,
Lin and Steve Jurgena
5816 Brookview Dr.
402-460-1040

Get [Outlook for Android](https://www.outlook.com)
Dear Mayor,
When I heard you do not want to accept the Grant for the police department I could not believe it. You need to step up and support the police dept. These men and women of all races leave their homes and families everyday and never know if they are coming home safely. What happened at the protests was not all their fault. If you our Mayor would have stood behind our law enforcement because you believed in what they do a lot of this would not have happened. We need to as a city unite and not divide. And if you are to scared to do this, you need to step down and let someone that I strong enough to unite this city and work for all of us, not just one group. I pay taxes and if we let our police go, I will personally call you to protect me if I need it and I will quit paying taxes. My mother lived in a foreign country that was runs by militia groups and that is why she left, and now that is what you want to bring into the city of Lincoln instead of better Officers and more training. Please Step Up and Be a Strong Mayor or get out.
Also as city council representatives, you need to represent all citizens of Lincoln Ne with respect and support our police department as we need them to serve and protect us. Please accept the grant and use it for new officers and better training. They deserve it and they deserve our support. This city needs all of you and all of us to start united instead of dividing like the Mayor has
God Bless
Respectfully Jan Kujath
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Mel Severin and I am a resident of the Near South neighborhood in Lincoln. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD’s budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD’s increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs. Reducing funding for LPD would hopefully also reduce the number of new incarcerated people, which helps with our overcrowded prisons. Many people who are arrested by LPD and eventually go to prison simply need mental health treatment or some other support that can be provided by our community if we start allocating funds to them.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

* Reduce LPD’s allocation from the General Fund.
* Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
* Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
* Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Mel Severin
1826 Harwood Street
melseverin@gmail.com
402-430-0020
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Adrienne Wilson and I am a resident of Lincoln, and live in beautiful University place. I've lived here all my life and have been a nurse for the past 13 years. I've worked in ER, UNL student health, home health and as a school nurse.

I write this letter to urge you to begin reallocating police budget and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 13% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD’s increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city.

As a nurse I've found it very frustrating to work with police on a numerous child abuse and neglect situations, elders at risk, domestic violence situations, and sexual assault cases. They do very little to fix the situations that people are in except write a report. Their attitudes and presence further traumatize these at risk individuals. In fact, many times they act annoyed I even called. I've actually felt nervous and discouraged to call them because of the way I'm treated for reporting abuse situations. Like I'm an inconvenience, or like the child or elder or assault victim is an inconvenience. They lack the education and skills to fully advocate for our citizens.

These are some services that I have relied on to best serve my patients, clients, and students: adult protective services, child protective services, voices of hope, mental health services such as centerpointe, drug and alcohol services, youth programs, food assistance, Cedars Street Outreach, and programs offering housing/rent assistance during this challenging time. I suggest you reallocate funds to these organizations so they have the financial means to heal our community.

As a Lincoln resident, I therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.
- Have liability insurance paid by individual officers, not tax payer money.
- Ban the use of rubber bullets and tear gas.
- Although we don't use it at this time, have a policy stating that police cannot ask EMS to give their detainees any sedative including ketamine.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to reallocate LPD funds.
Thank you,

Adrienne Wilson RN/BSN
(402)560-4457
☮ ♥
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Erin Hitz and I am a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

* Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
* Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
* Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
* Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Erin Hitz
1826 Harwood St Lincoln, NE
Ehitz4@gmail.com
4023263994
I’ve heard many things about the Lincoln Police Department being equipped with body cams. At this time of age, I’m unsure if this would help with police accountability.

Please, please, allocate these funds to ADVANCING Lincoln Nebraska’s public social services.

I strongly recommend a push for ON-CALL Social Service Workers and mental health/drug Counselors. As I strongly believe that providing funds to programs that are PREVENTIVE vs REACTIVE will strongly help and influence the Nebraska communities in a positive way.

Too many times Nebraskans have been told by LPD Officers that “their hands are tied.” And that they are unable to react unless it is a life or death situation.

Get Outlook for iOS
Please accept the Federal COP Grant (5 Cops who focus on gun violence/Paid for 3 years/$635K grant).

Mike Davis
Madame Mayor and City Council Members

I strongly encourage you to accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for 5 new Police Officers for a period of 3 years. During these unprecedented times of violence and civil unrest in our country, it is imperative that our city be protected.

Lincoln has always been a safe and enjoyable place to live for everyone in the community. The integrity of our police force is one of the reasons this has been so. I strongly encourage you to accept this grant in order to help keep our city safe.
I am in favor of receiving this grant. Please vote to accept.

Nancy Bird

Sent from my iPad
Dear Lincoln City Council, I am writing today in favor of supporting the Lincoln Police Department. Should Lincoln qualify for federal funding, please know that I am in 100% support of extra funding. Our police department needs more help, not less. I am hopeful that our city does not become lawless like so many across the U.S. Lincoln Nebraska has always been a wonderful and safe community that supports our police department.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gina Cotton
Resident of Lincoln, NE
Good Morning,

I am emailing in support of the Lincoln Police Department and the $635,000 Federal Grant that the department is being awarded. We are living in uncertain times. Our world is not the same as it was 6 months ago. Our city needs stability and I believe that LPD is one way to maintain stability. There is no greater time to enforce the laws of our nation, state and city as it is right now with so many unknowns. Please, Mayor, do not let down your community by allowing outside organizations to influence the safety of your citizens. Please accept the federal funds that will assist LPD. We need their protection more than ever.

Thank you,

Kristy Kollmorgen
From: Pamela Dolberg <pcdolberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 3:11 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Federal Cop Grant
Attachments: icon.png

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

PLEASE accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant. Thank you! PamDolberg. 402.310.6072

Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to mayor.Lincoln.ne.gov@gmail.com because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

LEARN MORE

The response was:

550 5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try double-checking the recipient's email address for typos or unnecessary spaces. Learn more at https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser
m69sor8708747vst.29 - gsmtp
Please accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant. Thank you! Pam Dolberg. 402.310.6072
To Members of the City Council

It has come to my attention that the City of Lincoln has been awarded the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for 5 new Police Officers for 3 years.

It is my understanding that the City Council has previously certified that if the grant is awarded they would vote in favor of accepting it. Other groups such as BLM and De-fund the Police groups are asking they reject it.

I strongly support this Federal Cop Grant being accepted and ask that the mayor and City Council support this for the safety of our vibrant community.

Mary Ryan
1233 Galloway Ave
From: Deb Cabela <debcabela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:33 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police grant

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please accept the federal grant for more police officers. We need them.

Sent from my iPhone
Please accept the offer from the federal government to train And support five LPD officers. Please! I implore each of you.

Sandra L Caradori
Dear elected officials of Lincoln-

The citizens in our community do not desire the revocation of funds to protect our families and businesses. We support the acceptance of the federal cop grant. Refusal to accept this grant would be extraordinary and bizarre. Do not genuflect to tyranny. Keep our residents safe with properly trained officers.

Thank you and God bless,

Neil Grubaugh

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail and the transmitted documents contain private, privileged and confidential information belonging to the sender. The information therein is solely for the use of the addressee. If your receipt of this transmission has occurred as the result of an error, please immediately notify us so we can arrange for the return of the documents. In such circumstances, you are advised that you may not disclose, copy, distribute or take any other action in reliance on the information transmitted.
Council members,

It is very important for the city of Lincoln that you approve the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant, which will pay for five new police officers. Lincoln is growing and needs a sufficient and well trained police presence.

Jeri Cunningham
1300 Galloway Avenue
Lincoln, NE  68512
Carolyn Gregorius
2220 The Knolls
Lincoln, NE 68512
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It has come to my attention that Lincoln may be receiving federal funds for the police department. I urge you to accept those funds. Lincoln is not Minneapolis, Chicago or Seattle. However, during the recent organized protests numerous properties and businesses were damaged, looted and burned to the tune of millions of dollars. It matters not if the sincere protesters were or were not implicated in the damage done. It should not have happened and should never happen again.

Organizers of protests alert police of their intent so that they can carry out their protests peacefully and without challenge from any opposing groups.

Note: the police are not an opposing group. They are there to protect those involved.

If you think that law and order can be better enforced, then it seems obvious that additional funding for additional personnel and additional training is more than appropriate, and should be welcomed. If there are deficiencies or training inadequacies, then solve them. Reducing funding won’t do that. More funding hopefully will.

I have lived in Lincoln for 42 years and believe it is the best place to live in all the United States. I do not want to see it become another Minneapolis, Chicago, Seattle or Baltimore. When the police retreat, which will happen with defunding, crime goes up. Don’t let it happen here, please.

Charles Gregorius, MD, Ret
2220 The Knolls
Lincoln, NE 68512
402-890-8614
DO NOT DEFUND POLICE. HIRE THE ADDITIONAL MANPOWER.
Dear Mayor,

It is my understanding the City of Lincoln will be awarded a $635,000 Federal Cop Grant. That's great news! As you know, Lincoln's number of police officers per 1000 population, is towards the lower end of the range when compared to other cities of our size. This grant will help us hire a few more officers that are very important to keep Lincoln safe, especially in these turbulent times. And with this being a difficult budget year, every dollar helps!

I urge you to accept the grant and not bend to pressure to reduce police funding. Let's keep Lincoln the safe city that we all enjoy!

thanks

Britt Weiser
6148 S. 94th St.
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our city needs more policeman to know and understand gun violence. Our democratic leaders would love to see chaos in our city and that must NOT happen. Ignorance is a lasting event! Jane Lacy
I am imploring you folks to make our dear mayor to accept the federal funds grant to bolster our excellent police department. That should be a no brainer.
Dear Council Members,
I urge you to accept the grant to expand police protect of our citizens.
Sincerely,
Gerry Friberg
Dear Lincoln City Council:

My family and I support our Lincoln Police Department and are grateful to them for keeping Lincoln a safe and wonderful place to live. Please accept the Federal Cop Grant to support more trained police officers.

Thank you for your service as Council Members.

Sincerely,

Rita and Clark Antonson
Dear Mayor,

I respectfully request that you do what is in the “best” interest of the Majority of the Citizens of Lincoln and accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant! Most US cities across the country would give anything to be in the position that we are in to have this Grant offered to them so to turn it down would be a travesty for the citizens of Lincoln in the future. Lincoln is a growing city and we are currently understaffed in the Police department and we need to get back to the status of most departments of Cities our size across the country. This Grant prevents a “future” tax increase to accomplish the same result and we are already one of the higher property tax cities in the country, so again, it absolutely makes no sense to not accept the Grant.

Lincoln’s Police Department is certainly one of the best in the country but that said, every organization, no matter in what industry always has room to improve and make themselves better and more efficient and hopefully part of this grant money could also be used in that regard and I would completely support those efforts! Certainly some of the happenings we have seen going on across the country are not what the United States is about but this is not just a Police issue and the Protestors, especially with the vandalism and looting, have created a big part of the issue and all of us have to “put OURSELVES in that Police uniform on the front line of any of these protests and see how WE would react in that circumstance???”.

We need this Grant for these five (5) additional officers and all of the additional training it can possibly provide to show the Police Department that our Elected officials support them as well as the Citizens of Lincoln!

Thank You!
Ronald Brester

Sent from my iPad
Dear Council Members,

Please accept the Federal Cop Grant for our Police officers and our city.

Sincerely,
Aimee Nebel

--
Aimee
Please vote to confirm the use of this money to improve our police dept and keep our city safe as was reported to happen thank you for positive action in this regard diane butherus
The first duty of the City is to protect its citizens! We must aid our police to do the job we have committed them to do. Accepting the grant to train our police in their duties is a no-brainer. I am so thankful for our law enforcement—the men in blue!
May God bless Lincoln and America!
Connie Wostrel

Sent from my iPad
Lincoln City Council:

Please accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for five (5) new Police Officers for a period of three (3) years. Let's keep Lincoln safe with officers who we can trust. Only by hiring and paying officers a decent wage can we expect to regulate crime and keep respectable police officers.

Thanks!
Mark Ruhl
Dear Council: In light of current and future needs to retain order in Lincoln, kindly accept the grant for 5 new officers. Best Wishes, Nancy Russell
Good Morning Elected Officials Lincoln, NE.

My name is Vernon J.

Safety is the top priority of any Government.

We have an opportunity to hire 5 additional officers at no increase to the police budget or taxpayers.

I urge you to take advantage of this 3 year grant.

Vernon J
1425 G St.
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-516-4401
We should not reject the grant funding additional officers to our current force and the training it supports. I will be certain to watch and share the outcome of this vote either way.
Angela M. Birkett

From: EMMA <ebarborka7@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Council Packet; Mayor
Subject: 7.12.2020 the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for five (5) new Police Officers for a period of three (3) years.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Mayor Baird, Councilmen and Councilwomen,

It has come to my attention that:
The City of Lincoln this past week was notified of being awarded the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for five (5) new Police Officers for a period of three (3) years. These officers will be trained in gun violence.
The City Council has previously certified that if the grant is awarded, they would vote in favor of accepting., however, from her past reactions to the mob violence in downtown Lincoln, I am under the impression that the Mayor Baird is giving in to the extreme Marxist demands of defunding our police. This is of a great concern to me as a citizen of our city and I urge you, Mayor Baird and all members of the City Council to accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant and act without hesitation in the best interest of all law obeying citizens.

Sincerely,
Emma P. Barborka | 4444 Eagle Ridge Rd., Lincoln, NE 68516
ebarborka7@gmail.com
402.202.1376 c
Angela M. Birkett

From: Christine Blake <cjw.blake@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:12 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Grant for our police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please have the Mayor accept the grant for new police officers. Our city’s protection is very important. Thank you Sent from my iPhone
We MUST accept the Federal Cop Grant and hire more police officers. I didn’t move back to Lincoln to live in fear because of BLM! Lincoln is a great city that has a small town feel, but I for one do not want to have that sense of peace ruined from lack of police presence. Please do the right thing for the citizens of Lincoln (young and old) and protect our city with more police officers on duty. This violence of the BLM MUST be stopped and we need more police to achieve this in our great city of Lincoln. I want to feel safe walking down the streets of Lincoln. We need to make sure that families will feel safe when moving here to live so we can continue to grow and be the best small-town feel city in America!

Please accept this grant and hire more police officers to ensure our safety and peace.

Thank you.
Anne Heath
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please encourage our mayor to support our police force and accept federal funding. We NEED continued police protection! There are forces out there who want to create chaos with violence and destruction. Please, please help keep us safe!

Sent from my iPhone
If the city is granted the money to fund 3 new police officers, please consider this as a wonderful gift. We never know when situations get out of control and the first ones who come to our aid are the police force. BACK THE BLUE.
Angela M. Birkett

From: Gary Muckel <gmuckel9@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:35 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please maintain our excellent police department.
My wife and I have lived in Lincoln for nearly thirty years and hope to stay here in retirement. However we now are in fear of our lives since BLM marches began with their ensuing violence.

Even cooped up in our house due to the virus, we now keep our guns loaded for fear of mob violence.

Our police department showed great restraint during the violence and needs more community support and funding not defunding that a small but vocal radical group is calling for.

Thank you for your service to Lincoln.
Gary and Nancy Muckel
Angela M. Birkett

From: Lonnie Veik <april47.lv@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:08 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Department necessity and expansion

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a tax paying citizen of Lincoln, I feel that the grant should be accepted for five additional officers. Many citizens have worked hard to have a nice home and want to feel protected living in this city. The safe atmosphere of this community is what brought us to Lincoln to live and chose to stay here. Defunding the police department and not continuing to reinforce our quality department would be detrimental in protecting the citizens and discourage new people from wanting to live in Lincoln.

Sincerely,
LaVonne Veik
Dear Ms. Mayor,

I urge you not only to accept the recent "Cop Grant" but to MAKE SURE it is used to fund hiring MORE police officers for Lincoln, Nebraska.

And of course, Do NOT then reduce other budget items so you can spend the funds on other "pet projects."

We are watching.

Regards,
David F. Wiegand
4020432-5689
I feel it would be foolish to not accept the Cop Grant money to help grow the police force and help keep the community safer.
Thank you,

Janiece & Phil Goin, NHC
Certified Weight Loss, Wellness & Lifestyle Coaches
Certified in Aromatherapy, Iridology, Herbology
mynsp.com/goinherbs
We keep you goin!
home: 402-788-2241
cell: 402-309-5960
I'm pleased to hear that you will support the awarding of the Cop Grant!!!
Thank you.
Jan Kruse
You need to make sure our police are fully funded and stop giving into the mob. This is a SMALL SMALL group of people and you need to stand up to them.

Todd Sievers
7440 S 28th St, Lincoln, NE 68516
I am Richard Veik and am a resident of the City of Lincoln. I want to express my support for the law enforcement provided by the Lincoln Police and Lancaster County Sheriff departments. I am of the opinion that we need more law enforcement personnel. Those who would disregard common law in this city need to be dealt with. Brutality is not to be tolerated but any infractions should be handled in a fair equitable manner. We depend on the existing civil laws being enforced.

Thank you

Richard L Veik
Dear Mayor and City Council of the City of Lincoln:

We are writing to show our support for the City of Lincoln Police Department.

Close your eyes and imagine that the City Police are defunded. You call 911 because you hear someone breaking into your home. Oops - no officers available because you didn't take that federal grant for more police. What do our citizens do? How do we respond? And what will be the physical injury and financial liability that will be created by the brash actions of feckless City officials, if you do not fund the police.

Unlike Minneapolis, or Atlanta, and many large cities across the country, our police have not been charged with serious crimes against our citizenry. We are very fortunate to have a law enforcement agency that is CALEA accredited. This is one of the highest honors a law enforcement agency can attain. Police officers handle many property crimes, but also handle physical altercations that can result in serious injury or death. When these situations arise, will we be calling a social worker, or a drug counselor or a community organizer?

We respectfully request that you do not get "wobbly" about your duties to the citizens of Lincoln. As a municipal government, your highest duty is to provide protection, and that requires a well funded police force to keep the peace.

Do your jobs, and do the right thing, or step down and be replaced by other politicians who can handle this!

Sincerely,

Bill & Terry Kostner
7220 Woody Creek Lane
Lincoln, NE 68516
I am against Defunding the Police or any law enforcement in Lincoln, Nebraska, Lancaster. As a registered voter and fellow citizen I ask that we raise funds for law enforcement.
From: Dean Vanloon <davloon@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 12:35 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: We Need Police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council, please don’t bow to the pressure. It is ridiculous to contemplate anything close to what the Defund Police activists suggest. Our police force needs your support and the support of the public. The public needs a police force that matches our population.

We need your support of our police!
Dean VanLoon.

Sent from my iPhone
I’m against any efforts to defund law enforcement in Lincoln.

I support and encourage city council members to vote against any attempts to remove any funding from the Lincoln budget with regards to police funding.

I’m also against any attempts to restrict police officers from performing their duties as currently assigned in protecting the citizens of Lincoln.

Scott Bourn
7430 Upton Grey Lane
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our community needs our local police to insure the safety of ourselves and property in Lincoln. It is inconceivable to me to function without police protection in today’s society crime rates. I do not want to see any other form of protection and would not want to live here without it.

Sincerely,
LaVonne Veik
To our City Council.

I am writing this email to make you aware of our position on the current leftist trend to try and defund our Police Departments. As a business owner, LIBA member and resident of Lincoln we will not support any effort to defund, reduce or tie the hands of our law enforcement. We expect the City Council to support the wishes of the majority of the population of Lincoln, to protect its citizens by having a well trained, well equipped, and well armed Police Department. We also expect you to publicly support our Police Officers. These men and women are doing a tough and thankless job that puts them in harm's way every day, and they need to know that the elected officials are going to publicly support them in their duties.

Furthermore, in the event of any further uprisings in the city, the popular approach in allowing the so called peaceful protesters to have their way and cause damage and personal injury without repercussions is not acceptable. Peaceful Protest is a constitutional right that we support, however the minute the first act of violence or civil disobedience is perpetrated our law enforcement officers have the duty to react and put down any uprising and they should not have to worry about politicians try to second guess their actions.

The founding fathers foresaw this coming and this is why we have the second amendment. Please support our constitution as it was written, we do need to rewrite any portion its perfect the way it is.

If you would like to discuss anything in this email with me personally, I am available anytime.

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

First Amendment: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

God bless the United States of America.

Regards

James Clark

BigShots Indoor Range, LLC

399 Sun Valley Blvd
The fact that I even have to write this is laughable and confirms that you have all gone crazy to even entertain the idea of defunding the police or even listen to anyone with this ridiculous demand.

Also btw when are you going to stop the closures and ridiculousness of masks? You do realize you are all being played by the nutjobs right? Tell the Mayor the residents are pissed at her stupid cancelation of the Uncle Sam fireworks.

It's not a pandemic with numbers lower than that of a seasonal flu. Please wake up already!

Also how are those roads coming along with our extra .25 Sales Tax? I would like to see the transparency audit of all extra monies that were supposed to be allocated to the fixing of Lincoln's roads please.

Sincerely,
Denise Arnold :)
718-974-9474
Angela M. Birkett

From: Pat Hust <pathust1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Force

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please keep funding in place to support our fine men who are keeping our city safe! Protesters are keeping violence down because our police force is there. Never allow violence and lawlessness to find a stronghold in our city!

Thank you for your efforts to find a way to keep our city peaceful while still listening to those who want change.

Sent from my iPhone
From: Marcia Werner <marcialwerner@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please Leave Lincoln and Lancaster County Police Alone

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln Mayor and Council,

Our wonderful police officers including Lincoln Police and Lancaster County Police take good care of us. We do most of our shopping and buying in Lincoln and enjoy downtown. Should you take away the police's ability to do their job, we will be forced to shop and do business in Omaha. When our police encounter violence, they need to be able to quickly establish order. If people show the police respect that any human deserves, they will in turn be shown respect. I have lived in Lancaster County 40 years and my husband and I fully support the police in Lancaster County and City of Lincoln. Please do not de-fund or take away the officer's ability to defend themselves rather teach people to respect the police. Also we need to pay for the liability of our police and any changes mean the possibility of losing veteran officers. Do the right thing and protect Lincoln and Lancaster County! Leave the police alone. Our problems result from families not teaching children all people should be treated equally.
Thank You!
Marcia Werner
Michael Werner
Waverly, NE
I read with some dismay that the mayor and the council are contemplating whether or not to accept a grant of federal funds that would help provide more officers and/or equipment for our police force. Other than kowtowing to BLM demonstrators (aka rioters, looters, vandals, arsonists, etc.), please give me one good reason why you would turn down that help. Our force has consistently ranked behind other cities of our size in number of officers per capita, and still, they do a pretty good job. Crime may still on the decline as it has trended across most of the nation for some time now, but we still read about robberies, rapes, stabbings, assaults, burglaries, and occasional murders pretty much every day in Lincoln. Shots fired. Vandalism. Speeders. Hate crimes. Smash and grabs. You name it, we still experience it daily. More officers and more equipment would help that situation. Body cameras in particular should provide evidence that would help eliminate the existence of any police prejudice or brutality as well as false claims of either that are expensive whether valid or not. No one on either side of the issue can disagree with that.

I don’t like the term, but if there was ever a “no-brainer” this is one.

Steve Holman
Dear City Council,

Our family hasn't had to call the police too often; Lincoln has been a safe place to raise our kids. But we have had to call a couple of times. And we were incredibly grateful for their quick and professional response.

Most recently, a man tried to break into the car in our driveway while we were home. The police arrived within minutes and said they'd gotten several calls that morning about the same person. They quickly gathered some information and left to find him. We continued our day with peace of mind, knowing the police were on the job and taking care of problems.

Please show respect for our community by upholding the law and order that makes Lincoln a pleasant place to live.

Best Regards,

Rachel Terry
Please keep funding our police department and accept the Federal grant to put more officers on our streets.

Mark Hesser
2111 The Knolls
Lincoln, NE 68512
I fully support our Police and trust you have the wisdom to do the same!

Tom Millett
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird,

I wish to express my support for the use of the Federal Grant for the Police officer staffing increase. I was shocked to read that you were actually considering rejecting the funds only four months after we made such a strong case for needing them in the grant application. Our community needs these funds for more officers, our budget needs these funds to help with the current shortfalls. Relinquishing them would be a failure to uphold the most important role of local government; protecting the health, safety and welfare of all of our citizens.

Mike Eckert
6261 S. 79th St
Lincoln, NE 68516
Good morning. Lincoln is growing and with growth comes good and bad. I have lived in Lincoln most of my life. I lived in Portland, OR for a couple of years as well as Denver, CO. While those 2 cities are much larger than Lincoln, Lincoln has always been a safe place to live. With the grant money, being able to hire more officers, which is much needed, Lincoln will continue to be a safe place to live. One of the best selling points of Lincoln is it's a safe place to raise kids. Let that continue to be true. Please don't go back on your word, take the grant money and hire the needed officers. Thank you!
To the members of our city council:
If the city of Lincoln qualifies for the federal funding for the extra police officers, please vote for this funding. We need to support our Police Department.

Lynn Morrow
City Council members:

I am writing today in favor of supporting the Lincoln Police Department. We have had a business in the downtown area for 8 years now and there have been many times when we’ve had to call the police department for assistance - especially at night, since we are open until 11:00. We already pay for private security, but they are unarmed and call the police if they encounter a problem that they can’t resolve.

Our friends in blue have always been kind and courteous. I don’t know what we’d do without them. We serve a low income population, and if we go out of business, it will hurt the very people that need us the most.

In the event that Lincoln qualifies for a Federal Cop Grant, please know that I am in 100% support of this extra funding. We started a business in Lincoln because we believed that it was a wonderful, community-minded and safe city, and that its leaders and citizens would support our police department, every chance they get. I am a grandparent, as well as a business owner, and it would be heart-breaking if our city would become lawless like so many across the United States.

Thanks for your continued support of our fine police department. Please be assured that I am willing to help in any way that I can.

Thank you for your consideration,
Lynette Waltemath, Owner
SOAP FULL SERVICE LAUNDRY
116 S. 16th St.
Lincoln, NE
402-435-0515
www.soaplnk.com
Madame Mayor,

I just got word that you have approved funding for 5 new police officers. Thank you.
Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

A foundational component of our city’s government, the part that helps secure the safety and protection of every individual in our community, is the Lincoln Police Department. We have a well-trained, professional police department that is doing a great job in our city. I live across the street from three police officers, and I know the hard work and effort that they put into developing excellent relationships in neighborhoods across our community. Day in and day out, they put themselves in harm’s way – for us, for our safety and security - and they are due the respect that they have earned.

I believe the debate concerning police should be based on facts. To cite a, covering a period from 2017 through 2019, the Lincoln Police arrested 300,210 individuals and 893 resisted arrest. There were 140 assaults on LPD officers during this period, yet zero suspects were shot and killed by Lincoln Police Officers (Source: Lincoln Police Department Annual Reports; The Washington Post). So, it is disheartening when our police, who uphold a high standard of ethics and training, are demonized and stereotyped by the undefendable actions of police in far-away cities. It is a fact that since 2015 there have been no unarmed persons of color shot and killed by any Nebraska Law Enforcement Officer (Source: The Washington Post). There does not seem to be evidence of systemic racism in our police department.

Our police department needs the encouragement of the City Council and the Mayor. One thing that you and the mayor can do is accept the Federal Justice Dept. grant that you applied for and have been awarded. It seems to make sense to accept the $635,000 award that will fund 5 police officers for the next 3 years. This is a benefit to taxpayers; it is a benefit to the LPD which is understaffed and which our Mayor admitted has a lower than average number of police officers per capita than cities of similar size; these five new officers will be specifically trained to deal with gun violence, and it will free up current officers to work in other areas of need.

For the rule of law to be upheld and to keep our cities safe, our police force needs your support and encouragement. Please don’t listen to the voices that are challenging and undermining the lawful authority of our police; it only discourages LPD’s efforts in maintaining an exemplary police department that fulfills the true needs of this city. Please keep your word by accepting the Federal Grant; it will provide the encouragement that our police force deserves and keeping your word will set a good example of virtuous living. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Mary Hilton
402-304-7546
Please do everything possible to support and expand the police department.

Sincerely,

S. Wayne Smith
6345 S 35th Ct
Lincoln, NE 68516
402 327-2085
I can’t think of a more powerful source of motivation to remove elected members of the city council than if they choose to refuse this federal grant. How moronic. It can only be explained by pandering to a hateful group like BLM and their supporters. It’s the most fundamental responsibility of elected officials to maximize the safety of its citizens. Rejecting this grant is to fail in this responsibility. Deryl Travis
Dear Elected Officials,
I am writing to encourage you to accept the $635,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for five new Police Officers over a period of three years. The police officers and the gun violence training that those new officers would receive would be a great benefit to all Lincoln residents. Earlier the City Council has stated that if the grant was awarded, they would vote in favor of accepting. Please do not be swayed by those wanting to de-fund the Police or the BLM group. I have been a resident in Lincoln for the past 57 years and, though a registered Republican, I always try to vote according to who I believe is most capable and that I trust with important issues. I assure you, I will never vote for any candidate that degrades, marginalizes, or succumbs to pressure by those who do not fully support the Lincoln Police Department.
Please, graciously accept this grant!
Respectfully,
Karen Travis
Good Morning,

I am writing to urgently ask you to please accept the $650,000 Federal Cop Grant that will pay for five new Police Officers! We need to protect and encourage our Police Officers as they are true servants to our City. I love Lincoln and want to keep it safe. There is NO reason not To accept this grant! It would tell our dear Police Officers the we appreciate them.

Please hear my plea! Thank you,

Mary Sand
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please vote to accept this grant.

Sent from my iPhone