IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS' MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 26, 2010

I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR & DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL

MAYOR

1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor's proposed budget maintains core services.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor presents June Award of Excellence to a team from StarTran, Colin Clark and Toni Kent.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Public invited to welcome Special Olympics torch to Lincoln.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Open house set on road improvements. Construction to begin Monday, July 19.
5. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will hold a news conference, Thursday, July 15, at 9:30 a.m., at the entrance to the Haymarket Parking Garage, 9th and Q Streets, to announce new downtown parking initiatives.
6. NEWS RELEASE. Parking initiatives include first hour free in garages.

Received Week of July 26, 2010

1. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will hold a news conference on Tuesday, July 20, 2010, 10:00 a.m., in Room 303 of the County-City Building, to announce development on City employee retirement match and to give a budget update.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor's proposed budget changes.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Three City unions agree to lower retirement match.
4. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler and Parks Director Johnson will discuss the collapse of a pedestrian bridge in Wilderness Park at a news conference today at 2:15 p.m. at 555 S. 10th Street, in Room 303.
5. NEWS RELEASE. EMS interfund loan paid off.
6. NEWS RELEASE. No injuries in structural failure of Wilderness Park bridge.
7. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will make announcement about the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) fund at a news conference on Thursday, July 22nd, 555 S. 10th Street, in Room 303.
8. Washington Report, July 16, 2010.

WEST HAYMARKET JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY (JPA) **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Agenda (Corrected) for meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2010, 3:00 p.m., at 555 S. 10th Street, in Council Chambers.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Meeting agenda for Thursday, July 29, 2010.

DIRECTORS

CITY LIBRARIES **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Letter from Pat Leach, Library Director, submitting applications received by the Library Board of Trustees from persons interested in being appoint4ed to the Library Board.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. NEWS RELEASE. Heat advisory alert.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1. City of Lincoln Historic Preservation Commission meeting agenda for Thursday, July 15, 2010.
2. The Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission meeting agenda for Thursday, July 15, 2010.
3. Administrative Amendments approved by the Planning Director from July 6, 2010 through July 12, 2010.

Week of July 26, 2010

1. Administrative Amendment No. 10040 to Special Permit No.1988B, approved by the Planning Director on July 14, 2010.

PLANNING COMMISSION

2. Action by the Planning Commission, July 14, 2010.
3. Final Action, July 14, 2010.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES/ENGINEERING

1. ADVISORY. "A" Street; 70th Street - Imperial Drive stimulus project.
2. ADVISORY. Arterial rehabilitation project #540014. "A" Street; 27th Street - Capitol Parkway.
3. ADVISORY. Sidewalk repair advisory. Neighborhood sidewalk repair project. Near South Neighborhood. 24th Street - 27th Street, South Street - A Street, Project #702368.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES/STAR TRAN **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Reply to Loralee Cartner (Correspondence from Citizens to Council: Week of July 26, 2010, #1) regarding forwarding testimony, with attachment, to the StarTranAdvisory Board for review on budget recommendations.
2. Memo from Greg MacLean, Director of Public Works & Utilities, responding to questions and comments received during budget presentation for StarTran, with attachments:
   a) Worksheet providing historical breakdownof ridership by user revenue category; and
   b) Workers Comp report of claims.
3. Reply to Fred Carter (Correspondence from Citizens to Council: Week of July 26, 2010, #27) regarding Mr. Carter's input on the Mayor's proposed budget, specifically StarTran.

III. COUNCIL RFI'S AND CITIZEN CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Letter from the Gardners listing suggestions for areas in which the City budget could be reduced.
2. Reply from Trish Owen, Deputy Chief of Staff, on Councilman Camp's question on how much ROW has been acquired for the South Beltway project by the State of Nebraska.
3. Memo to Fire Chief Ford regarding the purchase of parkas over a two year period.
4. Memo to Fire Chief Ford on the budget discussion of lease purchase of ambulances.
5. Response to #3 above from Purchasing Agent Vince Mejer on the Fire Department's purchase of parkas.
   a) Response, thank you, to Mr. Mejer on his quick reply.
6. Reply from Niles Ford, Fire Chief, regarding lease purchase of ambulances.
7. Memo to Steve Hubka, Budget Officer, regarding Development Services Center budget information, with responding correspondence.

DOUG EMERY

1. Letter from Court Monroe showing support for the proposed gun range at the Helen Boosalis Park.

Week of July 26, 2010

1. Letter from Tom Moloney. Proposed reduction of the Lincoln Police Department Public Service Officers (PSO's) is of great concern and a step backward for the City of Lincoln.

ADAM HORNUNG **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Letter from Larry Sims regarding the current City Council policies on bicycle trails and bike lanes on city streets.

JOHN SPATZ **Week of July 26, 2010**

1. Letter from Ruth Jensen regarding deteriorating buildings.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL

1. Letter from Marilynn Andreasoen stating reasons why the nine Public Service Officers should retain their positions. (Each Council Member received individual letter)
2. Letter from William Lewis highly suggesting that the City of Lincoln retain the Public Service Officers. (Each Council Member received individual letter)
3. Message from Russell Irwin, President of Clinton Neighborhood Organization, urging the Mayor and City Council to restore the Forester position and the two Arborist positions in the City's budget.
4. Letter from Amy Greving strongly opposing elimination of the City Forester and two Certified Arborist positions.
5. Letter from John McGreer asking how is it a savings for Lincoln to replace the Public Service Officers? It will dilute the ranks of the Lincoln Police and decrease the abilities of an already strained Police Department.(Each Council Member received letter)

6. Email from Deb Catherall requesting reconsideration of eliminating bus routes which help people get to work, school, and shopping.
7. Email from Keith Dubas opposing the Mayor's proposal to cut the City Forester and arborists in the City's budget.
8. Letter from Carrie Erks stating reasons why the nine (9) Public Service Officers positions should not be eliminated.
9. Email from Darryll and Theresa Pederson stating reasons why the City Forester and the Arboretum positions should not be eliminated due to safety reasons and the well being of the City of Lincoln.
10. Email from June Russell writing in support of the positions of City Forester and certified Arborist. Need positions to fight the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the next one to three years.
11. Email from Dan Russell in support of maintaining the position of the City Forester and the two Arborist positions, and stating reasons why Lincoln needs their experience.
12. InterLinc correspondence from Todd Cuddy in support of StarTran. Riders should be rewarded not punished with eliminated routes and reduced service.
13. InterLinc correspondence from Roxanne Juracek regarding the fire and rescue response times in Lincoln. Did give a personal experience.

Received Week of July 26, 2010

1. Memo from Loralee Carter on the 56th and 57th neighborhood StarTran bus routes.
   1b) Written public testimony from Loralee Carter listing reasons to save the StarTran 56 Neighborhood South and 57 Neighborhood North bus routes.
2. Email from Jane Hoffer requesting Lincoln keeps the City Forester and Arborist positions intact. We are Tree City, USA.
3. Email from Dennis Keim Find other budgets to decrease instead of the City Forester, City Arborists, StarTran routes and raising StarTran pricing.
4. Email from Rick Prevett. Appreciate knowledge and expertise of the City Forester and City Arborists. Best interest of the City of Lincoln to retain these positions.
5. Email from Kathy Benecke. When working on the dog ordinance, make the owner responsible for the dogs welfare.
6. Letter from Dennis Gartner. Please fight to save the City Forester and Arborists jobs.(Each Council Member received individual letter)
7. Letter from Lelia M. Coyne. Personal plea that the City Forester and Arborists positions not be eliminated by the Mayor's budget, giving numerous reasons.
8. Email from Tony Primavera. Even with finding a SaveLincolnTrees.com flyer on door agrees with Mayor Beutler and his budget position regarding the Forester and Arborists positions.
9. Email from Shannon Cummins. Concerned over Mayor Beutler's decision to not fund the Forester and Arborists positions in the City.
10. Email from Jean Lewis. Do not cut the Arborist job for the City of Lincoln.
11. Email from Deborah Schellhorn. Vote against the proposed budget cuts to eliminate the City Forester and two Arborists.
12. Telephone message from Alan More. In favor of the dog ordinance but not in favor of microchipping dogs with only one incident.
13. Telephone message from Janet Day. Retain the positions of the City Forester and Arborists.

14. Email from Cathy Plager regarding the Willard Community Center budget cut. Please don't cut funding without allowing the Center time to transition to self sufficiency.
15. Email from Bob Reeves, Clinton Neighborhood Organization. The Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance voted to support retaining the position of City Forester as well as the two Arborists.
16. Email from Bob Reeves suggesting City and County officials meet and discuss raising property taxes, giving options on how these entities could work together to maintain the high quality of life in this City and County.

17. Email fro Anne Rickover in support of keeping our City Forester and professional Arborist positions.
18. Email from Russell Miller for the Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance, suggesting a list of deferred City items be in the proposed City budget.
19. Email from Russell Miller, Chairman of the Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance. The City needs a tax increase to maintain Lincoln's infrastructure.
20. Telephone message from Sabrina Russo in support of keeping the City Forester and the City Arborists positions. Need their expertise on numerous levels.
21. Email from Karina Reinke giving reasons why not to eliminate the City Forester and two Certified Arborists.
22. Letter from the Arbor Day Foundation, John Rosenow, Chief Executive, stating reasons why Lincoln needs, and receives much in return, from the City's professional forestry staff.(Each Member received individual letter)
23. Letter from Maggie Stuckey writing in support of the City's Community Forestry Program. (Each Member received individual letter)
24. Letter from Don Nelson with suggestions for budget.
25. Email from Jodi Barg Carefully consider the need for the Neighborhood South bus route, and do not cut in the budget.
26. Email from Paula Rayburn regarding the Willard Community Center. Do not cut services from the Willard Center as it is a positive, safe place for teens in the neighborhood.
27. Email from Fred Carter on cutting the Neighborhood South 56 bus route and the 57 Neighborhood North bus route. Do not eliminate these two routes as Lincoln needs for students, working class, elderly/retired, handicapped individuals, and shoppers with no other means of transportation.
28. Telephone messages:
    a) Alice Timm. Do consider retaining the Forester and Arborists positions.
    b) Eleanor Stratton. Keep the City Forester and the Arborists positions.
29. Letter from the Witherbee Neighborhood Association opposing the Mayor's proposed cuts to the Community Forestry Department. (Each Council Member received individual letter)
30. Letter with article from Ben Cohoon. Do not cut the Lincoln tree program.(Each Council Member received individual letter)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

NEWS ADVISORY

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

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

DATE: July 19, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will have a budget update and announce a development regarding the City employee retirement match at a news conference at **10 a.m. Tuesday, July 20** in **Room 303, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.** Take the elevator to the third floor, turn right and use the door just past the elevators.

NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 20, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

MAYOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CHANGES

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced changes to his proposed budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, including the return of two arborists, three public service officers, evening hours at neighborhood pools and a StarTran program for low-income patrons. The Mayor is submitting his budget resolution today, and he said the changes reflect concerns from the community.

Mayor Beutler said the forestry reorganization was intended to help the City plant more trees while maintaining the pruning cycle for existing City trees. "The idea was that volunteers would plant new trees and help with pruning young trees," Beutler said. "We are not suggesting that volunteers do the kind of trimming done by seasoned arborists. Adding back two experienced arborists will allow us to evaluate how well the volunteer program is meeting our needs before we make any additional program changes."

The Mayor proposes to reinstate three of the 8.5 public service officer positions in the budget. The privatization of downtown parking enforcement is still planned. The three retained positions would help with parking issues in neighborhoods. "We do not want parking issues to impact the quality of life in our neighborhoods," he said.

A slower transition is being proposed for evening hours at Eden, Belmont, Air Park, Ballard and Irvingdale pools. Evening hours were to be shifted to swimming lessons and rentals. About $30,000 has been restored to maintain current hours at those pools that will not have lessons or rentals.

The changes will be financed by increasing the transfer from Special Assessment Revolving Fund from $3.5 million to $3.8 million.

The Mayor also is asking StarTran to restore the Ride for $7.50 program by making about $65,000 in cuts in administration. The Mayor had proposed increasing the monthly fee to $10. "Low-income residents have been particularly hard hit by the national recession and we want to make sure they continue to have access to the public transportation upon which they depend," Beutler said.

The public hearing on the proposed budget begins at 2:30 p.m. Monday, August 9. The City Council will vote on final changes to the budget Wednesday, August 11 and is scheduled to formally adopt the budget Monday, August 23. More information on the proposed City budget, including a prioritized list of all City programs, is available at lincoln.ne.gov.

NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 20, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

THREE CITY UNIONS AGREE TO LOWER RETIREMENT MATCH

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced that three of the four City civilian unions have agreed to change the the City employee retirement plan to a $1 to $1.29 match for new employees. The unions are:

- Lincoln City Employees Union (LCEA) representing supervisors, specialists, professionals administrators and middle management
- Lincoln "M" Class Employees Union (LMCEA) representing upper management
- Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1293 representing bus operators and mechanics

"Many Lincoln residents have seen their employers cut back on salaries and benefits," Mayor Beutler said. "They have heard about three straight years of City budget cuts and a fourth on the horizon. They question the City's priorities. No one should question the priorities of the LCEA, ATU and M Class unions. They understand the challenges faced by the City in solving the budget's structural problems and have agreed to participate in a piece of the solution."

The Mayor said the change will save 20 to 25 percent in retirement costs for each employee hired after the contracts go into effect September 1.

The three unions represent about 800 of the 1,260 City jobs outside of Police and Fire. The fourth civilian union – the Public Association of Government Employees (PAGE) representing "blue collar," clerical and technical workers – has rejected the City's offer and plans to take the issue to the State Commission of Industrial Relations, which mandate that compensation be determined by comparison with similar cities. The Lincoln Police Union and the Lincoln Firefighters Association Local 644 participate in a separate pension plan.

The City currently contributes $2 for every $1 contributed by employees in the retirement plan. The City is unable to legally change the retirement match for current employees.

- 30 -

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

NEWS ADVISORY

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

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

DATE: July 21, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler and Parks and Recreation Director Lynn Johnson will discuss the collapse of a pedestrian bridge in Wilderness Park at a news conference at **2:15 p.m. TODAY, Wednesday, July 21 in Room 303, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.**

NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 22, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
Niles Ford, Fire Chief, 441-8350
Don Herz, Finance Director, 441-7411

EMS INTERFUND LOAN PAID OFF

Mayor Chris Beutler announced today that Lincoln Fire and Rescue (LFR) has paid off an interfund loan from the City's General Fund. The loan was used to begin ambulance service in 2001 and to address reimbursement issues and reached a peak of more than $2 million in December 2007. The loan was repaid after the City's Emergency Medical Service (EMS) fund finished in the black for the third and probably fourth straight year.

"Not only is LFR meeting its bottom line, they have paid back every dime of the money borrowed with interest to help the service through hard times," the Mayor said. "Our firefighter paramedics can proudly state they are members of not only an outstanding life-saving organization, but a successful business organization as well."

Beutler said public and private ambulance services across the nation have struggled with low federal Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements and fewer insured patients. He commended Fire Chief Niles Ford, LFR staff and paramedics for making the changes necessary to create a sustainable organization. "They demonstrated that quality does not have to come at the expense of profitability," he said. "They have shown that Lincoln can afford to employ highly trained professionals and still meet the bottom line."

The City finished the 2006-2007 fiscal year with an $84,863 EMS balance, the 2007-2008 fiscal year with a $328,260 balance, and the 2008-2009 fiscal year with a $629,995 balance. The current fiscal year ends August 31.

In addition to controlling costs and improving bill collection, LFR has implemented several changes recommend by a 2006 ad hoc committee, including a 2007 rate increase, contracting with the County for EMS service outside the City limits, and contracting with private ambulance companies to provide stand-by services at events.

- 30 -

NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 21, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
Terry Genrich, Parks and Recreation, 441-7939
Roger Figard, Public Works and Utilities, 441-7711

NO INJURIES IN STRUCTURAL FAILURE OF WILDERNESS PARK BRIDGE

At about 11:30 a.m. today, a pedestrian bridge in Wilderness Park above Salt Creek experienced some type of structural failure and dipped 12 to 15 feet in the middle. The center of the bridge is now about six feet above the creek. About 20 people were on the bridge, most of them elementary school age children in the Wilderness Nature Camp. They were able to run off the bridge. Camp staff took care of minor injuries, and no one was taken to the hospital. Parks and Recreation staff are contacting all the parents to let them know about the incident.

The cause of the failure is not yet known. The bridge is about a half mile north of Saltillo Road and was built in 2003. After the bridge had a structural failure during construction, the design was changed, reviewed and approved by a certified engineer before the City took ownership of it.

Mayor Chris Beutler commended the camp staff for their handling of the situation. He also directed that three actions be taken:

- The City Public Works and Utilities Department has begun an immediate visual inspection of the remaining 11 trail bridges in Wilderness Park. Most of those bridges are over smaller tributaries. This particular bridge and one other in the middle of the park have been blocked off.

- A complete study will be conducted to find out why the bridge was deficient.

- The City will complete a review of the pedestrian bridge inspection program. Parks and Recreation and Public Works and Utilities had already started the review.

- 30 -

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

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DATE: July 21, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will make an announcement about the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) fund at a news conference at **10 a.m. Thursday, July 22** in **room 303, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.**

CITY OF LINCOLN Washington Office

Volume 16, Issue 21
July 16, 2010

INSIDE:

CONGRESS.....1
HOUSING 2
FLOOD INSURANCE 2
HOMELAND SECURITY 2
HUMAN SERVICES 2
JOB TRAINING 3
ARTS AND RECREATION 3
NUTRITION.....3
GRANTS & NOTICES 3

Washington Report

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www.capitaledge.com/archive.html

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CONGRESS SHOWS PROGRESS ON FY11 SPENDING

CONGRESS

Financial services bill provides rare victory in Congress. The Senate this week approved a conference report to a comprehensive financial services bill, sending the measure to the President for his signature. After weeks of negotiations, bill supporters were able to secure the support of Republican Senators Scott Brown of Massachusetts and Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins of Maine, who provided the votes necessary to end a Republican filibuster of the measure.

Party leaders on each side believe that the bills' passage will provide benefits in the November elections. Democrats see it as a message that Congress was serious about addressing loopholes in financial services regulation that allowed the Wall Street crisis, while Republicans warned that the bill was too far-reaching and would create an unnecessary level of bureaucracy.

Meanwhile, the House, and even the Senate, surprised many observers this week by continuing to move ahead with consideration of FY 2011 appropriations bills in committee. Most believed that the Senate in particular would wait until the fall, or even until after November elections to consider their spending measures, given protracted political debates that are expected over the measures in that chamber. See related items below concerning individual spending bills considered this week

A preview of those battles occurred in the Senate Appropriations Committee this week, a venue that is usually known for its bipartisanship. When Democrats moved to accept an overall FY 2011 spending limit that is $7 billion less than proposed by President Obama, Republicans pressed for more reductions. Democrats agreed to meet the GOP half-way and agreed to $14 billion less than the White House, with the difference coming exclusively from Defense Department programs.

While these savings may seem like large numbers, they are miniscule in comparison to the $3 trillion annual budget and $1 trillion federal deficit. Discretionary programs comprise less than a quarter of the nation's annual spending, but the focus of most "deficit hawks" in Congress continues to be on squeezing more and more savings from this relatively small pot. However, the great majority of federal spending is tied up in entitlement programs and tax cuts/loopholes.

Now that the financial services bill is complete, Senate leaders hope to focus their attention on a FY 2010 supplemental appropriations bill (HR 4899) for overseas military operations and domestic disaster response. At this time, Republicans, and some Democrats, are objecting to provisions added to the bill by the House, such as $10 billion to states for hiring and rehiring of teachers. The bill approved by the House also includes a provision that would require states and local governments to enter into collective bargaining agreements with public safety employees (see July 1 *Washington Report* for additional details).

The Senate also hopes to find time to debate a measure (HR 5297) to create new small business loan programs next week (see June 18 *Washington Report* for additional details), as well as a jobs and tax measure (HR 4213) that has been pending in that chamber for several weeks. The jobs and tax measure includes an extension of the popular Build America Bonds program, as well as the Recovery Zone Bonds program, while also providing $1 billion in capital for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The House – having already approved a number of priority measures that are stalled in the Senate – will stand ready to act on any activity from that chamber that comes their way.

HOUSING

Financial services legislation includes creation of NSP-3. Comprehensive financial services legislation (HR 4173) that was cleared for the President by Congress this week includes the creation of another round of the Neighborhood Stabilization program (NSP) at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The NSP was designed in 2008 to assist states and local governments in addressing high rates of foreclosure in their communities.

The $1 billion in the financial services bill for the NSP would represent the third round of the program. The measure gives HUD two months to develop a formula to spend the money, indicating that Congress prefers the formula distribution method used in the $4 billion NSP-1 to the competitive round that was used in the $2 billion NSP-2. A number of CDBG entitlement communities across the country were upset that they did not receive a direct formula allocation in NSP-1, as HUD decided to set a $2 million threshold for direct allocations and send the rest of the funds through the states.

Additional information on the NSP program may be found on the HUD website at http://bit.ly/dloBmv

FLOOD INSURANCE

House clears reauthorization of National Flood Insurance Program. By a vote of 320-90, the House passed legislation that would reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program through FY 2015. The bill also includes a number of reforms to the program designed to improve its fiscal health and to provide some transition to property owners in areas affected by newly redrawn flood maps.

First created in 1968, the Program provides the bulk of the nation's flood insurance policies. Recent disasters, most notably Hurricane Katrina, have pushed the program to the brink of insolvency and it still owes $20 billion to the General Fund of the Treasury. Under the bill, current insurance rates would be allowed to increase by up to 20 percent each year, up from the current cap of 10 percent per year. In an effort to address concerns that a combination of improved mapping technology and more stringent levee inspections have created many areas defined as high risk for floods, the bill would delay for five years the requirement that property owners in such areas obtain flood insurance. Flood insurance rates for those areas would then be gradually phased-in during a subsequent five year period.

The bill now goes to the Senate, which has yet to take any action on this issue.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Senate panel approves Homeland Security appropriations bill. The Senate Appropriations Committee subcommittee cleared a bill for FY 2011 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funding. The Subcommittee bill totals $43.79 billion, $1 billion above FY 2010 levels and $100 million less than approved for FY 2011 by a House subcommittee.

Committee recommendations for selected programs, with difference from FY 2010 levels and House FY 2011 levels in parentheses:

- $950 million for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (same as FY 2010 and House)
- $950 million for the Urban Area Security Initiative (+$63m; +43m House)
- $350 million for rail and transit security (+$50m House and FY11)
- $350 million for port security (+$50m House and FY11)
- $390 million for Assistance to Firefighter Grants (same as FY 2010; -$30m House)
- $420 million for SAFER firefighter hiring grants (same as FY11 and House)

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security approved their FY 2011 spending measure late last month (see June 25 issue). Both subcommittee bills now await markup by their respective full Appropriations Committee.

HUMAN SERVICES

House panel approves FY 2011 HHS spending. The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2011 spending bill this week. The bill is the largest non-defense annual appropriations bills (at approximately $700 billion, the Defense measure is by far the largest of the annual appropriations bills) and it funds a wide array of government operations, ranging from museum and library grants to the Bureau of Labor Statistics to the sprawling National Institutes of Health. The bill's size is matched by the controversy that often surrounds it, with the bill annually providing an opportunity for debate on hot button social issues.

Overall, the bill approved by the Subcommittee would spend $176 billion, $12.6 billion more than its FY 2010 counterpart but $1.5 billion less than what the Administration proposed. Although extensive details are not yet available, a review of summary tables shows that most programs of interest to local governments would see modest increases or level funding under the bill. Highlights at the Department of Health and Human Services (with comparison to FY 2010 in parentheses) include:

- $8.1 billion for Head Start (+ $866 million),
- $5.1 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (same),
- $800 million for the Community Services Block Grant (+ $100 million),
- $831 million for Refugee & Entrant Assistance (+ $100 million) and
- $2.8 billion for the Child Care & Development Block Grant (+ $700 million).

The next step for the bill is the full Appropriations Committee, but no consideration has been scheduled to date.

JOB TRAINING

House panel approves FY 2011 Labor and Education spending. The Labor, Health & Human Services and Education Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2011 funding bill for those departments. Overall, funding for programs at the Department of Labor and the Department of Education would see modest increases or level funding.

The measure bill would increase funding for core Workforce Investment Act job training programs (Adult Block Grant, Youth Block Grant, Displaced Workers) by $373 to $4.202 billion. The bill would also provide a small increase to Job Corps, which would receive $1.719 billion, $11 million more than in FY 2010.

At the Department of Education, funding for 21st Century Learning Centers, which provides grants for after school programs, would increase by $35 million to $1.2 billion. However, the Institute of Museum and Library Services would see its funding decrease by $16 million to $266 million.

The bill now awaits consideration in the full House Appropriations Committee, although it is unclear when, or if, such a session will be scheduled in the near future.

ARTS AND RECREATION

House bill would provide permanent funding for the LWCF and Historic Preservation programs. Legislation (HR 3534) approved this week by the House Natural Resources Committee would provide a permanent source of funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the National Historic Preservation Fund (NHP) until 2040.

The legislation is designed to implement reforms in the national offshore and onshore oil and natural gas leasing programs. The LWCF is designed to promote federal, state and local conservation and recreation programs and was authorized by Congress at $900 million annually, with the intent that proceeds from oil and natural gas leases would be used to finance the program each year. However, Congress has never come close to funding the program at its authorized level.

HR 3534 would extend the authorization of the LWCF through FY 2040 and provide $900 million to the program annually from Outer Continental Shelf drilling royalties without the need for further appropriations.

In the case of the Historic Preservation Program the bill would also extend the authorization through FY 2040 and guarantee $150 million annually without the need for further appropriations.

The next step for this legislation is the House floor, although no date has been scheduled for it consideration. The Senate is also considering similar legislation (S 3516) to reform the oil and natural gas drilling process, and it may ultimately be included in an energy/climate change bill being crafted by Senate leadership at this time.

While S 3516 in its current form does not contain any language regarding the LWCF or HPF, Senator Mark Udall (D-CO) has indicated his interest in including a provision that would fully fund LWCF in the measure.

NUTRITION

House committee clears expansion of child nutrition programs. The House Education and Labor Committee approved legislation (HR 5504) that would increase authorized spending on federal child nutrition programs by approximately $8 billion a year over the next decade.

In addition to increased funding, HR 5504 would make a broad array of changes designed to increase access to child nutrition programs and to improve the nutritional quality of food provided through those programs. Much of the debate and media attention surrounding the bill has focused on one provision that would give the Department of Agriculture greater authority to determine what is sold in schools, including vending machines.

Other specific provisions of the bill include:

- Universal access to school-based nutrition programs in high poverty communities by eliminating paper applications and using census data to determine school wide income eligibility;
- Making foster children categorically eligible for school-based nutrition programs;
- Expansion of a 14 state pilot after school meal programs to the entire nation;
- Creation of a State Childhood Hunger Challenge Grants Program to encourage the states to implement child nutrition programs, including new service delivery mechanisms;
- Require schools to create a detailed wellness policy and authorize assistance for school nutrition and wellness promotion;
- Create a competitive grant program for school districts to start up or improve their school breakfast program, and
- Increasing the reimbursement rate for lunch by 6 cents per meal (the first increase in 30 years).

The bill now goes to the House floor. Although child nutrition programs generally enjoy fairly broad bipartisan support, Committee Republicans called for the increased spending to be offset.

The Senate Agriculture Committee approved a similar bill (S 3307) in March. The Lincoln bill calls for a $5.4 billion increase in child nutrition spending over the next decade and would offset that increase by reducing spending on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which pays farmers to use environmentally sensitive farming techniques.

GRANTS & NOTICES

Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD announced $190 million in new homeless grants to back 550 projects through the FY 2009 Continuum of Care programs. The majority of awards were given to the 474 projects that provide permanent housing for homeless families and individuals. About 189 programs will aid homeless veterans, 182 will aid those with severe mental problems, 28 will help domestic abuse victims, 123 will aid chronic substance abusers and 12 will offer housing and support to

those living with HIV/AIDS:
http://bit.ly/b0kvFj

HUD and DOT will host a joint webcast to discuss the Regional Planning Grants and the Community Challenge Grants at 3:00 PM EDT on July 19, 2010:
http://bit.ly/cMec9D

Federal Transportation Administration
Pre-applications are due on July 26, 2010 for the TIGER II Discretionary Grants, TIGER II Planning Grants, and the Community Challenge Planning Grants. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications in advance of the pre-application deadline. The deadline for submitting final applications is August 23, 2010.

FTA funded six new streetcar and bus rapid transit projects with $130 million from the Urban Circulator Program. The six projects were selected from 65 applications totaling more than $1 billion in requests. Additionally, 47 projects aimed at upgrading bus services and facilities are slated to receive more than $163 million from FTA's Bus and Bus Livability Program. These 47 projects were selected from 281 applications totaling over $2 billion in funding requests: http://bit.ly/bu98mV.

Sherry Riklin in the Office of Planning at FTA is available to speak with unsuccessful applicants for the FTA Urban Circulator Grant and Bus and Bus Livability Grant applicants. She can be reached at (202) 366-5407 or sherry.riklin@dot.gov

The White House
The White House held a Sustainable Communities Partnership Live Chat on July 15, 2010. Special Assistant to the President Derek Douglas moderated the discussion with Shelly Poticha from HUD, Beth Osborne from DOT, and Tim Torma from EPA. The discussion is archived at:
http://bit.ly/b15QaC

CORRECTION

AGENDA FOR THE WEST HAYMARKET JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY(JPA)

TO BE HELD THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010 AT 3:00 P.M.

CITY-COUNTY BUILDING
555 S. 10TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 112
LINCOLN, NE 68508

1) Introductions and Notice of Open Meetings Law Posted By Door (Chair Snyder)

2) Approval of the minutes of JPA meeting July 8, 2010 (Chair Snyder)

3) Public Comment and Time Limit Notification: (Chair Snyder)

Individuals from the audience will be given a total of 5 minutes to speak on specific items listed on today's agenda.

4) Bond Resolution/Preliminary Official Statement/Facilities Agreement (Lauren Wismer/Don Herz)

6) WH-JPA Resolution for Assignment and Assumption Agreements (Marvin/Peo)

7) Set next meeting date: Friday, August 13, 2010 3:00 P.M. (Room 303)

8) Motion to Adjourn

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA
MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER
lincoln.ne.gov

Commission on Human Rights
Larry Williams, Executive Director
440 South 8th Street
Suite 101
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
402-441-7624
TDD: 402-441-8398
fax: 402-441-6937
lwilliams@lincoln.ne.gov

CITY OF LINCOLN

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thursday, July 29, 2010, 4 p.m.

City Council Chambers, 555 South 10th Street

AGENDA

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2010 Commission Meeting

III. Approval of Agenda for July 29, 2010 Commission Meeting

IV. Case Dispositions

A. Reasonable Cause/No Reasonable Cause
1. LCHR No.: 09-1116-058-E-R
2. LCHR No.: 09-1221-069-E-R
3. LCHR No.: 09-1229-070-E-R
4. LCHR No.: 10-0303-001-PA

B. Pre-Determination Settlements
5. LCHR No.: 09-1231-071-E-R

V. Old Business

A. Budget Update

VI. New Business

A.

VIII. Public Comments **

IX. Adjournment

Public comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Members of the public may address any item of interest to the LCHR during this open session ***with the exception of LCHR cases.* Also, no member of the public who wishes to address the commission will be allowed to examine any individual commissioner or staff member on any item/question before the commission unless invited to do so by the chairperson.

F:\FILES\HRC\SOA\WP\Commission Meetings\agendas\2010 Agendas\2010-JULYagenda.doc

LINCOLN
The Community of Opportunity

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER
lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln City Libraries
Pat Leach, Director
136 South 14th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-1899
402-441-8500
library@lincolnlibraries.org
lincolnlibraries.org

July 20, 2010

John Spatz, Chair
Lincoln City Council
555 So. 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Spatz:

Attached are applications received by the Library Board of Trustees from 19 persons interested in being appointed to the Library Board to fill a vacancy for one seven-year term created by the completion of a seven-year term by Marlene Cupp.

This group of candidates responded to notices posted at all library locations, community and cultural centers, as well as the Library website. Candidates who submitted interest in the 2008 and 2009 appointment were notified of the vacancy as well as individuals in the Mayor's Board Bank.

The Library Board Committee on Administration reviewed the qualifications of the candidates based on current and future needs of the Board of Trustees, along with applicants' interest in the public library and the community as a whole. The Committee on Administration presented its report and recommendation to the Library Board at the Board's July 20, 2010, meeting.

After thorough review, the Library Board recommends, in priority order, the following individuals for consideration for appointment to the Library Board of Trustees for the term September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2017:

1. Herbert H. Schimek, because of his active leadership role in the community and strong support of the First Amendment.

2. Maureen Brase-Houchin, because of her experience with non-profit organizations and cultural background.

The Board also recommends Robert Haller and Gail Steen as individuals who would bring needed talents to the Library Board.

As soon as the City Council completes its appointment process, the new Board member will be contacted and the orientation process begun. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Pat Leach

Pat Leach
Library Director

Memorandum

Date: ✦ July 20, 2010

To: ✦ City Clerk

From: ✦ Teresa McKinstry, Planning Dept.

Re: ✦ Administrative Amendment approvals

cc: ✦ Jean Preister

This is a list of the Administrative Amendments that were approved by the Planning Director from July 13, 2010 thru July 19, 2010:

Administrative Amendment No. 10040 to Special Permit No. 1988B, Tamarin Ridge Community Unit Plan, approved by the Planning Director on July 14, 2010, requested by Hausmann Development, LLC, to reverse the rear and side yard setback on Lot 7, Block 1 and to revise the note to specify a four foot wide sidewalk instead of a five foot sidewalk along the ten foot wide pedestrian way easement which runs east-west along the north lot line of this property generally located at Tamarin Ridge and Jacobs Creek Drive.

City/County Planning Department
555 S. 10th Street, Rm. 213
Lincoln NE 68508
(402) 441-7491

Mary M. Meyer

From: Council Packet
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUIRED: Written Public Testimony: August City Council & Star Tran Advisory Board Meetings

Ms. Carter:

Thank you for providing input on the Mayor's proposed budget recommendations. Your testimony, with attachment, will be forwarded to the StarTran Advisory Board for review when they meet on August 3, 2010 at 5:00 P.M., in the City Council Chambers.

Again, thank you for your input and your continued patronage of StarTran services.

Brian Praeuner
Transit Planner
StarTran
710 J Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
402.441.7673
402.441.7055 fax
bpraeuner@lincoln.ne.gov

From: LCarter@unificompanies.com [mailto:LCarter@unificompanies.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 1:53 PM
To: Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Adam A. Hornung; Brian D. Praeuner; StarTranInfo
Cc: debandjeff@inebraska.com
Subject: ACTION REQUIRED: Written Public Testimony: August City Council & Star Tran Advisory Board Meetings
Importance: High

Since I will be out of State the first two weeks of August, I have attached my personal testimony regarding the importance of keeping the **56 Neighborhood South** and **57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes**. I would appreciate your help in making sure my testimony is part of the hearing process for the upcoming City Council and Star Tran Advisory Board meetings when discuss the proposed Mayor's budget cuts.

If there is anything more that I can do to help save these routes, please let me know. Your consideration to my testimony will be appreciated.

Loralee Carter
Retirement Plans
UNIFI Companies
5900 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68510-2234
Phone # 800-745-9995 - Ext. 87387
Fax #402-467-7952
lcarter@unificompanies.com
http://retire.unificompanies.com
****
****

Mary M. Meyer

From: Karen K. Sieckmeyer
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 4:23 PM
To: Council Packet
Cc: Rick D. Hoppe; Trish A. Owen; Larry D. Worth; Scott J. Tharnish
Subject: FW: StarTran Responses to CC 07/19/10 Budget Meeting
Attachments: 1011 camp passperhour.XLS; scan0001.pdf

Dear Council Members,

In response to the questions and comments received during the Monday budget presentation for StarTran, I offer the following information for your use:

1) The attached worksheet '1011 camp passperhour.xls' provides a historical breakdown of ridership by user revenue category. Please note, user revenue for StarTran was $1.5 million, however, only about $.9 million is from the Farebox.

2) For 10-11 budget purposes, only direct/incremental cost per trip (not fully loaded) is used to estimate changes in service. For Handivan, direct cost per trip averages about $17. Contract cost per trip for Transport Plus will average about $21, or $4 higher per trip. Note that each trip assigned to Transport Plus is charged a flat rate, so 4 trips assigned in one hour will cost 4 x $21 is $84. That is, there are no efficiencies gained for multiple trips as each trip has equal cost regardless of overlap. However, if these same 4 trips are performed by StarTran, only the fixed cost of wages & benefits are paid and the overlap of the 4 trips results in greater efficiently.

   The budgeted cost for the Handivan FTE is at the bottom of the scale, and including benefits, is $43,682.

3) Per the ATU contract, the costs for one FTE driver range from:

   New Hire: $13.971 per hour, ($32,332 annually)
   Top-of-scale after 2.5 years: $18.515 per hour, ($38,511 annually)

4) Workers Comp report of claims – see attached file 'scan0001.pdf'

5) Regarding the feasibility moving StarTran's center of operations, or 'hub' from downtown to a different, more geographically central location:

   In the Transit Development Plan from 2008, all fixed routes were reviewed for possible changes, including originating in downtown, or other 'hub' site(s), or going through the downtown area. All available factors & data were considered, including public (and all stakeholders) comments. The final analysis showed that using the downtown as the primary hub was overriding preference.

   As a final comment, I'd like to point out that the Neighborhood North and Neighborhood South routes have a 'hub' of Westfield/Gateway. It was initiated in June 2008, and after two years, ridership is significantly lower than all other routes.

Please let me know if you have additional comments or questions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg MacLean
Director of Public Works & Utilities

Total Service Hours - Fleet	110,731	1,075	4,566	5,400	289	99,401		
Passengers per Service Hour	17.3	36.8	47.1	21.8	58.8	15.4		
Revenue	$1,208,896	$146,743	$230,417	$79,900	$5,688	746,148	$140,000	$1,348,896
					plus Advertising trade			
Actual Aug 09	**Total Fleet**	**Big Red Express**	**Holdrege UNL**	**School Boosters**	**Misc Trips**	**Regular Route**		
Total Passengers - Fleet	1,733,188	34,552	252,888	79,921	5,634	1,360,193		
Total Service Hours - Fleet	105,703	1,049	6,162	3,931	102	94,459		
Passengers per Service Hour	16.4	32.9	41.0	20.3	55.2	14.4		
Revenue	$1,226,521	$130,916	$239,167	$55,945	$0	800,493	$190,183	$1,416,704
					plus Advertising trade			
Est Aug 10	**Total Fleet**	**Big Red Express**	**Holdrege UNL**	**School Boosters**	**Misc Trips**	**Regular Route**		
Total Passengers - Fleet	1,760,000	34,552	242,000	80,000	5,634	1,397,814		
Total Service Hours - Fleet	106,000	1,049	5,000	3,931	102	95,918		
Passengers per Service Hour	16.6	32.9	48.4	20.4	55.2	14.6		
Revenue	$1,329,350	$130,916	$249,650	$56,000	$0	892,784	$190,183	$1,519,533

Claim #	Date of Accident	Employee Name	Description of Injury	Total Reserves	Total Payments	Total Incurred	St	Closed
2010-0198	06/16/2010		LOW BACK PAIN/FELL OFF TRUCK	$4,600.00	$0.00	$4,600.00	O	
2010-0201	06/24/2010		MULTIPLE BURN INJURIES/HOT OIL	$34,779.97	$720.03	$35,500.00	O	
2010-0206	07/06/2010		LOW BACK BAIN/DRIVING BOBCAT	$4,600.00	$0.00	$4,600.00	O	
			Totals for STREET MAINTENANCE (50 Claims)	$117,952.42	$229,302.83	$347,255.25		
	Division: STARTRAN							
2009-0038	11/05/2008		R HAND PAIN/VEHICLE ACCIDENT	$0.00	$388.31	$388.31	C	02/27/2009
2009-0039	11/10/2008		R SHOULDER PAIN/LIFTING BUS LA	$0.00	$1,908.01	$1,908.01	C	06/08/2009
2009-0051	11/10/2008		L KNEE MENISCUS TORN, LIFTING	$0.00	$24,799.02	$24,799.02	C	09/25/2009
2009-0040	11/11/2008		LOW BACK PAIN/VEHICLE ACCIDENT	$0.00	$2,451.54	$2,451.54	C	06/08/2009
2009-0094	11/19/2008		BILATERAL CARPAL TUNNEL/REPETI	$0.00	$765.37	$765.37	C	09/28/2009
2009-0055	12/12/2008		L KNEE STRAIN, STEP ON CABLE	$16,695.28	$15,804.72	$32,500.00	O	
2009-0070	12/23/2008		L KNEE SPRAIN, ICY-TWIST KNEE	$95.25	$11,444.77	$11,540.02	O	
2009-0097	02/10/2009		R EYE, DIRT IN EYE, WHEEL CHAI	$0.00	$107.60	$107.60	C	05/13/2009
2009-0114	02/27/2009		L HAND FRACTURE/FELL ON GRAVEL	$9,396.63	$15,403.37	$24,800.00	O	
2009-0127	03/19/2009		LOW BACK PAIN/SECURING WHEELCH	$0.00	$167.40	$167.40	C	09/28/2009
2009-0133	04/01/2009		R SML FINGER BROKE, FELL/SLIP	$599.65	$2,000.35	$2,600.00	O	
2009-0209	05/09/2009		NOSE BLEED, UNKNOWN CAUSE	$0.00	$625.80	$625.80	C	10/15/2009
2009-0181	05/30/2009		LOW BACK PAIN/BUS ACCIDENT	$0.00	$3,395.74	$3,395.74	C	03/15/2010
2009-0236	07/30/2009		R KNEE PAIN/FELL IN OFFICE	$0.00	$821.22	$821.22	C	01/13/2010
2009-0256	08/31/2009		R KNEE PAIN/EXITING BUS CHAIR	$0.00	$2,040.15	$2,040.15	C	06/22/2010
2010-0108	10/08/2009		L HEEL PAIN/SLIPPED OFF BUS ST	$0.00	$475.98	$475.98	C	05/04/2010
2010-0055	11/16/2009		R FOOT SPRAIN/STEPPING OFF BUS	$1,850.08	$1,749.92	$3,600.00	O	
2010-0061	12/08/2009		NECK/BACK PAIN/ FELL ON ICE	$4,930.01	$2,669.99	$7,600.00	O	
2010-0109	12/26/2009		R LEG PAIN/FELL ON ICE	$0.00	$429.42	$429.42	C	05/04/2010
2010-0158	04/07/2010		LOW BACK PAIN/DRIVING BUS	$4,454.00	$146.00	$4,600.00	O	
2010-0176	05/20/2010		BACK/SHOULDERS, APPLIED BRAKES	$1,600.00	$0.00	$1,600.00	O	
2010-0203	06/23/2010		L HAND & KNEE; FELL BUS STEP	$2,600.00	$0.00	$2,600.00	O	
			Totals for STARTRAN (22 Claims)	$42,220.90	$87,594.68	$129,815.58		
	Division: WATERSHED MANAGEMENT							
2010-0144	04/06/2010		BACK/NECK PAIN/VEHICLE ACCIDEN	$2,143.48	$2,456.52	$4,600.00	O	
			Totals for WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (1 Claim)	$2,143.48	$2,456.52	$4,600.00		

Mary M. Meyer

From: Brian D. Praeuner
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 11:08 AM
To: 'F&L'; Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Adam A. Hornung; StarTranInfo
Cc: debandjeff@inebraska.com; Connie J. Thoreson; Karen K. Sieckmeyer
Subject: RE: PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CUTS

Fred:

Thank you for providing input on the Mayor's proposed budget recommendations. Your testimony will be forwarded to the StarTran Advisory Board for review when they meet on August 3, 2010 at 5:00 P.M., in the City Council Chambers.

Brian Praeuner
Transit Planner
StarTran
710 J Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
402.441.7673
402.441.7055 fax
bpraeuner@lincoln.ne.gov

-----Original Message-----
From: F&L [mailto:husker11@windstream.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 10:29 AM
To: Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Adam A. Hornung; Brian D. Praeuner; StarTranInfo
Cc: debandjeff@inebraska.com
Subject: PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CUTS

Proposed cuts to the 56 Neighborhood South JULY 22, 2010 and the 57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes

I believe Mayor Beutler proposes to eliminate the 57 Neighborhood North route from Westfield Mall to Walmart on 84th street and the 56 Neighborhood South route from Westfield Mall to the Edgewood Shopping Center.

Please keep these direct routes in place! Lincoln needs this customer service for our students, our physically challenged citizens, the working class, elderly/retirement communities and shoppers of Lincoln who may have no other means of transportation.

There should be direct north-south routes helpful in making connections with other routes that are beneficial to StarTran and its customers.

Didn't a survey show people like the system with direct north-south routes without going downtown as it is now?

StarTran seems to want all buses to go downtown and have people transfer to another bus for all other areas. Many passengers/potential passengers have no need to go downtown and will see our bus service as being too time consuming to even consider without these routes.

The 56 South and the 57 North Neighborhood buses travel the arterial routes.
Last winter when road conditions paralyzed other routes, passengers were able to board these buses and make other connections.

Can the smaller buses that have been ordered by Star Tran as a result of Federal Government assistance be used for these routes?

Consider doing the routes as they are now during the hours when students, workers and others need them in the morning and later afternoon and possibly combine the two routes into one alternating route throughout the day.

I realize you are in a very difficult position attempting to get our budget in line.
However, please take Star Tran customers' lives into consideration.

I respectfully request that you please reconsider the Mayor's proposed cuts and save the 57 Neighborhood North and the 56 Neighborhood South bus routes for the citizens of our community.

Fred Carter
P.O. Box 6304
Lincoln, NE 68506
husker11@windstream.net

July 19, 2010

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

To: Mayor Beutler

From: Dale A Gardner

Re: Cutting the budget

Dear Mayor Beutler:

You have requested suggestions for areas in which the city budget can be reduced. The areas you have proposed for cuts involve the lower paying jobs which are held by the people who actually do the physical work. I propose you cut at the top of the departments -- those who hold the higher paying jobs. For example, you make $74,000 a year. Perhaps you could work for $50,000 a year and volunteer your services for the remainder. You have 5 aides who salaries are between $55,000 and $132,000. Again, perhaps those salaries could be lowered and they volunteer for the remainder. Or reduce the number of aids and combine duties without a pay raise. I feel that our city will miss those who are at the lower paying jobs which you propose to cut. However, I'm guessing that we would not miss a reduction in department heads. To be more explicit, we will miss the people "in the street" doing the work but we won't miss many of those who are at a desk in City Hall.

If certain things had been taken care of in a timely manner or the past 20 years, our city would not be in the shape it is in. For examples, sewer and water maintenance has been neglected, along with Pershing auditorium, city sidewalks, and streets. They were put off until the situation is critical. Now that the situation is critical and the economy is bad -- we are being asked to cut other vital services to take care of things which should have been done in better times.

The city plan has been to build, build, build and no maintenance. We still are in that mode. Until the city has to operate like I have to operate-- ie within my financial bounds -- if you can't afford it, don't buy it -- we, as a city, will always be in crisis.

I , like many Lincolnites, am on Social Security -- we have gotten no cost of living increase for a couple of years -- why should the city employees get a cost of living increase? Most people should be happy to have a job and not expect an increase at this time. I assume the city employees are still getting the 2 for 1 retirement match -- let's cut that!! If they don't like it they can go someplace where they will be lucky to get a match at all!

The Gardners
4415 Calvert Street
Lincoln, NE 68506

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 2:25 PM
To: Trish A. Owen
Cc: Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: South Beltway

Trish:

Thanks for your follow-up.

As you probably were, I, too, am surprised at the small amount of ROW acquisition.

Regardless, at least I have a better appreciation for the situation.

Best regards,

Jon
Jon A. Camp
Lincoln City Council
402.474.1838 (personal office)

From: Trish A. Owen
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 10:54 AM
To: Jon Camp
Subject: South Beltway

Jon-

You had asked about how much ROW had been acquired for the South Beltway project by the State of Nebraska. PWU is estimating in the low single digits with possibly as few as three parcels acquired, and one of those was for wetland mitigation….not truly ROW. This NDOR project is not currently in the State's One & Six program (no dollars obligated for the South Beltway). The City would not sock money away to contribute toward construction until NDOR once again reactivates this project which we don't anticipate will happen in the near term. We can certainly get specific information from NDOR on which parcels they have acquired if you would like.

Thanks-Trish

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

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

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 3:50 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; Vince Mejer; jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Mayor
Subject: Parkas--Resolution 10R-159

Chief Ford:

During our City Council meeting yesterday, I asked Mr. Bob Walla of Purchasing some questions concerning the LFR request for parkas in a 2-year requisition for $47,692.80/year for a total of $95,385.56.

Since the unit cost is $165.60, this means LFR will purchase 288 parkas in year one and an additional 288 parks in year two.

Questions:

1. Is LFR purchasing 288 parkas at $165.80 per parka?
   a. If this is correct, why does LFR need 576 parkas over 2 years?
   b. I understand there may be some retirements or turnover, but do you anticipate 288 new firefighters in year 2?

2. In this time of budget concerns, is it possible to delay the purchase of these parkas?

Thank you in advance for your response.

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Mary M. Meyer; Mayor; Vince Mejer
Subject: Lease Purchase of Ambulances

Chief Ford:

During our budget sessions, we discussed your request for the 2010-2011 fiscal year for the purchase of two additional ambulances using a “lease-purchase” arrangement.

You stated you believed it is more economical to “purchase” new ambulances rather than “remount” the existing “boxes” onto new chassis.

1. Would you please provide documentation for your position? Specifically the costs and those vendors who have specified those costs.

2. You also stated the “color” of the ambulance is the same either way. Would you please cite your sources for this information? Does your information include the original purchase as well as subsequent sale of a used chassis/ambulance?

3. If a vendor can be secured to “remount” the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?

4. If a vendor can be secured to “remount” the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?

5. Finally, during these challenging budgetary times, would it be possible to defer this purchase?

Thank you,

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

“The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money”

Mary M. Meyer

From: Vince Mejer
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 6:23 AM
To: 'Jon Camp'; Niles R. Ford
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jonathan A. Cook; Mayor; Rachelle J. Hinze; Robert L. Walla
Subject: RE: Parkas--Resolution 10R-159

Unfortunately, we (Purchasing) made an error in the request to council. They did order 288 which totals the $47,692.80. Once we got the pricing we got a call from Fire stating they wanted to pay for them over two (2) years half this current fiscal year and half next fiscal year. Therefore, we prepared resolution request to Council. We (Purchasing) should have divided the 47,692.80 in half instead in a rush to get this done we multiplied it.

The only reason this came to Council was that it was a multiple year contract.

If the Fire Department now wants to pay for all of them this year we can just cancel this request.

From: Jon Camp [mailto:JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 3:50 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; Vince Mejer; jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Mayor
Subject: Parkas--Resolution 10R-159

Chief Ford:

During our City Council meeting yesterday, I asked Mr. Bob Walla of Purchasing some questions concerning the LFR request for parkas in a 2-year requisition for $47,692.80/year for a total of $95,385.56.

Since the unit cost is $165.60, this means LFR will purchase 288 parkas in year one and an additional 288 parks in year two.

Questions:

1. Is LFR purchasing 288 parkas at $165.80 per parka?
   a. If this is correct, why does LFR need 576 parkas over 2 years?
   b. I understand there may be some retirements or turnover, but do you anticipate 288 new firefighters in year 2?

2. In this time of budget concerns, is it possible to delay the purchase of these parkas?

Thank you in advance for your response.

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 8:46 AM
To: Vince Mejer; Niles R. Ford
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jonathan A. Cook; Mayor; Rachelle J. Hinze; Robert L. Walla
Subject: RE: Parkas--Resolution 10R-159

Mr. Mejer:

Thank you for your response.

Jon

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

From: Vince Mejer [mailto:vmejer@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 6:23 AM
To: Jon Camp; Niles R. Ford
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jonathan A. Cook; Mayor; Rachelle J. Hinze; Robert L. Walla
Subject: RE: Parkas--Resolution 10R-159

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If the Fire Department now wants to pay for all of them this year we can just cancel this request.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Niles R. Ford
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 1:46 PM
To: 'Jon Camp'
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jonathan A. Cook; Mary M. Meyer; Mayor; Vince Mejer
Subject: RE: Lease Purchase of Ambulances

Good day all!

Councilman Camp we are working on this request and will get the information to you and the other Council Members as soon as possible.

Have a Great Day

Niles Ford, PhD
Fire Chief
Lincoln Fire & Rescue
1801 "Q" Street
Lincoln, NE. 68508
402-441-8350

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.
Martin Luther King Jr.

From: Jon Camp [mailto:JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Mary M. Meyer; Mayor; Vince Mejer
Subject: Lease Purchase of Ambulances

Chief Ford:

During our budget sessions, we discussed your request for the 2010-2011 fiscal year for the purchase of two additional ambulances using a “lease-purchase” arrangement.

You stated you believed it is more economical to “purchase” new ambulances rather than “remount” the existing “boxes” onto new chassis.

1. Would you please provide documentation for your position? Specifically the costs and those vendors who have specified those costs.

2. You also stated the “color” of the ambulance is the same either way. Would you please cite your sources for this information? Does your information include the original purchase as well as subsequent sale of a used chassis/ambulance?

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4. If a vendor can be secured to “remount” the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?

5. Finally, during these challenging budgetary times, would it be possible to defer this purchase?

Thank you,

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:08 PM
To: Steve D Hubka
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Development Services Corporation

1.

Steve,

Where in the budget book will I find the Development Services Corporation budget information?

Jon

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: **402.474.1838**
Fax: **402.474.1838**
Cell: **402.560.1001**

Email: **joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com**

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

From: SHubka@lincoln.ne.gov [mailto:SHubka@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:30 PM
To: Jon Camp
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Re: Development Services Corporation

2.

I'm assuming you mean the Development Services Center. There is no one place to find that. The costs are in various budgets. For example Fred Hoke is in the Building and Safety Fund and the rent is in several different funds. The staff that are considered part of the DSC are shown in the same budgets they were paid from before.

Jon Camp <JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com>

07/21/10 12:07 PM

To "SHubka@lincoln.ne.gov" <SHubka@lincoln.ne.gov>
cc "jspatz@nasbonline.org" <jspatz@nasbonline.org>, "Mary M. Meyer" <mmmeyer@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject Development Services Corporation

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:32 PM
To: Steve D Hubka
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: Development Services Corporation

Steve:

Yes, I of course meant the DSC. . .memory lapses during budget season!

3.

Do you have a total of the expenses? Can you give us a total for all elements?

Jon

JON A. CAMP
Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:33 PM
To: Steve D Hubka
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: Development Services Corporation

Steve:

Actually, I am interested in a breakdown that comprises the "total" for the DSC.

4.

Jon

JON A. CAMP
Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mr. Doug Emery, Chairperson
Lincoln City Council
575 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RECEIVED
JUL 16 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

RE: Public Service Officer Staffing
Reduction In Force

Dear Mr. Emery,

The proposed reduction in force (RIF) of the Lincoln Police Department Public Service Officers (PSO's) is of great concern and is a step backward for the City of Lincoln.

Many in our community know their Public Service Officers by name. That is to say they are readily recognized by students, parents and citizens. The PSOs add to the *continuity* of local law enforcement They possess the essential collective memory of the *community* of Lincoln. Routinely in many instances they possess both current knowledge and the historical context of the individuals and multiple circumstances involved in the critical law enforcement situations they deal with on a daily basis.

The Public Service Officers have been called "meter maids" a term that is both sexist and derogatory. I have witnessed these "meter maids" assist stranded tourists, motorists and children on freezing winter days; unsnarl dangerous traffic situations involving disgruntled and adversarial motorists; redirect hazardous drive-time traffic from construction gas line leakage; provide calm, reasoned guidance to distraught and injured motorists at vehicle accidents. They are top notch professional ambassadors for Lincoln.

The PSOs are *uniformed, certified and trained law enforcement officers* with invaluable years of on-the job experience, collectively hundreds of years. As duty officers the PSO's serve as additional "eyes and ears" in our community. They get around, know when something does not look right and serve as one more additional channel of law enforcement intelligence. They serve as a vital part of the Safety network. They help with ongoing investigations. Cannibalizing the position of Public Service Officer so that we can send revenue from Lincoln to Tennessee makes little financial or policy sense.

Finally, were there ever in a life threatening situation, I rest assured that these Officers would serve as that bright blue line ensuring personal protection and public safety for the lives of all of our citizens.

The loss of this function would be a penny-wise pound foolish setback for the city of Lincoln, a city already law- enforcement-lean for a *growing* metro area. It is my understanding that other, alternative budget options exist to be explored.

Our city needs hope, not discouragement, at these difficult economic times. I am asking you to reject this false, so called budget saving proposal. Please look out for the lives of the families of Lincoln. Please let justice be served.

Sincerely,

Tom Moloney 4635 Cleveland Avenue Lincoln, NE 68504-2639

Mr. Adam Hornung
Lincoln City Council
Courthouse
Lincoln, Ne. 68405

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Dear Mr. Hornung:

I think you should know how at least one resident feels about bicycles. I do not agree with the current city council policies.

First, bike trails and bike lanes on city streets. How were they paid for?

Are the owners of bicycles taxed at all? Are they charged a wheel tax, registration fee, license fee, or any other tax? If no, why not? Couldn't the city use the money?

Aren't bicycles a hazard to their riders and to motor vehicles?

I think the best thing the council could do for bicycles and their riders would be to ban them.

Sincerely,

Larry Sims - 7-19-10

Larry Sims
5201 Union Hill Rd.
Lincoln, Ne. 68516

Ruth Jensen
640 So. 17 - Apt. 9
Lincoln, NE
68508-2676

John Spatz
City Council
555 So. 10
Lincoln NE 68508

2-24-10

RECEIVED
JUL 22 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Dear Sir:
This is in regards to the article regarding deteriorating buildings around Lincoln. The article mentioned that about 3 different people appeared in front of the city council with concerns about various locations.
I noticed some at:
(1) 1528 C St.
(2) 1630 G St.
There had also been one near 16 + E and one near 16 + C. The one near 16 + C had concrete steps that were crumbling badly but it was recently repaired.
The one near 16 + E had been "red-tagged" but I noticed people living there again so repairs must have been made. The one at 1528 C St. has a sign in the front yard

with the name of some woman from Home Real Estate who is an agent - apparently the property is up for sale.

Properties of the above-mentioned type are not only an eyesore but sometimes transients get in and live there illegally and cause problems.

I forgot to send this to you earlier - (as you probably note on the date.) I thought I might try to get photos taken to send to you.

Sincerely

[illegible]

Mary M. Meyer

From: LCarter@unificompanies.com
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 1:53 PM
To: Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Adam A. Hornung; Brian D. Praeuner; StarTranInfo
Cc: debandjeff@inebraska.com
Subject: ACTION REQUIRED: Written Public Testimony: August City Council & Star Tran Advisory Board Meetings
Attachments: Testimony to Save 56 & 57 Neighborhood Routes.doc

Importance: High

Since I will be out of State the first two weeks of August, I have attached my personal testimony regarding the importance of keeping the **56 Neighborhood South** and **57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes**. I would appreciate your help in making sure my testimony is part of the hearing process for the upcoming City Council and Star Tran Advisory Board meetings when discuss the proposed Mayor's budget cuts.

If there is anything more that I can do to help save these routes, please let me know.

Your consideration to my testimony will be appreciated.

Loralee Carter
Retirement Plans
UNIFI Companies
5900 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68510-2234
Phone # 800-745-9995 - Ext. 87387
Fax #402-467-7952
lcarter@unificompanies.com
http://retire.unificompanies.com
****
This message may contain confidential information intended only for the use of the addressee(s) named above and may contain information that is legally privileged. If you are not the addressee, or the person responsible for delivering it to the addressee, you are hereby notified that reading, disseminating, distributing or copying this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message by mistake, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and delete the original message immediately thereafter. Thank you.
****

City Council & StarTran Advisory Board Public Hearings

August 3 & 9, 2010

Written Public Testimony: Loralee Carter

RE: 56 Neighborhood South and 57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes

Please save Star Tran bus routes as these services are needed for our Lincoln citizens!

Since I will be out of State when you and others discuss Mayor Beutler's proposed budget cuts and the above-referenced subject, I respectfully request that my written testimony be submitted at these public hearings.

Proposed cuts:
I noticed Mayor Beutler proposes to eliminate the 57 Neighborhood North route from Westfield Mall to Walmart on 84th street and the 56 Neighborhood South route from Westfield Mall to the Edgewood Shopping Center.

Importance of the 56 Neighborhood South and 57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes:
These routes are so important to Star Tran customers and future customers! The Neighborhood North and South buses are direct routes designed to help students who need transportation to and from school. These routes provide services to our citizens who need to go shopping and have no other means of transportation and give wonderful customer service to the working class people who, like me, take the Neighborhood South bus each day when traveling to and from work. The Neighborhood North and South routes also are designed to make connections with other bus routes which prove beneficial to StarTran customers.

I believe our City is growing and cross town routes, like the Neighborhoods North and South routes, serve as a paradigm shift that promote strategic planning for the needs of our citizens. I view these routes as progressive thinking as not everyone has business in the down town area.

I have been riding the Star Tran bus since 1983. I value and appreciate the services of Star Tran and have promoted its services to the people in my community and at work. In previous years I have been supportive of raising the bus rates as a means to continue the services of StarTran. I truly am an advocate for public transportation and appreciate these particular routes for not only myself, but for others who need these services. Not everyone has the luxury of owning their own vehicles. The elderly who need public transportation as a result of fixed incomes need these direct routes. Those that are physically challenged need direct services. Citizens who ride these buses everyday rely on the 56 Neighborhood South and the 57 Neighborhood North buses for transportation to and from work and school, etc.

Last winter the 56 Neighborhood South and 57 Neighborhood North buses were instrumental to its customers as they transported passengers to other bus connections when the road conditions paralyzed other bus routes. The 56 South and the 57 North Neighborhood buses had the advantage since they traveled the arterial routes which proved beneficial to StarTran customers. Customers were able to get on board the Neighborhood buses and were successful in making other connections when other buses were stuck. Services were terrific!

Solutions for your consideration:

Keep these routes in place! We need this customer service for our students, our physically challenged citizens, the working class and the retirement community of Lincoln.

Use smaller buses that have been ordered by Star Tran as a result of Federal Government assistance for these routes. Perhaps, that would be an economical way to keep these routes in place.

Consider, last resort, combining the 56 Neighborhood South and 57 Neighborhood North routes into one route by keeping the same routes that are in place now. Consider **bus service to begin at the Edgewood Shopping Center** where students and the working class can make connections when traveling to and from work/school from South Lincoln to North Lincoln and vice versa. **Please consider the schedule to begin at the Edgewood Shopping Center no later than 7:15 AM**.

If you combined these routes and the hours would deviate from the existing schedules, I would not be opposed to an earlier bus schedule. However, if the schedule would be changed to a later morning time, that would create problems for customers. They would be late for work and school and would be delayed when making their connections. Also, problems would occur if this route would not begin at the Edgewood Shopping Center as the working class and students would be affected. Also, I would hope that you would consider the importance of making sure students and the working class can take this route home after school and work -- **no earlier than 4:30 PM** and/or possibly later at Westfield Mall each day.

Summary:
I realize you are in a very difficult position attempting to get our budget in line. However, please take Star Tran customers' lives into consideration. These direct bus routes are instrumental when traveling to and from work, school, and shopping centers. Therefore, I am advocating on behalf of all Lincoln citizens who ride the 56 Neighborhood South and the 57 Neighborhood North routes daily as well as those future customers. On behalf of Star Tran customers, please consider this personal testimony as means to help you understand our needs and the importance of the Neighborhood routes.

I respectfully request that you **please** reconsider the Mayor's proposed cuts and save the **57 Neighborhood North** and the **56 Neighborhood South** bus routes for the citizens of our community.

Thank you for listening.

Loralee Carter
P.O. Box 6304
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-467-7387

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jane Hoffer [jhoffer@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 10:55 AM
To: Council Packet; Mayor
Subject: Save Our Tree People

Good Morning!

I am respectfully requesting that Lincoln, Nebraska keeps its City Forester and Arborist positions intact. We are a TREE CITY USA, and would hate to lose that distinction to some future poor planning.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jane Hoffer
Proud Lincoln resident

Mary M. Meyer

From: Dennis Keim [webfarmer2000@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 4:50 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Trees and Buses

Dear City Council,

I just wanted to add my two cents on the budget issues that the mayor has proposed where we'd be having volunteers doing tree services in lieu of professionals, where we'll be shrinking an already barebones bus system to an even more skeletal form (removing one bus to the Veterans Hospital) and, finally, where we will be raising the price of using this bus system by the most economically fragile in our community by about 30%.

Surely we can go better than this in finding places to cut or places to increase revenues than these particular areas.

Dennis Keim

Mary M. Meyer

From: rick [rick@lincolnrick.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 7:23 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: City forester - arborists

As a Lincoln resident who has in the past made use of our city forester/arborists, I appreciate their knowledge and expertise. I believe it is in the best interest of the city of Lincoln to retain these positions. Don't leave this kind of service up to untrained, unskilled volunteers.

thank you for time,
Rick Prevett
2344 So 22
Lincoln Ne.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Kathy Benecke [kbenecke4444@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 7:41 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Dog Ordinance

When working on this latest dog ordinance,,,please make the owner responsible for the dogs welefare,,,as in a good supply of fresh water,,,proper shelter from the heat and cold,,,which would include not tieing them up out doors for hours or days. AND please do something about fireworks in the city next year,,,,the animals couldn't be more traumatized at this time.

Thank you ,,
Kathy Benecke,,,dog owner,,,

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2010
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

City Council Members and Citizens of Lincoln:

Please fight for saving the Arborists and City Forester jobs the mayor put in his budget cuts. No volunteers can replace the work of trained, experienced workers. These men are involved daily in working on the removal and aerial bucket trimming of Lincoln's mature trees, and stump removal. Replacing them with volunteers to nip-up small trees is not what the city needs. We need to address the older neighborhoods, with their streets full of large mature trees that require specialized equipment and professional arborists. These trees are where the danger to liability for the city is. The total number of workers in Forestry is currently 14, making the city's "ten-year trimming cycle" nearly impossible. Ideally, Lincoln would have a seven-year cycle, but that has not happened since the 1970's, when Forestry had 45 workers. Please urge the Mayor to use his volunteers to mow, pick up trash, plant flowers, pull weeds and paint for the parks, but leave Arboriculture to his licensed and experienced pros who average over 20 years service to the city.

The only volunteer tree-trimmers you will see are those that trim their private trees and drag the brush out to the street for someone else to deal with. Who will volunteer for storm nights? All volunteers who can operate a 65ft. aerial bucket using a 30lb. chainsaw and can remove a 75ft. tree off the top of a house in the middle of the night in the pouring rain please sign up at the mayor's office.

A city of Lincoln's size, with a tax rate lower than 15 other cities in Nebraska, should be able to afford to take care of our infrastructure. Let the mayor cut some aides, advisors, planners and other non-labor positions. The mayor's plan is to again wait and blame the city employees and unions for any tax problems. Scrap the arena and take care of the trees, streets, sewers and sidewalks, and pay the workers. PAGE, the workers union, represents approximately 480 employees. LCEA and M CLASS unions represent over 600 employees in management. What does that tell you?

Volunteers in parks are a good idea for planting flowers, picking weeds, litter pick-up, painting and mowing. These are jobs the majority of people can do safely. But get real Mr. Mayor. How many volunteers can or will step up to take arborists jobs away? Last I checked, tree work was still one of the most dangerous jobs to do. These city arborists have been trained and licensed in their profession; they carry CDL licenses, First-Aid and CPR training, and pesticide applicators licenses. Untrained, unlicensed volunteers should not be whacking away at one of Lincoln's most visible assets. Save some of the budget for printing liability-release forms and accident reports.

The cost in taxes that pay for our city services is only 14% of the homeowners' fee. The forestry budget amounts to around $4.00 per person. Many of the jobs in the Park Department are of a seasonal nature, such as flower planting and mowing, but trees are with us year round and damaging storms can occur in any season. We need to retain the training and professional experience of the men who should be regarded as holding public safety positions. It should also be noted that last year two of the men affected by this cut received the Mayor's Award of Excellence for Outstanding Service.

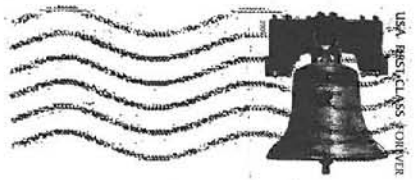
Thank you for any support you can give as a City Councilperson, and to all the Lincoln citizens who share our commitment in the care of Lincoln's trees.

Dennis Gartner, 38 year licensed arborist

DENNIS GARTNER
5135 DISBROW CT
LINCOLN NE 68516

LINCOLN NE 685

19 JUL 2010 PM 1 T



RECEIVED
JUL 20 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

JOHN SPATZ
555 S 10TH ST
LINCOLN NE 68508

68508+2803

July 19, 2010

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

John Spatz
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE
68508

Dear Councilman Spatz:

I concur with all that appears in the form letter I found on the website protesting paring the City budget by elimination of our forester and arborists, so I have pasted it below. However, I would like to augment it with my own personal plea that this valuable part of our City's legacy be preserved, intact.

If I remember correctly, Mayor Buetler ran on a "Green" platform. It was for those policies that I supported him against his opponent. However, his administration has been an ongoing disappointment with respect to the priority he has placed on environmental concerns, and to the consideration he has given to sound science in influencing his policy decisions.

In particular, the science "is in" on the seriousness of the unfolding threat of global climate change, of which release of greenhouse gases is major component. A partial "antidote" to this release is the planting and maintenance of trees. Lincoln has been gifted for some years by the unstinting efforts of Steve Schwab and his staff, as aided by the NE State Arboretum, an institution also suffering from misdirected budgeting priorities.

The history of trying to develop and implement programs in the general public interest by using private business and volunteer efforts has not proved to be a satisfying one. Examples where public support has proved essential include school systems, fire, police, and public health departments. Private business seeks and takes those jobs that provide benefit only to those who can afford, individually, to pay for them. Public works spread the costs and benefits to the entire population, preferably over the long term. Why do I have to say this to my elected representatives? If the average citizen had ongoing excess time on his/her hands for uninterrupted focus on a single non-income generating interest in support of public welfare, truly, many more good works could be achieved without taxpayer cost.

The issues ultimately are what are the most important public needs. It can be difficult to see a healthy and aesthetic environment as a necessity in hard times, but it is the mainstay of our well-being and, even, survival. Too long has the short-term attitude of crisis management dominated budgetary decision-making. There is always a crisis.

There is much said these days about the need for less presence of government in our daily life and the inefficiency and wastefulness of that which exists, compared to that which can be provided by a private business. However, with respect to the Lincoln Forestry Department quite the contrary has been my ongoing experience. Under the cooperative aegis of the Federal Department of Roads, the Nebraska State Arboretum, the City of Lincoln, and approved by our Homeowner's Association, I was encouraged to submit a grant for street trees to border the Association's parking strip. The money was provided by a smoothly functioning, friendly, rational, and straightforward process; excellent technical support was available on continuing call; and Steve Schwab demonstrated a very positive attitude that was both progressive and appropriately frugal, throughout. He flexibly accommodated innovation within the existing guidelines.

On the contrary, our privately employed grounds arborist proved uncooperative with the process from the outset, almost to the point of antithetical. Only by virtue of the continuing guidance from the Arboretum and Steve was the project successfully completed. The grounds person managed to enable loss of most of the first set of trees and several of its replacements by virtue of inattention to timely clearly voiced concerns that they were not being adequately attended. Steve has continued to provide sympathetic support and renewal when automobile accidents recently destroyed two more of them. A City arborist routinely checking this loss noted and remedied another subsequent maintenance issue totally unnoticed by our hired arborist. The contrast between the results of the profit motive vs. those provided by a model of collaborative and seamless efforts of three levels of government was stunning.

I just cannot support this decision by Mayor Buetler. Given the value of trees, not just to the beauty of neighborhoods, but also to their safety, and the health of our soil, watershed and air quality, I suggest cuts be made, even to fire and police services, before those to our forestry department, much as I value, respect, and need the services of these quality professionals, as well. There are more of them to spread the loss around a bit. We have only one forester, and a small body of support staff. Volunteer efforts will not replace these; any more than would a volunteer fire department replace the need for timely emergency response.

One needs ongoing facilitation and implementation of strategies to prevent problems, develop assets, in addition to day-to-day maintenance. These must be prioritized with a broadly based overview of the entire city. Amateurs cannot provide these, or a private sector hired to deal with crisis situations.

I also second the "canned" letter, pasted below.

In the 2010-2011 budget for the City of Lincoln, Mayor Beutler has proposed to cut the Community Forestry Program by eliminating the position of City Forester and two certified arborist positions.

Lincoln needs the experienced leadership of our City Forestry team now more than ever to maintain and protect Lincoln's more than 1.5 million trees. In the next 1-3 years, Lincoln's 108,000 ash trees will face an infestation by the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) resulting in severe damage or total loss of these trees. The City of Lincoln has adopted an EAB Readiness Plan and we will need an experienced City Forester to implement the plan and lead the Community Forestry effort throughout this crisis. The devastation and tree loss from EAB is projected to be more than 10 times as many trees as the October 1997 blizzard.

Please vote to restore these positions to the Community Forestry Program in the 2010-2011 City Budget.

Sincerely,

Lelia M Coyne

Lelia M Coyne

Mary M. Meyer

From: Primavera, Tony [tony-primavera@cathedrallincoln.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:07 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Flyer Save Trees

To the Lincoln City Council:

I found a flyer- from SaveLincolnTrees.com - on my door yesterday asking me to contact the council and ask you to reject the mayor's proposed budget and retain our City Forester and Arborist positions. However, I will not do so.

In fact, I think Mayor Beutler's stand on this is correct. While those two positions are important, we must figure out where our monies should be best spent. And while I disagree with him on other issues, I appreciate the fact that he has taken his job as a steward of the city's finances seriously.

Thank you.

Tony Primavera
Lincoln

Mary M. Meyer

From: Shannon Cummins [smcummins@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:42 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Community Forestry Program--Budget

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

I find myself greatly concerned over Mayor Buetler's recent decision to exclude funding for the Community Forestry program in the city budget. This does not seem like a reasoned, rationale decision. Lincoln is a Tree City USA and our quality of life is enhanced by our trees, parks, and community green space. In fact, recent expenditures such as the Antelope Valley project have been aimed at least in part at increasing this aspect of our city's charm. We have an amazing resource in our city's trees. Yet, this, like many other resources, needs protection. Not only do we live in a city that suffers sever weather and often causes tree damage (as is evidenced by Saturday night's hurricane force winds), but we see a great threat on the horizon in the Emerald Ash Borer. The citizens of Lincoln do not have the tools or knowledge to trim trees, isolate infected trees, respond to downed tree emergencies. Without the city to provide this resource, storms and infestations could cause chaos.

A city aborists and forestry program is needed. Without the city to protect and manage our trees, this resource will begin to decline. Trees take decades to mature and offer the city enhanced property values, energy savings, community gathering places, and foster a sense of health and well-being. We need to take care of this resource created by our predecessors. I strongly urge you to reconsider your exclusion of funding for the Community Forestry program in the city's budget. Wasting such an amazing resource would be a travesty to future generations.

Thank you for your time and service in considering this issue,
Shannon Cummins
2614 Winthrop Road

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jean Lewis [jmlewis@inebraska.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 8:06 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: arborist

Please do not cut the arborist job for the city of Lincoln. I am concerned that the wonderful trees in Lincoln would be at risk.

Jean Lewis
6706 Fairfax Ave
Lincoln NE 68505

Mary M. Meyer

From: Deb Schellhorn [dks4cats@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 1:11 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Don't Cut Out Our Trees!!!

Dear City Council

Please vote against the proposed budget cuts to eliminate the City Forester, two Arborists and to reduce the number of tree crews from five to four. Please keep our city safe, keep our city green and provide fiscally responsible leadership.

Sincerely,

Deborah Schellhorn
Country Club Neighborhood Association Member

Telephone message from:
Alan More
07.20.10
Re: In favor of the dog ordinance but not in favor of microchipping dogs with only one incident.

Telephone message from:
Janet Day
07.20.10
Re: Retain the positions of the City Forester and the Arborists.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Cathleen Plager [cathy@integritysource.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:26 PM
To: Jonathan A. Cook; Jon Camp; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Adam A. Hornung; John Spatz; Jayne L. Snyder; Council Packet
Subject: Willard Community Center Budget Cut

Importance: High

Dear Council Member,

I am writing to address my concern of the cut in funding to the Willard Community Center in the 2010-2011 City Budget. The Willard Community Center has provided services to my two children for many years. When LPS only had 1/2 time kindergarten my children went the other half of the day to Willard Kindergarten program and was reading and writing long before the LPS only students. This has been an excellent experience not only for my children and family but for our friends and neighbors families as well.

The Willard Community Center provides a service to the West "A" neighborhood that has high quality and reliable programming. We would like to continue this level of service without putting even more of a financial strain on our parents who are in a great deal of cases have been going through their own budget cuts.

The cutting of the maintenance funds to the building and the teen program will negatively impact the whole neighborhood. Please don't cut funding without allowing the Willard Community Center board and staff time to transition to self sufficiency. Allow them a phase out period to receive grants, ask for corporate support, and make plans for their future. Thank you

Cathy Plager
Integrity Sourcing
Office 402-261-4095
Fax 402-477-0134
cathy@integritysource.net

Mary M. Meyer

From: Robert Reeves [bobreeves63@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 8:51 PM
To: Council Packet
Cc: Mayor
Subject: City Forester and Arborist positions

Dear Mayor and City Council:

At its meeting Tuesday, July 20, the board of the Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance voted to support retaining the position of City Forester as well as the two city arborist positions that were proposed for elimination. The City Forester has many years of expertise that will be very much needed as the city faces the coming invasion of the emerald ash borer, which could destroy a large proportion of the city's trees. In addition, that level of expertise is needed in the ongoing planning and maintenance of street trees and park trees, which have helped Lincoln achieve its designation as a Tree City USA. The LNA represents many citizens who would prefer a tax increase rather than cutting vital positions and services.

Sincerely,

Bob Reeves, Clinton Neighborhood Organization
Member LNA Board

Bob Reeves
3236 Dudley St.
Lincoln, NE 68503

(402)464-1803

Mary M. Meyer

From: Robert Reeves [bobreeves63@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 9:07 PM
To: Council Packet
Cc: Mayor
Subject: tax levy discussion needed

To the Mayor and City Council:

In light of this year's budget proposal, which includes still more cuts in personnel and services, I would like to recommend that the Lincoln City Council, Mayor Chris Beutler, the Lincoln Board of Education, new School Superintendent Stephen Joel, and members of the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners and even the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District board all meet together for a "summit" on the property tax levy. All these taxing entities need to work together for the good of the citizens of Lincoln and Lancaster County, rather than vying with each other for their share of the property tax pie. The city of Lincoln is far below the mill levy limit allowed by state law. The County Board is at a higher level, and Lincoln Public Schools is near the top. The biggest chunk of the property tax total is the portion that supports the schools. Only 14 percent of the total property tax supports the city.

We need to raise property taxes to support city government, but no politician wants to even suggest raising taxes, particularly not in an election year (which next year is). I'm urging you all to get together before the next election cycle and have a realistic discussion about how we expect to maintain the high quality of life in this city and county (which includes good schools, parks, roads, libraries, health and human services, police, fire, jail, etc.) without raising property taxes. A more reasonable approach , it seems to me, would be for all taxing entities to plan ahead for modest tax increases on a regular basis. One year the school district would agree to hold steady on its levy while the city raised its levy. The next year, the city could hold steady while the school district raised its levy. In this way, the necessary funds could be raised to run government without hitting the taxpayers with a whopping increase in any given year.

I think this is a proposal that needs serious consideration. We can't continue, year after year, to have all our elected officials vowing not to raise taxes. The entire community will suffer.

Thanks for your consideration,

Bob Reeves
3236 Dudley St.
Lincoln, NE 68503
(402)464-1803

Mary M. Meyer

From: Anne Rickover [arickover@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 6:28 PM
To: Mayor; Council Packet
Subject: keep the arborists and forester

Dear Mayor Beutler and City Council,

Please keep our City Forester and professional arborist positions. Volunteers cannot do what professionals can. Our trees are a precious resource in Lincoln. The oil spill in the Gulf shows what happens when people do not protect our environment. Our trees are more than just beautiful; they add to our quality of life and help our atmosphere. Additionally, the city has invested in our trees - it would be foolhardy not to protect our investment. Please keep our Arborists and Forester in the budget.

Anne Rickover
2434 Ryons St.
Lincoln, NE

Mary M. Meyer

From: Russell Miller [neb31340@windstream.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 7:56 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: about budget from LNA russell miller

From : Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance 20 July 2010

To : Lincoln City Council

Copy : Mayor Beutler

Dear Council,

After reviewing the Mayor's Proposed Budget we could not find any mention of equipment or projects that have been deferred because of insufficient tax revenue. LNA believes such a summary is a necessary part of any budgeting process. This current year the City budget was surprised by the $500,000 non-budgeted pothole expense. And the expense was caused by not funding a summer crack sealing of streets in the previous years.

The public and maybe the Council do not know what other "surprises" could emerge if certain conditions occur because there is no listing of deferred items.

LNA suggests one possible solution would be to list the deferred items in a tier system of ranking. Tier 1 would be items that would cause major or severe disruptions if occurred. Tier 2 not as severe, tier 3 etc.

Whatever system is used something must be done so we know what potential tax liabilities exist in our future. Street maintenance is just one example. Other examples are bridges and water lines that are approaching their end-of-life cycle.

Thank you,
Russell Miller for Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance

Mary M. Meyer

From: Russell Miller [neb31340@windstream.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 8:02 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: budget infrastructure need taxes fr lna russell miller

From : Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance 20 July 2010

To : Lincoln City Council

Copy : Mayor Beutler

Dear Council,

All the comments last March about potholes should have been directed at the reasons why potholes existed and in such large numbers. The answers can be traced back to budget decisions made in the past eight years and the well-orchestrated effort to lower property taxes no matter what the long-range cost and consequences will be.

It is a more efficient use of tax money to maintain streets than to rebuild them. Because of past years of inadequate taxes for streets, Lincoln is now faced with the problem of having to rebuild streets. This has become obvious by the potholes that reveal consequences of bad decisions made to keep "yesterday's" taxes low. Now we have to pay extra to repair non-maintained streets. President Obama's stimulus money is helping tremendously, but Lincoln cannot expect that bailout every year.

It is time for each of us to decide what we want. As inflation drives city expenses up, there is less money to maintain streets and all other services. The current practice of reducing employees to balance budgets is shortsighted, because those lost employees last summer could have been patching or sealing streets (stopping water from getting under pavement and allowing the freeze-thaw cycle).
In March Public Works plus Parks Department employees were cold patching, which is a waste of money. Those two departments have lost approximately 90 employees during the past four years, and those employees could have been used for preventive maintenance.

Potholes are an "in your face" type of problem and are obvious to every driver. A similar problem exists with our 80-plus-year-old water and sewer lines, but they are out of sight. The problem became very obvious to Irving School on Feb. 10 when the area water line broke and the school had to use bottled water and portable toilets. What would the consequences have been if the water line served a hospital or a nursing home?

If the city decided to replace 10 miles of existing water lines a year, it would take 100 years to complete the job, but no money will be spent this current budget year on replacing existing water lines.

Lincoln streets have not been maintained, and potholes are the consequence. The properly maintained streets will last 50-60 or more years, while new streets without maintenance only last 20-25 years.

A tax increase of 1 cent on assessed property value will recondition approximately 2.5 miles of arterial streets each year.

March’s potholes have been forgotten during this July budget turmoil, but rain is seeping through the cracks and preparing to make more potholes and damaged streets after the budget is passed.

A successful businessperson understands the value of maintenance, and it is time for taxpayers to understand that principle, too.

The tax increase will only be higher and more painful the longer we delay in maintaining Lincoln's infrastructure.

Russell Miller
Chairman of the Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance.

Telephone message from Sabrina Russo
July 21, 2010

Need to keep the positions of the City Forester and the Arborists.
Their expertise needed in Lincoln on numerous levels.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Karina [beaner25@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 8:27 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: city trees

Dear City Council,

I am writing to ask that you NOT support the proposed cuts to City's Forestry Program. I believe eliminating Lincoln's City Forester and two certified arborists and replacing them with volunteers will hurt Lincoln.

Certified arborists are critical to Lincoln. A trained volunteer is not a satisfactory substitute for a paid, accountable employee. Even if the volunteers were to limit their work to immature trees, we would still be reducing our number of certified arborists who could care for and maintain the mature trees. This leads us to a very real public safety danger.

Lincoln needs the experienced leadership of our City Forester to manage the financial investment we have in our trees. We also need a City Forester as we face immediate threats to our tree population such as the Emerald Ash Borer, which by now you've heard quite a bit about. The potential loss of over 100,000 Ash trees is not a danger Lincoln should handle without knowledgeable guidance.

No matter how much we appreciate the dedicated volunteers in our community, we cannot expect them to replace three full-time professional positions. Please reinstate our City Forester and 2 certified arborists to the Forestry Program in the City Budget.

Sincerely, Karina Reinke

"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it."

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak & the strong; because, someday in life you will have been all of these".

Arbor Day Foundation™
211 N. 12th St. • Lincoln, NE 68508 • 888-448-7337 • **arborday.org**

We inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees.

July 19, 2010

RECEIVED
JUL 21 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

The Honorable John Spatz
Member, Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Council Member Spatz,

As Lincoln residents, we all benefit from the thousands of trees along our streets and in our parks and other public spaces. We enjoy the beauty of the trees and reap their benefits: more valuable homes and businesses, cleaner air and water, lower energy bills and higher quality of life.

But Lincoln's magnificent tree canopy didn't just happen; we do live in the middle of a prairie, after all. Our urban forest is the envy of many cities because of the long-time leadership of our elected officials, the tree-planting spirit of our citizens--and the indispensible expertise and hard work of the city's professional forestry department.

Our trees are an extremely valuable resource which require quality management to maintain their value, including during times of challenging budgets.

The important responsibility of caring for the 125,000 trees on public property falls on the shoulders of Lincoln's forestry staff. We cannot underestimate the value of the work performed by the city's professionally trained arborists. We are entrusting them with a resource that is worth millions of dollars in economic, environmental and quality of life benefits. Our trees are a critical part of Lincoln's infrastructure that actually grows in value with proper care. Such a resource deserves and requires an investment commensurate with its value to our community.

The citizens and the trees of Lincoln receive much from its city forestry staff. Some examples are:

- Pruning street and park trees on a regular cycle so they will be safe, healthy, and long-lived.
- Responding to emergencies in the aftermath of violent storms.
- Professionally managing the response to infestations of insects and disease.
- Reviewing construction plans so that utility trenching and curb, gutter, and sidewalk repairs don't damage established trees.
- Safely removing dead and diseased trees.
- Planting thousands of trees, and guiding planting by citizens to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places.

For the long-term health of our trees, it is vital for Lincoln to have an adequately funded and well-trained forestry staff. While it is important every day, skilled, professional leadership is never more important than during an emergency, and we should not take for granted the necessity of having such well-trained staff in place during a time of crisis.

RECYCLED PAPER RECYCLABLE PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Too few people paid attention to Lincoln's professional forestry team before the October 1997 storm when 13 inches of wet, heavy snow fell when the most of our trees were in full leaf. Thankfully, Lincoln had the forestry leadership and expertise in place to respond to the crisis. While other communities that have experienced similar storms were caught off guard and suffered unnecessary losses, Lincoln's urban forest recovered faster than most thanks in large part to the staff and leadership who were on the scene as soon as tree limbs started falling.

Nearly 13 years later, you would be hard pressed to find evidence we were hit by such a damaging storm. Other cities weren't so lucky. They gambled and lost by underestimating their need for forestry expertise, and poorly supervised contractors brought in to respond to the damage left the cities with inflated bills and deformed trees.

Unfortunately, we have a slow-motion crisis heading our way. As the Emerald Ash Borer infestation moves closer to Nebraska, there will be a huge and 100% predictable need for professional community forestry expertise to lead the response. Lincoln's 100,000 ash trees are all at risk. It will require a well-trained and well-lead forestry staff to make the decisions and carry out the actions to deal with the potential devastation to our ash trees … and to maintain the health of Lincoln's urban forest on a day-to-day basis. Our city deserves and requires such expertise.

At the Arbor Day Foundation, we've learned a great deal about what works and what doesn't in urban forestry management as we've built and steered the Tree City USA program nation-wide for the last 34 years. One thing we have seen is the positive role that volunteers can play in planting trees and pruning young trees. We applaud this emphasis in Lincoln's plans. But we've also seen that volunteers need to be well trained and their efforts well managed. Volunteers can be an important supplement but not a replacement for professional staff. Volunteers are obviously not appropriate for pruning larger trees and will not be on call to deal with storm damage in the middle of the night.

On behalf of the 100-plus employees of the Arbor Day Foundation who work in Lincoln, and our 2,000 members who call Lincoln home, we ask that the city fully support expert management of the trees that represent a valued community asset, and that contribute so much to our lives each and every day.

Sincerely,

John Rosenow
Chief Executive

CC: Lincoln City Council

July 20, 2010

RECEIVED
JUL 21 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

The Honorable Chris Beutler
Mayor, the City of Lincoln
555 South 10th Street
Suite 301
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mayor Beutler,

I am writing in support of the City of Lincoln's Community Forestry Program.

A healthy, vibrant urban forest is an essential piece of Lincoln's identity. Lincoln has long supported the annual, systematic management of our tree resources, recognizing the impact it has on our community's health, safety, strength, and sustainability. In fact, for 33 years, Lincoln has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for this commitment to our trees. I am proud to live in a community that supports the proactive care of its urban forest.

During this difficult budget cycle, I implore you to remember the practical and measureable benefits of a strong urban forestry program, ranging from energy savings to storm water retention, from air pollution control to increased property values, as well as numerous societal and economic benefits.

Continuing to support and fund a strong urban and community forestry program will show Lincoln places significant value on the quality of life of its citizens, both today and for years to come.

Thank you for your leadership.

Best regards,

Maggie Stuckey

Maggie Stuckey
2457 South 27th Street
Unit B
Lincoln, NE 68502

CC: Lincoln City Council

RECEIVED
JUL 21 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Dear Council Members

Just a line about a couple things

1. Possible no 4th of July parade - Doesn't make one bit of sense!! This is for kids. They look forward to this plus you have Santa Claus at end of parade. They remember this & we're trying to take this from them.

Come on, someone or some business has the money. Idea! Call Tom Osborne about this & maybe the can come up with this.

2. It looks like the city is destroying our library system. Take alot of encyclopedia & reference books ~~abou~~ away. They think people can get this on the internet. Not everybody wants to use this. Why not make smokers & drinkers of beer pay for this.

Library should be one of the last things you should pick on!!

Thanks.
Don

Mary M. Meyer

From: Barg, Jodi [JBarg@stez.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 9:26 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Star Tran Neighborhood South

To Whom It May Concern:

I recently had to sell my truck due to economic reasons. I was pleasantly surprised to find a bus route that could get me to work without having to go downtown and transfer to another bus to get back across town. Imagine my dismay when I heard about the budget proposal! The Neighborhood South bus route may be the least used; however, its importance is immeasurable to those who need it for transportation to work and back. There is not another route in the city that would get me to work on time as every bus in this city ends up downtown?? The majority of people in Lincoln do not work downtown… If bus routes are going to be cut it would be wise to revise the routes of the buses remaining in service. Please carefully consider this when reviewing the budget proposal.

Jodi Barg
Financial Counselor
Patient Financial Services
Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center
e: jbarg@stez.org
p: (402) 219-7765
f: (402) 219-8896

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Mary M. Meyer

From: Paula Rayburn [PRayburn@assurity.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 3:30 PM
To: Jonathan A. Cook; Jon Camp; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; 'ahormung@lincoln.ne.gov'; John Spatz; Jayne L. Snyder; Council Packet
Subject: Willard Community Center..
Attachments: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg

I would like to thank the City of Lincoln for the many years of support that has been given to the Willard Community Center to maintain the building and recently the teen program. With the cut in funding the Willard Center will have to cut services, especially in the teen program since it also received a funding decrease from United Way. I want to make sure that you know that the teenagers in the neighborhood need the Center and all the staff and all the resources that can be given. I see teens there every day of the week because there is no place else for them to go. The teenagers in this neighborhood need all the supervision that the city can possibly afford. Don't cut services from the one positive, safe place for the teens in this neighborhood.

Paula Rayburn

Assurity Life Insurance Co
Senior Accountant
402-437-4396
prayburn@assurity.com

Assurity Life is committed to protecting everyone's non-public personal information. Non-public personal information includes (but is not limited to): Social Security numbers, other tax identification numbers, passwords, health information or financial information (such as account numbers and bank card numbers). We encourage you to use our ZixCorp secure e-mail solution. Or, contact us by phone at (800)869-0355 or fax the information to (402)437-4558. For policyholders and companies, go to www.assurity.com to access the ZixCorp secure e-mail solution. For agents, go to https://assurelink.assurity.com.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Mary M. Meyer

From: F&L [husker11@windstream.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 10:29 AM
To: Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Adam A. Hornung; Brian D. Praeuner; StarTranInfo
Cc: debandjeff@inebraska.com
Subject: PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CUTS

Proposed cuts to the 56 Neighborhood South JULY 22, 2010 and the 57 Neighborhood North Bus Routes

I believe Mayor Beutler proposes to eliminate the 57 Neighborhood North route from Westfield Mall to Walmart on 84th street and the 56 Neighborhood South route from Westfield Mall to the Edgewood Shopping Center.

Please keep these direct routes in place! Lincoln needs this customer service for our students, our physically challenged citizens, the working class, elderly/retirement communities and shoppers of Lincoln who may have no other means of transportation.

There should be direct north-south routes helpful in making connections with other routes that are beneficial to StarTran and its customers.

Didn't a survey show people like the system with direct north-south routes without going downtown as it is now?

StarTran seems to want all buses to go downtown and have people transfer to another bus for all other areas. Many passengers/potential passengers have no need to go downtown and will see our bus service as being too time consuming to even consider without these routes.

The 56 South and the 57 North Neighborhood buses travel the arterial routes.
Last winter when road conditions paralyzed other routes, passengers were able to board these buses and make other connections.

Can the smaller buses that have been ordered by Star Tran as a result of Federal Government assistance be used for these routes?

Consider doing the routes as they are now during the hours when students, workers and others need them in the morning and later afternoon and possibly combine the two routes into one alternating route throughout the day.

I realize you are in a very difficult position attempting to get our budget in line.
However, please take Star Tran customers' lives into consideration.

I respectfully request that you please reconsider the Mayor's proposed cuts and save the 57 Neighborhood North and the 56 Neighborhood South bus routes for the citizens of our community.

Fred Carter
P.O. Box 6304
Lincoln, NE 68506
husker11@windstream.net

Telephone Messages:

July 21, 2010

Alice Timm
Do consider retaining the Forester and Arborists positions.

July 22, 2010
Eleanor Stratton
Keep the City Forester and Arborists positions.

RECEIVED
JUL 22 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Witherbee Neighborhood Association Opposes Mayor's Proposed Cuts to the Community Forestry Department.

To: Witherbee Neighborhood Association, Lincoln Neighborhood Associations, Lincoln City Council, Mayor's Office

From: Richard Bagby, WNA President on Behalf of the WNA Board and Membership

Date: Monday, July 12, 2010

The Board of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association, acting on behalf of the membership of Witherbee Neighborhood Association, opposes the cuts to the Community Forestry department included in the proposed city budget. We ask for the retention of the current staff and structure of the department for the long-term good of the city of Lincoln.

We encourage all WNA members and citizens of Lincoln to learn about the budget proposals and speak out.

In the 2010-2011 budget for the City of Lincoln, Mayor Beutler is proposing to cut the Community Forestry Program by eliminating the position of City Forester and two certified arborist positions. These cuts will result in a tax-funded savings of $160,000 – but at what cost?

Safety is Key - Lincoln needs the experienced leadership of our City Forestry team now more than ever to maintain and protect Lincoln's more than 1.5 million trees. In the next 1-3 years, Lincoln's 108,000 ash trees will face an infestation by the Emerald Ash Borer resulting in severe damage or total loss of these trees.

The City of Lincoln has adopted an EAB Readiness Plan and we will need an experienced City Forester to implement the plan and lead the Community Forestry effort throughout this crisis. The devastation and tree loss from EAB is projected to be more than 10 times as many trees as the October 1997 blizzard.

Fiscally Responsible Leadership – Lincoln's trees represent a 'green investment' of $1.4 billion dollars. We need to retain our professional City Forester to ensure that tax payer dollars are used wisely in maintaining this investment for future generations. The 15% cut of the department's budget will set us back years in maintenance of this valuable asset. The City's plan to replace these certified professionals with a barely-trained volunteer corps is not the way to protect our billion dollar investment.

I urge you to learn more about this issue and then take action to help protect the beautiful landscape of our neighborhood and community. Tell Mayor Beutler and the City Council that you value Lincoln's trees, parks and trails. Ask them NOT to eliminate our City Forester and Arborist positions.

Contact Your City Council **Phone:** 441-7515 **E-mail:** council@lincoln.ne.gov	**Contact the Mayor's Office** **Phone:** 441-7511 **E-mail:** mayor@lincoln.ne.gov
Send a Letter to the Journal Star **Mail:** Lincoln Journal Star, Editorial P.O. Box 81689, Lincoln, NE 68501 **E-mail:** oped@journalstar.com	**Testify Before the City Council** August 9th 2:30 p.m. County-City Building 555 S 10th Street

JOHN SPATZ
555 South 10th St
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear John,

Please don't cut Lincoln's tree program. Management of our city's trees is vital to the long-term health of our trees and economic impact of our city. Your support is needed to keep Lincoln's trees healthy and help improve our city.

Trees provide many tangible benefits and especially urban trees. I have included a research paper that has determined the value that urban trees provided in 5 cities vs. the cost to maintain them. In ALL cases the value that they provided in storm water management, carbon sequestration, air quality, energy reduction, and increased property value far outweighed the cost to maintain them. Net annual benefits ranged from $358,133 ($21/tree) in Cheyenne to $1.17 million in Fort Collins ($38/tree).

Attending the Meeting of the Minds in Omaha a few weeks ago the city of Minneapolis and Kansas City Sustainability officers named trees as an important part of their long-term plan to reduce cost and continue their cities effort to be "green".

Sincerely,

Ben Cohoon

Municipal Forest Benefits and Costs in Five US Cities

Greg McPherson, James R. Simpson, Paula J. Peper, Scott E. Maco, and Qingfu Xiao

ABSTRACT

Increasingly, city trees are viewed as a best management practice to control stormwater, an urban-heat–island mitigation measure for cleaner air, a CO_2-reduction option to offset emissions, and an alternative to costly new electric power plants. Measuring benefits that accrue from the community forest is the first step to altering forest structure in ways that will enhance future benefits. This article describes the structure, function, and value of street and park tree populations in Fort Collins, Colorado; Cheyenne, Wyoming; Bismarck, North Dakota; Berkeley, California; and Glendale, Arizona. Although these cities spent $13–65 annually per tree, benefits ranged from $31 to $89 per tree. For every dollar invested in management, benefits returned annually ranged from $1.37 to $3.09. Strategies each city can take to increase net benefits are presented.

Keywords: urban forest valuation, economic analysis, urban forest management

The urban forest is, in part, an artificial construction, and street and park trees are its most cultivated component. Although less numerous than trees on private land, street and park trees influence the lives—for better or worse—of many residents and are the subject of much concern. In the urban forest, they are the first to be inventoried, and it is this fact that allows for the comparison of five municipal forest populations presented here. The term "population" is used because the trees share common traits, such as similar regional climates. They all are planted and often managed in similar ways by the same institution. At the same time, in certain locales, street and park trees may have more in common with adjacent yard trees than with other street and park trees.

Municipal forest management decisions typically are driven by cost-based budgeting that strives to control expenditures while building better urban forests. The implications of decisions on the future stream of ecological services produced by the urban forest are seldom part of the equation. Yet, increasingly, city trees are viewed as a best management practice to control stormwater, an urban-heat–island mitigation measure for cleaner air, a CO_2-reduction option to offset emissions, and an alternative to costly new electric power plants. Measuring benefits that accrue from the current forest is the first step to altering forest structure in ways that will enhance future benefits.

The purpose of this article is to illustrate relationships between structure, function, and value and the usefulness of such analyses for municipal forest planning and management. Release of the computer program STRATUM (Street Tree Resource Analysis Tool for Urban Forest Managers) in 2006 will make it easy for communities of any size to describe urban forest benefits and management needs as a basis for developing management plans.

Methods

City Selection and Data Collection. Five cities were selected from among sites where the US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station's Center for Urban Forest Research has conducted intensive sampling of public trees, developed growth curves, and used the numerical modeling program STRATUM to estimate annual municipal forest benefits and costs (McPherson and Simpson 2002, Maco and McPherson 2003). These five cities, Fort Collins, Colorado; Cheyenne, Wyoming; Bismarck, North Dakota; Berkeley, California; and Glendale, Arizona, were among the first studied as part of the STRATUM reference city program and were not intended to be representative of the United States. Park and street trees were included in the analyses for all cities except Bismarck, where park trees were not managed by the city's forestry department.

A sample of approximately 30–70 randomly selected trees from each of the most abundant species was surveyed in each city to (1) establish relations between tree age, size, leaf area, and biomass; (2) estimate growth rates; and (3) collect other data on tree health, site conditions, and sidewalk damage. Measurements were taken of dbh, tree and bole height, crown radius, tree condition and location, adjacent land use, and severity of pruning. Crown volume and leaf area were estimated from computer processing of digital images of tree crowns (Peper and McPherson 2003). Curve-fitting models were tested for best fit to predict dbh as a function of age for each species. Tree leaf area, crown diameter, and tree height were then modeled as a function of dbh.

Annual tree program expenditures reported by the community forestry divisions between 2003 and 2005 were compiled. Tree-related expenses captured by other departments for sidewalk and curb repair, leaf

cleanup, and trip-and-fall claims were included also.

Calculations. Several structural measures were used in this study. Full street tree stocking assumed one tree for every 50 ft of street on both sides of the street. Importance values (IV) quantify the relative degree to which a species dominates a population and were calculated as the sum of relative abundance, crown projection area (CPA; area under tree dripline), and leaf area (LA) divided by three. "Typical" tree traits were calculated by dividing total CPA, LA etc. by total tree numbers.

Growth rate information was used to "grow" the tree population for 1 year. Population numbers were assumed to remain constant. The modeling approach directly connected benefits with tree size variables such as dbh and LA. Prices were assigned to each benefit through direct estimation and implied valuation of benefits as environmental externalities.

Numerical modeling techniques in the computer program STRATUM were used to calculate annual benefits. The methods have been described in previous publications (McPherson et al. 2000, 2005, Peper et al. 2004a, 2004b, Maco et al. 2005); therefore, this article summarizes the most salient points.

Energy Savings. Changes in building energy use caused by tree shade were based on computer simulations that incorporated building, climate, and shading effects (McPherson and Simpson 1999). Typical meteorological year weather data and building characteristics for each city were used. The distribution of street trees with respect to buildings was based on a field sample for each city. The dollar value of electrical energy and natural gas savings was based on marginal electricity and natural gas prices supplied by local utilities.

Atmospheric CO_2 Reductions. Sequestration, the net rate of CO_2 storage in above- and belowground biomass over the course of one growing season, was calculated with tree growth data and biomass equations for urban trees (Pillsbury et al. 1998). CO_2 released through decomposition of dead woody biomass was based on annual tree removal rates. To estimate CO_2 released due to tree maintenance activities, annual consumption of gasoline and diesel fuel reported by each community forestry division was converted into CO_2-equivalent emissions.

Reductions in building energy use result in reduced emissions of CO_2. Emission reductions were calculated as the product of energy savings and CO_2 emission factors for electricity and heating. Heating fuel was natural gas, and the fuel mixes for electrical generation varied by city. The value of CO_2 reductions was \$15/tn CO_2 based on the average of high and low estimates by CO2e.com (2002).

Air Quality Benefits. The hourly pollutant dry deposition per tree was expressed as the product of deposition velocity $V_d = 1/(R_a + R_b + R_c)$, pollutant concentration C, crown projection area (CPA), and a time step, where R_a, R_b, and R_c are aerodynamic, boundary layer, and stomatal resistances. Hourly deposition velocities for ozone (O_3), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), and particulate matter of <10-micron diameter (PM_{10}) were calculated using estimates for the resistances R_a, R_b, and R_c for each hour throughout a "base year" (Scott et al. 1998). Hourly meteorological data and pollutant concentrations were obtained from local monitoring stations for years when pollutant concentrations were near average.

Energy savings result in reduced emissions of criteria air pollutants (volatile organic hydrocarbons [VOC], NO_2, SO_2, and PM_{10}) from power plants and space-heating equipment. These avoided emissions were calculated using utility-specific emission factors for electricity and heating fuels.

Emission of biogenic VOCs (BVOCs) was included in the analysis because of concerns about their impact on ozone formation. The hourly emissions of carbon as isoprene and monoterpene were expressed as products of base emission factors and leaf biomass factors adjusted for temperature (monoterpene) or for sunlight and temperature (isoprene). This approach did not account for the benefit associated with lowered summertime air temperatures and the resulting reduced hydrocarbon emissions from anthropogenic and biogenic sources.

The monetary value of tree effects on air quality should reflect the value that society places on clean air, as indicated by its willingness to pay for pollutant reductions. We used several approaches depending on the availability of local data. For Berkeley, where emission reduction credits are traded in a regional market, the price was based on the 3-year weighted average. In Glendale, control costs reported by the Maricopa Environmental Services Department were used. Lacking specific data for the other cities, air quality benefits were calculated as damage values using regression relationships between emission values, pollutant concentrations, and population numbers (Wang and Santini 1995).

Stormwater Runoff Reductions. A numerical interception model accounted for the amount of annual rainfall intercepted by trees, as well as throughfall and stem flow (Xiao et al. 2000). The volume of water stored in tree crowns was calculated from CPA, LA, and water depth on canopy surfaces. Hourly meteorological and rainfall data for years when total precipitation was close to the average annual amount were used.

Stormwater reduction benefits were priced by estimating costs of controlling stormwater runoff. Total expenditures for retention/detention basin land acquisition, construction, and annual maintenance and operation costs for 20 years were calculated. This life-cycle cost was divided by the volume of water stored in the basin over the 20-year period to calculate the control cost (dollars per gallon). The stormwater-runoff reduction benefit was the product of this price and the amount of annual rainfall interception attributed to the trees.

Aesthetics and Other Benefits. Many benefits attributed to urban trees are difficult to price (e.g., beautification, privacy, wildlife habitat, sense of place, and well-being). However, the value of some of these benefits can be captured in the differences in sales prices of properties with and without trees. Anderson and Cordell (1988) found that each large front-yard tree was associated with a 0.88% increase in sales price. In our analyses, aesthetic (A) benefits (dollars per tree per year) reflect differences in the contribution to residential sales prices of a large front-yard tree, the distribution of street and park trees, and the growth rates of trees in each city. These relationships are expressed for a single street tree as

$$A = L \times P$$

where L is the annual increase in tree LA and P is the adjusted price (dollars per square meter per LA):

$$P = (T \times C)/M$$

where T is the large tree contribution to home sales price = 0.88% × median sales price, C is the tree location factor (%) that depreciates the benefit for trees in nonresidential sites, and M is the large tree LA.

Table 1. General information on each city.

	Ft. Collins	Cheyenne	Bismarck	Berkeley	Glendale
City population	135,000	53,011	56,234	104,000	220,000
City area (sq mi)	49.4	22.9	27.5	18.1	59.0
Population density (pop/sq m)	2,731	2,318	2,048	5,752	3,729
Total street trees	16,409	8,907	17,821	30,779	13,184
Total street + park trees	30,943	17,010	17,821	36,485	21,481
Street tree stocking (% of full)	17.8	12.4	36.7	66.3	8.9
Park trees/ac	22.4	8.3		18.4	5.0
Trees/capita	0.23	0.32	0.32	0.35	0.10
Street pavement shaded (%)	11.1	4.9	22.5	27.6	1.8
Mature tree prune cycle (yr)	12	7	6	6	2
Average planting rate (per yr)	500	670	600	600	200
Average removal rate (per yr)	400	179	200	600	200

To capture the total value of annual benefits, the individuals benefits were summed.

Results

City Demographics, Stocking, and Canopy Cover. City populations ranged from about 55,000 in Cheyenne and Bismarck to 220,000 in Glendale (Table 1). Tree population density was greatest in Berkeley, where street tree stocking (66%), trees per capita (0.35), and percentage of street and sidewalk surface shaded (28%) were greatest. Higher public tree densities in Berkeley may reflect the increased abundance and role of public trees in more densely populated urban areas.

Street tree stocking (9%), park tree density (5/ac), trees per capita (0.1), and pavement shade (2%) were lowest in Glendale, where 60% of all inventoried street trees were in wide boulevards along major streets. Extreme aridity and caliche soils contribute to lower levels of canopy cover in deserts than in more temperate regions (Nowak et al. 1996).

Street tree stocking in Bismarck (37%) was near the mean of 38% reported for US cities (Kielbaso and Cotrone 1990). The number of trees per capita for the five cities presented here (0.1–0.35) were all below the 22-city average of 0.37 calculated by McPherson and Rowntree (1989). Managed park trees accounted for nearly 50% of all municipal trees in Fort Collins and Cheyenne, but only 16% in Berkeley. Densities of park trees as in Table 1 ranged from 8 to 22 trees/ac.

Average tree dimensions reflected each population's mix of species and age distribution. Average tree sizes and growth rates were greatest in Fort Collins and Bismarck and lowest in Glendale. For example, average leaf surface areas per tree were 3,226; 2,551; 2,409; 1,702; and 609 ft^2 in Fort Collins, Bismarck, Cheyenne, Berkeley, and Glendale, respectively. The average annual increase in LA ranged from 126 ft^2 in Fort Collins to 61 ft^2 in Glendale. Generally, increased benefits associated with shade, pollutant uptake, CO_2 sequestration, and rainfall interception are associated with greater leaf surface area.

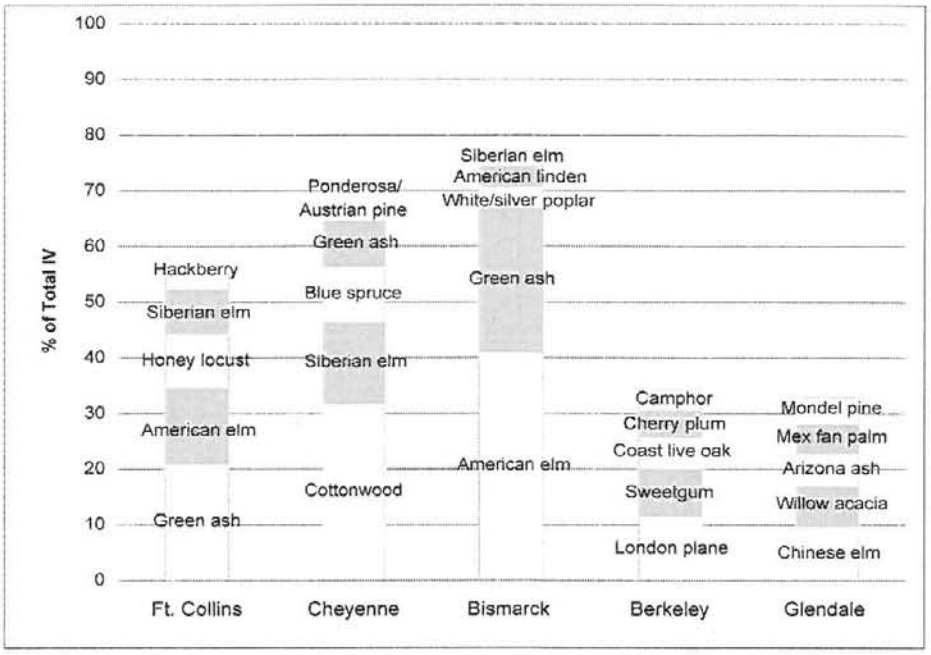

Figure 1. Relative IVs for the top five species in each population indicate how structural dominance is distributed.

IVs. Although these cities contained a rich assemblage of species, from 58 in Cheyenne to 279 in Berkeley, the street tree populations usually were dominated, by virtue of their size and numbers, by relatively few species. This was especially evident in Bismarck, Cheyenne, and Fort Collins, where IVs of the top five species accounted for 60–80% of total IV (Figure 1). These cities exhibited a pattern of codominance, where two species had IVs >10% and their sum exceeded 25% (McPherson and Rowntree 1989). American elm (*Ulmus americana*) and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvamica*) were codominants in Bismarck and Fort Collins, and cottonwood (*Populus spp.*) and Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*) codominated in Cheyenne. Although these species dominate because of their ability to survive the tests of time, they may not be the most desirable species. For example, cottonwood and Siberian elm are weedy, have invasive roots, and become weak-wooded with age. Similarly, American elm trees are threatened by *Ophiostoma ulmi* (*Ceratocystis ulmi*), and the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) has decimated ash trees in several Midwest states. A catastrophic loss of one or more of these species would leave large structural and functional gaps in the municipal forest.

Compared with cities with temperate climates, importance was distributed more

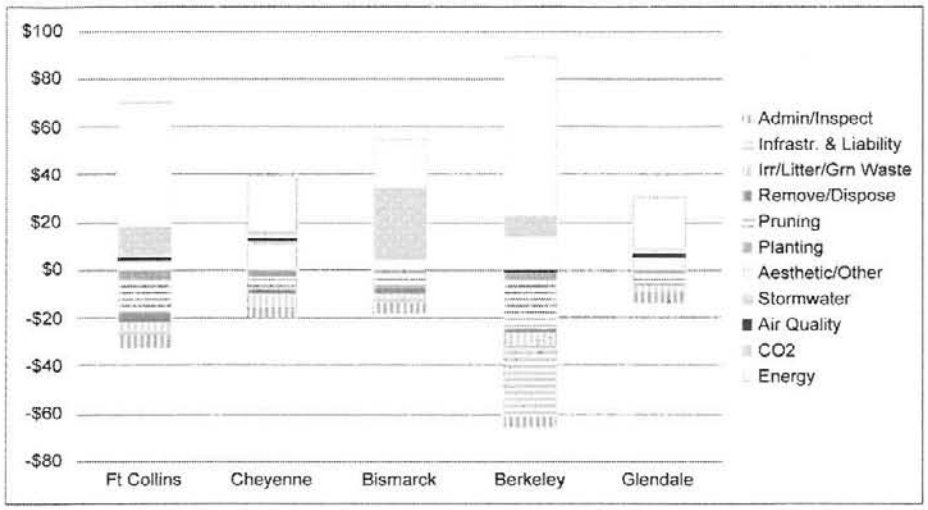

Figure 2. Average annual benefits and costs per tree in each city.

evenly among species in Berkeley and Glendale. From a management perspective, a more equitable distribution of importance indicates that the tree population may be more stable and the future stream of benefits more continuous.

Age Structure. The age structure of municipal urban forests influences population stability and management needs (Richards 1983). Using size as a proxy for age, Richard's "ideal" distribution places the largest fraction of trees in the smallest dbh class (40% with dbh < 6 in.) and the smallest fraction in the largest class. Size distributions of these five cities were within 15% of this ideal. Cheyenne had too few small, young trees and too many large trees. Small trees accounted for over 50% of Glendale's and Fort Collin's populations, and trees in the 18- to 24-in. dbh class were underrepresented. Populations in Berkeley and Bismarck closely matched the preferred distribution.

Municipal Forest Benefits and Expenditures. Total annual benefits ranged from $665,856 ($31/tree) in Glendale to $3.25 million ($89/tree) in Berkeley (Table 1 and Figure 2). Aesthetic and other benefits were the single greatest benefit, accounting for 59–75% of total annual benefits, except in Bismarck (38%). Aesthetic benefits were greatest in Berkeley ($67/tree) and Fort Collins ($52/tree) and lowest in Bismarck ($21/tree). These results reflect the model's sensitivity to differences in median residential sales prices, which were $525,000, $212,000, and $101,640 for Berkeley, Fort Collins, and Bismarck, respectively.

Stormwater runoff reduction accounted for 51% ($496,227 or $28/tree) of total annual benefits in Bismarck and 8–19% in the other cities. This result can be attributed to Bismarck's relatively high interception rates and price for runoff reduction. Average annual interception per tree was 2,985 gal in Bismarck, compared with only 362 gal in Glendale and 2,501 gal in Cheyenne. Trees in Bismarck and Cheyenne were relatively large, and annual rainfall was 15–16 in., compared with only 6 in. in Glendale. Community expenditures for stormwater management were minimal in Cheyenne, resulting in a very low price for runoff reduction ($0.0013/gal) compared with Bismarck and Glendale ($0.0093 and $0.0048/gal, respectively).

Energy savings were particularly important in Berkeley ($553,061, $15/tree) and Cheyenne ($186,967, $11/tree). The close proximity of street trees to buildings in Berkeley resulted in substantial shading benefit during summer (95 kWh/tree). In Glendale, where summer cooling loads were much greater, trees provided virtually no shade to buildings because of their location along wide boulevards. Their cooling benefit (44 kWh/tree) largely was due to air-temperature reductions associated with evapotranspiration. Winter heating savings were substantial in Cheyenne ($88,276, $5/tree), where low temperatures and strong winds accentuated tree windbreak effects.

Annual atmospheric CO_2-reduction benefits and air quality benefits were relatively small, averaging $1–2/tree. Per-tree CO_2-reduction benefits were greatest in Cheyenne ($1.71, 228 lb) and Bismarck ($1.53, 204 lb). In Cheyenne, average per tree avoided emissions (132 lb) from energy savings exceeded sequestered CO_2 (121 lb) because of, largely, high percentages of coal in electric power plant fuel mixes. CO_2 released due to mortality-related decomposition (19 lb) and tree-care activities (6 lb) in Cheyenne totaled 10% of CO_2 sequestered and avoided.

Air quality benefits were greatest in Glendale ($32,571, $1.52/tree), where the value of annual avoided emissions of SO_2 and other pollutants released from power plants averaged $1.56/tree, direct pollutant uptake averaged $0.69/tree, and emissions of VOCs totaled −$0.73/tree. Emissions of VOCs were a cost because they are involved in ozone formation. In Berkeley, emissions of BVOCs from large numbers of high-emitting species such as eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus spp.*), sweetgum (*Liquidamber styraciflua*), plane tree (*Platanus acerifolia*), and coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) resulted in a net air quality cost of −$20,635 (−$0.57/tree).

Annual municipal forest expenditures ranged from $276,436 ($12.87/tree) in Glendale to $2.4 million ($65/tree) in Berkeley (Table 2 and Figure 2). Annual costs per tree were $17.77, $19.28, and $32.24 in Bismarck, Cheyenne, and Fort Collins, respectively. These amounts compare with an average of $19/tree in California (Thompson and Ahern 2000) and values of $4.62 (Desert Southwest region), $6.30 (Mountain region), and $6.48 (Northern Tier region) reported in a national survey (Tschantz and Sacamano 1994). One explanation for higher costs reported here is that nonprogram expenditures (e.g., sidewalk repair and litter cleanup) were not included in the California and national surveys.

Pruning was the single greatest expenditure in three cities, accounting for 27–43% of total annual costs ($4–21/tree). Administration and inspection costs were the second largest expenditure, ranging from $4 to $5/tree. Surprisingly, only 2–14% of total annual expenditures were devoted to tree planting in these five cities. Tree removal and disposal costs were relatively high in Bismarck ($2.81/tree, 16%) and Cheyenne ($4.22/tree, 13%), where overmature ashes and elms were expensive to remove. Mitigating conflicts between tree roots and hardscape were extremely costly in Berkeley ($29/tree), accounting for 45% of total annual expenditures. In Cheyenne, storm cleanup and tree-litter removal accounted for 30% ($5.75/tree) of annual expenditures.

Table 2. Annual benefits and costs for each city

Total benefits	Ft. Collins	Cheyenne	Bismarck	Berkeley	Glendale
Energy	112,025	186,967	84,348	553,061	116,735
CO_2	40,454	29,134	27,268	49,588	12,039
Air Quality	18,477	11,907	3,715	−20,635	32,571
Stormwater	403,597	55,297	496,227	215,648	37,298
Property increase	1,596,247	402,723	367,536	2,449,884	467,213
Total benefits	2,170,799	688,029	979,094	3,247,545	665,856
Total costs					
Planting	111,052	45,913	5,880	95,000	21,100
Pruning	405,344	84,677	94,850	770,000	88,412
Remove/dispose	130,487	23,337	50,061	70,000	12,710
Im/liter/gm waste	94,394	97,840	38,241	195,000	65,813
Infrastructure and liability	72,200	0	21,490	1,062,000	3,000
Amin/inspect/other	184,161	76,130	106,118	180,000	85,401
Total costs	997,638	327,897	316,640	2,372,000	276,436
Net benefits	1,173,161	358,133	662,454	875,545	389,421
BCRs	2.18	2.09	3.09	1.37	2.41

Net annual benefits ranged from $358,133 ($21/tree) in Cheyenne to $1.17 million in Fort Collins ($38/tree). The ratio of benefits to costs was greatest in Bismarck (3.09:1), indicating $3.09 in benefits returned for every $1 invested in management. Although total benefits were highest in Berkeley, relatively high management costs resulted in the lowest benefit-cost ratio (BCR), 1.37:1. BCRs were 2.09, 2.18, and 2.41 in Cheyenne, Fort Collins, and Glendale, respectively.

It is important to acknowledge that the benefit estimates reported here have a range of error not reported. Sources of error include measurement error, modeling error, and random error. If calculated, the confidence intervals that bound each BCR may have a greater range than reflected here solely because of differences among the cities.

Discussion

Measures of structure, function, and value can inform management. For example, Bismarck's BCR of 3.09 is closely coupled to the benefits produced by its codominant American elm and green ash trees. These two species accounted for 52% of all public trees, 67% of structural importance, and 72% of total annual benefits. Sustaining the health, longevity, and productivity of these trees is critical to perpetuating the current level of benefits. In the longer term, future benefits will depend on well-planned planting and training of a diverse mix of large trees to replace the elm and ash.

A similar situation exists in Cheyenne, where codominant cottonwood and Siberian elm account for 33% of all trees and 56% of total structural importance and annual benefits. Intensive care is required to prolong their lifespans. Although the Urban Forestry Division is planting large-growing trees such as linden (*Tilia spp.*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), and oak to maximize future benefits, quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) is planted most frequently by homeowners along residential streets. Educating the public as to the importance of selecting long-lived, high-benefit–producing trees, and enforcing a planting ordinance with approved species for different planting locations are strategies that could pay dividends in the future if implemented now.

In Fort Collins, small, young trees (<6-in. dbh) make up 53% of the population and 23% of total benefits. Green ash and honey locust account for 14 and 11% of these young-tree benefits. Relying on relatively few species to produce future benefits is risky. Fort Collins is planting and evaluating a host of other species including varieties of white ash, oak, maple, and linden. As a result, their forest is becoming more diverse and, ultimately, more stable.

Glendale's municipal forest is quite complex, with a highly diverse mix of species and ages. Although many young trees are poised to replace the aging mulberry (*Morus alba*), ash, and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus spp.*), new plantings are needed to increase stocking. Chinese elms (*Ulmus parvifolia*), relatively expensive trees to maintain, account for 16% of all recent plantings. Managers should strive to increase diversity and plant large-growing trees where feasible. Another way to increase Glendale's BCR is to reduce reliance on palms, which comprise 10% of the population. Average annual benefits from small palms, such as Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), 50% of all palms in Glendale, totaled only $6/tree. In comparison, benefits from small conifers, broadleaf evergreens, and deciduous trees were $13, $29, and $20/tree, respectively. Palms are very expensive to maintain, requiring annual inspection and pruning to remove fronds and fruit. By phasing out planting of palms and diversifying planting of more functionally productive species, Glendale can increase future benefits while reducing costs.

Berkeley's municipal forest is well stocked with a relatively large number of young trees. This distribution suggests that a strong young-tree–care program is imperative to insure that the trees transition into well-structured, healthy mature trees requiring minimal pruning. Reducing sidewalk repair expenditures is a cost-savings strategy for Berkeley. Many trees are located in cutouts and strips less than 4 ft wide. Species most associated with sidewalk heave are American elm (46% of elm trees were associated with sidewalk heave), camphor (*Cinnamomum camphora*, 37%), velvet ash (*Fraxinus velutina*, 33%), and sweetgum (32%). Expanding cutouts, meandering sidewalks around trees, and not planting shallow-rooting species are strategies that may be cost-effective when functional benefits associated with increased longevity are considered.

Conclusion

Although sometimes taken for granted, municipal forests are a dynamic resource and valuable community asset. The five cities reported here spent $13–65 annually per tree, but benefits returned for every dollar invested in management ranged from $1.37 to $3.09. Measuring the ecological services produced by city trees provides a sound basis for targeting management efforts to increase benefits and control costs. By tracking changes in BCRs, managers can assess how

changes in tree-planting, pruning, removal, and preservation strategies influence taxpayers' return on investment.

This analysis suggests that several structural measures can be useful tools for urban forest planning and management. Knowledge of age structure and species composition can be helpful in projecting whether future benefits are likely to diminish or increase. Knowledge about existing stocking, species composition of recent transplants, and which species have proven well adapted over time can inform planting decisions. IVs, which identify species that dominate a population by virtue of their size and numbers, appear to be good indicators of functional importance.

Results from these five cities cannot be generalized to other cities because variability among cities is high. However, with the 2006 release of STRATUM as a component of the new i-Tree software suite, community foresters will be able to use the measures described here to better understand the structure, function, and value of their tree populations. STRATUM is an easy-to-implement tool that communities of any size can use to describe urban-forest benefits and management needs as a basis for developing management plans. Trained volunteers can conduct full or sample street tree inventories using handheld computers that are configured to streamline data entry. Once recorded and checked, tree inventory data are imported into STRATUM, where analyses are performed and tables, charts, and reports are produced. Starting in 2006, i-Tree software and manuals will be available from the web at no charge (Davey Resource Group, National Arbor Day Foundation, USDA Forest Service 2005), and toll-free technical support and training programs will be available. i-Tree makes the growing body of knowledge about urban forest science accessible to managers, thereby helping us indeed see the forest for the trees.

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Greg McPherson (egmcpherson@ucdavis.edu) is research forester, James R. Simpson (jrsimpson@ucdavis.edu) is forest meteorologist, Paula J. Peper (pjpeper@ucdavis.edu) is ecologist, and Scott E. Maco (SMaco@davey.com) is urban forester, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Plant Science, MS-6, One Shields Avenue, University of California, Davis, CA 95616. Qingfu Xiao (qxiao@ucdavis.edu) is research scientist, University of California, Davis, Department of Land, Air, and Water Resources, One Shields Avenue, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

DIRECTORS' AGENDA
ADDENDUM
MONDAY, JULY 26, 2010

I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS

MAYOR

1. NEWS RELEASE. Second bridge closed in Wilderness Park.
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler's public schedule, week of July 24th through July 30, 2010.

DIRECTORS:

FINANCE/BUDGET

1. Budget Officer Hubka's reply to Russell Miller regarding equipment or projects deferred because of insufficient tax revenue.

FINANCE/TREASURER

1. Monthly City Cash Report, close of business June 30, 2010.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1. City Board of Zoning Appeals scheduled for Friday, July 30, 2010 has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1. Summary of proposed Community Forestry section reorganization.

III. COUNCIL RFI'S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP

a) Memo from Niles Ford, Fire Chief, in response to questions on lease purchase of ambulances, also quotes on ambulances with remount or refurbished. (Director's Agenda, July 26, 2010. Correspondence to Council Members: Jon Camp: #3)
   a) Lincoln Fire & Rescue Memo - Lease Purchase of Ambulances; and
   b) Remount or refurbished ambulance costs from John Huff, Assistant Fire Chief.
2. Councilman Camp's memo to the Lincoln City Council regarding understanding the seriousness of the under-funding of the police and firefighters pension trust.
   a) Page from the August 31, 2009 actuarial report from Milliman; and
   b) Page from Milliman, summary of principal results.
3. Reply to Councilman Doug Emery on the police and firefighters pension trust and budget amendments. (See Doug Emery, # 2)

DOUG EMERY

1. Memo to Mr. Fred Carter on July 22nd and his reply on July 23, 2010.
2. Response to Councilman Camp on the police and firefighters pension trust and budget amendments. (See Jon Camp #2/a/b)

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL

1. Email from Melvin and Sheryl Burbach asking that the forestry budget be fully restored.
2. Letter from Bob Reeves**,** Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance. Vote to support retaining City Forester and the two City Arborist positions.
3. Letter from Mark Harrell asking for funding to be restored for the City Forester position. Also stating in two to three years the emerald ash borer will arrive in Nebraska. (Council Members received individual letters)
4. Letter from Jennifer Boettcher writing in support of the City of Lincoln's Forestry program. (Council Members received individual letters)
5. Letter from Karina Helm in support of Lincoln's tree program. Our City Forester is an extremely experienced professional and we cannot eliminate the position. (Council Members received individual letters)
6. Letter from Woodrow Nelson writing to express important considerations on the proposed reorganization of the Lincoln City Forestry Department. (Council Members received individual letters)
7. Email from Rebecca Hasty. If the Mayor eliminates the City Arborist can citizens cut trees down in the right of way.
8. Email from William Carver. Help to protect our valuable trees by restoring the City Forestry position.
9. InterLinc correspondence from Stanford L. Sipple on Ordinance 06-210 Street Name Change. (Email forwarded to City Budget Department)
10. Email memo from Wendy Francis regarding The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights.
    a) Letter previously written to mayor Beutler on retaining The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (LCHR).
11. InterLinc correspondence from Margaret Cullen requesting the Aging Partners Center on Lake Street remain open.
12. Email from Tom Piccini. Lincoln's trees should not be put at risk for a comparatively small potential budget savings. We need our professional Forester.
13. Email from Steve DeLair. The proposal to eliminate the City Forester cuts an important city function vital to our quality of life. We need management ability and expertise.
14. Letter from Chip Doolittle, President of Arbor Systems. Lincoln needs to keep Steve Schwab, the City Forester. Omaha made a disastrous mistake letting go of their forester and Lincoln should not make the same mistake.
15. Email from Elaine Kodad. Do not change the bar closing time, patrons have had drinking by 1:00 a.m.
16. Email from Jeanette Fangmeyer. If bar closing time changes to 2:00 a.m. city tax payers will have to pay overtime for police. Lincoln cannot afford to have bars open until 2:00 a.m.
17. InterLinc correspondence from John Fischbach, We need our City Forester, Steve Schwab. He safeguards the citizens and property of Lincoln.
18. InterLinc correspondence from P.J. French. What does race of culture have to do with the law? The Police Chief should enforce the law, period.
19. Email from Lionema. Lincoln made national/international news when the Chief of Police decides when to enforce the laws and who he will choose to enforce the law against.
20. InterLinc correspondence from Kay See. Police Chief needs to go, people with his attitude are why we have so many illegals in the U. S.
21. InterLinc correspondence from Maura Zazenski. Investigate Police Chief for not enforcing the law. Lincoln deserves better.

22. Email from William Carver, Near South neighborhood resident. Support Item 10-88 and 10-89 regarding Performance Based Inspections.
23. InterLinc correspondence from Wesley Bates. Sorry the Police Chief can't uphold the laws.
24. Email from Jeri Correll. Lincoln's Police Chief feels it is better to pander to a small group than protect the citizens of his city.
25. Email from dogboy2. U. S. citizens need to unite against the illegal population that is draining the economy. The Chief of Police is spineless.
26. Email from Jonathan Skean. Vote to approve items 10-88 and 10-89 to provide for performance-based inspections.
27. InterLinc correspondence from Keith Besherse. What does race of culture have to do with the law?
28. Email from J. Reusche. Your Chief of Police is a disgrace if he will not execute his oath of office.
29. InterLinc correspondence from Carrie Reynolds. The Chief of Police thinks he has the authority to pick and choose the laws he wants to enforce.
30. Letter from Edward and Doxiene Stewart. If the Police Chief is unwilling to do the job he is being paid to do, fire him.
31. Email from David Schupbach. Lincoln Police Chief is a little confused. How can someone who is here illegally be a law abiding citizen?
32. InterLinc correspondence from Mary Borakove. Reconsider the proposed elimination fo the City Forester job.
33. Email from Dee Hutchins. Reconsider the decision to cut the City Forester's position and help save the wonderful areas of Lincoln.
34. Letter from Amy Greving. Why are we rushing into eliminating the City Forester's position? Lincoln's trees have been assessed as a $1.4 billion dollar investment.
35. Email from Kathy Benecke regarding the possibility of the Lake Street Center closing, and giving reasons why it should remain.
36. Email from Beth Thomas on the possibility the Lake Street Senior Center and the Belmont Senior Center would move to the downtown center location. Please look into the necessity of moving the Senior Center.
37. Email from The People of the Lake Senior Center. Why would the Center, and two other neighborhood center close, or be moved?
38. Telephone message from Mrs. Mills. Do keep the police officers in Lincoln's middle schools as they are an asset to the schools and the community.
39. Email from Jerry Hubler. Time to fire your current police chief, get one who will do his job.

V. INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 23, 2010
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831
Terry Genrich, Parks and Recreation, 441-7939
Roger Figard, Public Works and Utilities, 441-7711

SECOND BRIDGE CLOSED IN WILDERNESS PARK

No cause yet for Wednesday bridge failure

Following an inspection by the City Public Works and Utilities Department, a second pedestrian bridge was closed today in Wilderness Park. A 65-foot bridge over a tributary between Densmore Park and Salt Creek was closed due to bank erosion. The bridge is on the south side of the former Rock Island railroad line.

Mayor Chris Beutler ordered the visual inspection of all pedestrian bridges in the park following Wednesday's structural failure of a bridge about a half mile north of Saltillo Road. The cause of that failure has not been determined. Officials continue to review the results of an inspection and the original plans for the bridge. The bridge dipped about 12 to 15 feet in the middle while about 20 day campers were crossing it. No serious injuries were reported.

Mayor Beutler has directed the Parks and Recreation and Public Works and Utilities departments to complete their review of the City's inspection program for all pedestrian bridges.

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- 30 -

CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

NEWS ADVISORY

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER lincoln.ne.gov

Date: July 23, 2010
Contact: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler's Public Schedule
Week of July 24 through 30, 2010
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, July 24

- Farmer's Market 25th anniversary proclamation - 9 a.m., Iron Horse Park in the Haymarket, north side of Lincoln Station, 201 N. 7th St.

Sunday, July 25

- Fourth Annual Witherbee Pool Party and Ice Cream Social - 6 p.m., Woods Park, 33rd and "J" streets

Tuesday, July 27

- KFOR "Lincoln Live" - 11 a.m., Three Eagles Communications, 3800 Cornhusker Hwy.

Thursday, July 29

- KFOR - 7:45 a.m.

Mary M. Meyer

From: SHubka@lincoln.ne.gov
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 10:34 AM
To: neb3134@windsteam.net; Council Packet
Cc: Rick D. Hoppe; Debbie Engstrom
Subject: Response for LNA

Dear Mr. Miller,

Your comments and suggestions are thoughtful and contructive. The Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program present a wealth of information for what they are intended to show and comply with City Charter requirements and the State Budget Act. In many cases they present a level of detail beyond what is typically found in budget documents.

You are correct in stating that the Operating Budget and CIP does not contain a list of deferred equipment and projects due to a lack of revenue.
That is information not normally found in budget documents that are restricted by revenues. Nevertheless, we have made great strides in adopting Outcome Based Budgeting and establishing indicators to measure progress toward meeting goals.

While it is not precisely what you're looking for, there is more information of this type available than ever before. On our homepage at lincoln.ne.gov, there is a link called "Taking Charge 2010". From there go to "Goals and Performance Indicators". The operating and capital programs that help us meet these goals and indicators are prioritized, as you suggest, as Tier I, II and III programs. These are not limited to deferred items, but instead, all city programs. The link "How It Works" explains the tiering system used to prioritize city programs. There is a wealth of information regarding both operating and capital type items. For example, you'll find information about the percentages of our streets that are considered in varying states of repair and disrepair. There are other infrastructure related topics addressed in this 'Goals and Performance Indicators" section. While all of this might not be exactly what you suggest, it is far more than previously available and is being used to direct available resources. It has taken a great deal of time and effort from many city staff members to put these materials together and we hope that you will explore them and find them useful.

Russell, I always enjoy talking with you and value your concerns for our city. Feel free to call anytime at 441-7698.

Sincerely,
Steve Hubka, Budget Officer

Debbie Engstrom
<DEngstrom@lincol
n.ne.gov>

07/22/10 01:06 PM

To
Steve D Hubka
<shubka@lincoln.ne.gov>

cc

Subject
FW: copy of letter to council fr

Steve,
Mayor wants you to respond to Mr. Miller's email below. Please cc me on the email and I'll print it for the Mayor. Thanks.

Debbie Engstrom
Executive Assistant/Scheduler to Mayor Chris Beutler
402-441-6897
F: 402-441-7120
555 South 10th Street
Room 301
Lincoln, NE 68508
dengstrom@lincoln.ne.gov

From: Russell Miller [mailto:neb31340@windstream.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 7:57 AM
To: Mayor
Subject: copy of letter to council fr russell miller

From : Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance 20 July 2010

To : Lincoln City Council

Copy : Mayor Beutler

Dear Council,

After reviewing the Mayor's Proposed Budget we could not find any mention of equipment or projects that have been deferred because of insufficient tax revenue. LNA believes such a summary is a necessary part of any budgeting process. This current year the City budget was surprised by the $500,000 non-budgeted pothole expense. And the expense was caused by not funding a summer crack sealing of streets in the previous years.

The public and maybe the Council do not know what other "surprises" could emerge if certain conditions occur because there is no listing of deferred items.

LNA suggests one possible solution would be to list the deferred items in a tier system of ranking. Tier 1 would be items that would cause major or severe disruptions if occurred. Tier 2 not as severe, tier 3 etc.

Whatever system is used something must be done so we know what potential tax liabilities exist in our future. Street maintenance is just one example. Other examples are bridges and water lines that are approaching their end-of-life cycle.

Thank you,
Russell Miller for Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance

OFFICE OF TREASURER, CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

July 22, 2010

TO: **MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER & CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

FROM: **FINANCE DEPARTMENT / CITY TREASURER**

SUBJECT: **MONTHLY CITY CASH REPORT**

The records of this office show me to be charged with City cash as follows at the close of business June 30, 2010

Balance Forward	$	$179,790,742.62
Plus Total Debits June 1-30, 2010	$	$23,744,089.25
Less Total Credits June 1-30, 2010	$	($33,625,788.03)
Cash Balance on June 30, 2010	**$**	**$169,909,043.84**

I desire to report that such City cash was held by me as follows which I will deem satisfactory unless advised and further directed in the matter by you.

U. S. Bank Nebraska, N.A.	$	$2,648,423.46
Wells Fargo Bank	$	($60,039.01)
Wells Fargo Bank Credit Card Account	$	($60,168.69)
Cornhusker Bank	$	$21,551.33
Pinnacle Bank	$	$26,450.92
Union Bank & Trust Company	$	($2,813,428.14)
West Gate Bank	$	$28,138.59
Idle Funds - Short-Term Pool	$	$54,087,868.68
Idle Funds - Medium-Term Pool	$	$116,003,860.92
Cash, Checks and Warrants	$	$26,385.78
Total Cash on Hand June 30, 2010	$	**$169,909,043.84**

The negative bank balances shown above do not represent the City as overdrawn in these bank accounts. In order to maximize interest earned on all City funds, deposits have been invested prior to the Departments' notification to the City Treasurer's office of these deposits; therefore, these deposits are not recorded in the City Treasurer's bank account balances at month end.

I also hold as City Treasurer, securities in the amount of $23,870,016.68 representing authorized investments of the City's funds.

ATTEST:

Joan E. Ross, City Clerk

CITY OF LINCOLN · FOUNDED JULY 29, 1867 · INCORPORATED APRIL 1, 1869 · SEAL · LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Melinda J. Jones, City Treasurer

CITY OF LINCOLN - PLEDGED COLLATERAL STATEMENT
AS OF JUNE 30, 2010

DESCRIPTION	CUSIP	MATURITY DATE	ORIGINAL FACE	CURRENT PAR	MARKET PRICE	MARKET VALUE
FHLMC GOLD POOL A61256	3128KRMD3	11/01/2036	$1,318,920.00	$901,660.49	1.09	$983,317.03
FHLMC GOLD POOL J10321	3128PPLA9	07/01/2024	$5,745,000.00	$5,335,479.22	1.04	$5,554,003.91
FNMA FNCL 254725	31371K4J7	05/01/2033	$500,000.00	$175,539.61	1.06	$186,894.82
USBANK NE		**TOTAL PLEDGED**	**$7,563,920.00**	**$6,412,679.32**		**$6,724,215.76**
FED NATL MTG ASSN POOL #889757	31410KQJ6	02/01/2038	$2,515,000.00	$1,798,122.41		$1,908,613.38
WELLS FARGO		**TOTAL PLEDGED**	**$2,515,000.00**	**$1,798,122.41**		**$1,908,613.38**
FHLB 5.0%	3133XMEH0	04/04/2013	$500,000.00	$500,000.00		
FFCB 5.45%	31331XNG3	02/05/2014	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00		
FHLB STEP-UP 2.25%	3133XUM67	08/26/2014	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00		
CORNHUSKER BANK		**TOTAL PLEDGED**	**$2,500,000.00**	**$2,500,000.00**		

Jean Preister

From: Teresa A. McKinstry
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 8:54 AM
To: Bob Kuzelka; George Hancock; Gerry Krieser; Lynn Sunderman; Tim Francis; Adam Herink; Brian Will; Gordon Scholz; Gregory Gustafson; Ian Singh; Jean Preister; Jon Yoachim; Lynnette Nelson; Nicole Fleck-Tooze; robrichter@neb.rr.com; Steve S. Henrichsen; Terry A. Kathe; Tonya L. Peters
Subject: Board of Zoning Appeals

The City Board of Zoning Appeals meeting regularly scheduled for Friday, July 30 has been canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Teresa McKinstry
Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Dept.
555 S. 10th St. #213
Lincoln NE 68508
402-441-6162
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mary M. Meyer

From: Lynn Johnson
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 11:38 AM
To: Council Packet
Cc: Rick D. Hoppe; Denise K. Pearce
Subject: Summary of Proposed Community Forestry Section Reorganization

Dear City Council members:
During the City Council work session on Friday, July 23 Council Chair Spatz requested a summary of the proposed reorganization of the Parks and Recreation Community Forestry Section, and anticipated impacts on the level of service to community residents. The following is an overview of the proposed reorganization. The first paragraph addresses the anticipate impacts on the level of service, and the following information summarizes the primary responsibilities of the Community Forestry section and related staff job responsibilities. Please let me know if you have questions, or would like additional information. Lynn

Overview of Parks and Recreation Community Forestry Section Reorganization
Prepared by Lynn Johnson, 441-8165 July 26, 2010

The proposed reorganization of the Parks and Recreation Community Forestry section involves elimination of the City Forester position and creation of a new Community Forestry Planner position. The budget savings resulting from the difference in salary and benefits between the two positions is about $47,000. With reinstatement of the two arborist positions in the Mayor's Recommended FY 2010-11 Budget, community residents will see little change, if any, in day-to-day operations of the section. Questions and requests for service will continue to be addressed in a timely manner. Response and clean-up of tree damage after storm events will continue to be a priority. Coordination with other agencies and organizations regarding emerging potential insect and disease infestations will continue. The new Community Forester Planner position will allow for greater interaction with community residents in establishing new street trees in established areas of the community through volunteer efforts, and enhanced communications with nurseries and landscape contractors.

Primary responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Community Forestry section include:

- Management of public trees including assessment, trimming, and removal.
  This work is currently accomplished by 14 licensed arborists, under the direction and supervision of the Community Forestry Operations Supervisor, and is not proposed to change with reorganization of the section. These fifteen staff members have combined experience of 348 years, or 23 years of experience on average.

- Coordination of the street tree and landscape screening surety program associated with planting of street trees and landscape screens in new subdivisions.
  This work is currently part of the job responsibilities of two arborists. The new Community Forestry Planner will have primary responsibilities for this work in the future.

- Administration of street tree voucher program, assisting community groups interested in implementing street tree planting projects, and administration of contracts for planting street trees.
  The City Forester currently oversees the street tree voucher program, works with community groups in planning and implementing street tree planting projects, and oversees contractual planting of street trees. The new Community Forestry Planner will have primary responsibilities for this work.

- Review recommended public tree planting list with local representatives of nursery industry. Provide annual training program for landscape contractors working the public right-of-way.
  This work is currently the responsibility of the City Forester. The new Community Forestry Planner will have primary responsibility for this work in the future.

- Review utility and street projects for potential impacts on street trees.
  This work is currently the responsibility of the City Forester. The new Community Forestry Planner will have primary responsibility for this work in the future.

- Review and make recommendations regarding hazardous trees on private property. Coordinate with City Attorney's office to request action by property owners in resolving identified concerns.
  This work is currently the responsibility of the City Forester and the Community Forester Operations Supervisor. The Community Forestry Operations Supervisor and the new Community Forestry Planner will have primary responsibilities for this work in the future.

- Coordination with Nebraska Forestry Service regarding potential emerging disease and insect infestations, including Emerald Ash Borer.
  An Emerald Ash Borer readiness plan has been developed by a working group led by the USDA, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and the Nebraska Forest Service. Ten additional agencies and organizations including the City of Lincoln Community Forestry section participated in development of this readiness plan. The new Community Forestry Planner will be responsible for interfacing with State agencies and organizations to monitor the status of areas affected Emerald Ash Borer, emerging research regarding control of the insect, and continued readiness planning.

Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director
Lincoln Parks and Recreation
2740 A Street
Lincoln, NE 68502
(402)441-8265, ljohnson@lincoln,ne.gov

Mary M. Meyer

From: Niles R. Ford
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 5:32 PM
To: 'Jon Camp'
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jonathan A. Cook; Mary M. Meyer; Mayor; Vince Mejer; Rick D. Hoppe; Jeanne L. Pashalek
Subject: RE: Lease Purchase of Ambulances
Attachments: Lease Purchase of Ambulances.doc; Information Lease Purchase of Ambulances0001.pdf

Good day all,

Attached to this email are responses to issues raised by Councilman Camp.

If you have any problems opening these documents please feel free to contact me.

Niles Ford, PhD
Fire Chief
Lincoln Fire & Rescue
1801 "Q" Street
Lincoln, NE. 68508
402-441-8350

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.
Martin Luther King Jr.

From: Jon Camp [mailto:JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: jspatz@nasbonline.org; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Dougemerypm@aol.com; euwc@aol.com; snyderpt@navix.net; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Mary M. Meyer; Mayor; Vince Mejer
Subject: Lease Purchase of Ambulances

Chief Ford:

During our budget sessions, we discussed your request for the 2010-2011 fiscal year for the purchase of two additional ambulances using a “lease-purchase” arrangement.

You stated you believed it is more economical to “purchase” new ambulances rather than “remount” the existing “boxes” onto new chassis.

1. Would you please provide documentation for your position? Specifically the costs and those vendors who have specified those costs.

2. You also stated the “color” of the ambulance is the same either way. Would you please cite your sources for this information? Does your information include the original purchase as well as subsequent sale of a used chassis/ambulance?

3. If a vendor can be secured to “remount” the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?

4. If a vendor can be secured to “remount” the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?

5. Finally, during these challenging budgetary times, would it be possible to defer this purchase?

Thank you,

Jon Camp
Lincoln City Council

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

Lincoln Fire & Rescue Memo

TO: **City Council Members**

FROM: Niles Ford, Fire Chief

DATE: July 21, 2010

SUBJECT: Lease Purchase of Ambulances

COPIES TO: Mayor's Office

During our budget sessions, we discussed your request for the 2010-2011 fiscal year for the purchase of two additional ambulances using a "lease-purchase" arrangement.

You stated you believed it is more economical to "purchase" new ambulances rather than "remount" the existing "boxes" onto new chassis.

1. Would you please provide documentation for your position? Specifically the costs and those vendors who have specified those costs.
    - North Central Ambulance (attached outline)
    - Fire Guard (expenses referenced in emails from Dennis Klein)

2. You also stated the "color" of the ambulance is the same either way. Would you please cite your sources for this information? Does your information include the original purchase as well as subsequent sale of a used chassis/ambulance?
    - Smeal Apparatus Company stated that 'there is no additional cost associated with the color red when the truck is put out for bid as red.'
    - Fire Guard stated, "**To order the cab red from Ford (may extend delivery time as it can not be ordered through our Braun/Ford Pool Account) but there is no additional cost**. For Braun to re-paint cab for Type III is $1,793.00 and Type I is $2,093.00"

3. If a vendor can be secured to "remount" the ambulance boxes for under $40,000, would you agree to save the taxpayers and follow this procedure?
    - Our Chief of Maintenance (Dennis Klein, Retired) researched this issue and he spoke to other organizations who do remount/refurb's and they were adamant about the level of work and detail required. In short, I would not feel comfortable going in that direction; therefore, no I would not agree to that course of action. It should be noted, the ambulance fund is user driven.

4. Finally, during these challenging budgetary times, would it be possible to defer this purchase?
    - I would not agree with deferring this purchase. The purchase was initially deferred to ensure we bundled together several bond initiatives in order to get the best rates. Lastly, again I would like to point out that this service is funded by user fees.

Niles R. Ford

From: John Huff
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 2:21 PM
To: Niles R. Ford
Subject: FW: Remount/Refurbish or New

From: Dennis A. Klein
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2009 10:30 AM
To: John Huff; Niles R. Ford
Cc: Richard J. Furasek
Subject: RE: Remount/Refurbish or New

I will work on supplying the information requested.

Dennis Klein
Deputy Chief of Maintenance
Lincoln Fire & Rescue
300 South Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502
402-441-7040 (W)
402-441-6810 (F)
402-440-4334 (C)
Email dklein@lincoln.ne.gov

From: John Huff
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2009 10:01 AM
To: Dennis A. Klein; Niles R. Ford
Cc: Richard J. Furasek; John Huff
Subject: RE: Remount/Refurbish or New

Dennis,

I spoke to Chief Ford and we would like you to get a list of other fire departments who have ambulance services that have remount/refurbished similar ambulances and contact your counterpart in these organizations?

The purpose would be to see if they are satisfied with the results of the remount, and any significant problems that may have been encountered by their organizations. Also in a remounted unit, can the chassis specified improve the patient "ride" from our current units?

thanks

John Huff
Assistant Fire Chief
Lincoln Fire & Rescue
1801 Q Street
Lincoln Ne. 68508
402-441-8351

From: Dennis A. Klein
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2009 11:45 AM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: John Huff; Richard J. Furasek
Subject: FW: Remount/Refurbish or New

Correction on cost from first Email sent.

$110,000 to $120,000
$154,000

Dennis Klein
Deputy Chief of Maintenance
Lincoln Fire & Rescue
300 South Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502
402-441-7040 (W)
402-441-6810 (F)
402-440-4334 (C)
Email dklein@lincoln.ne.gov

From: Dennis A. Klein
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2009 11:03 AM
To: Niles R. Ford
Cc: John Huff; Richard J. Furasek
Subject: Remount/Refurbish or New

Remount/Refurbish

Remount / Refurbish can be so in-depth that the value now shifts to close to the dollar amount as a new vehicle purchase.

Cost, $110,000 to $120,000

Remount/Refurbish, components would be completely inspected and replaced as needed. Labor time for removing parts, repair and reinstall. Each vehicle would need to be evaluated.

90 to 120 days down. How many units can be sent to vendor at one time?

10% contingency fund for unforeseen problems found during remount/refurbish.

Road Rescue Authorized dealer would need to do the remount/refurbish for the present structural lifetime warranty on the modular body to stay in effect.

Remount/refurbish would need to go out for bid.

You may have a vendor that cuts corners.

New

2010 Models, 180 to 200 days to build.

Cost Approximately $154,000

Trade in value of present units against new value. Approximately $4,000 to $5,000.

Tag on to another city order. Example Kansas City. Original price of contract would be in effect as compared to current selling price.

Would not need to go out for bid.

Would not be without and Ambulance as would be the case in remount/refurbish.

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REMOUNT PRICE LIST

Ford chassis	35,710.00
Remount	29,000.00
Bug Deflector	85.00
Auxiliary console – new design per new MCC	435.00
Fenderettes (two)	230.00
Wheel covers (stainless)	485.00
Install new front bumper guards	108.75
Install new rear mud flaps	100.00
Rub Rails	467.00
Running boards with open grate inserts	414.00
R & R all entry door latches	340.00
Install all new entry door handles	360.00
Replace all door switches	205.00
Replace all door weather stripping	377.00
Replace module diamond plate corner guards	80.00
Rear door diamond plate	257.00
Rear center bumper section	486.00
Rear bumper corners – aluminum	296.00
Rear stamped stainless steel bumper ends	218.00
Install new rear skid plates	370.00
Repaint	6,800.00
Lettering, striping, City logos	2,050.00
Install new full extension slides on battery tray	100.00
Three (3) Optima series batteries in tray	512.00
New rear shoreline 110VAC pigtail	100.00
Check outputs/condition of NavPac, both batt. Conditioners	124.24
Install new wiring harness and driver's switch console	1,847.00
New Aluminum MCC console	350.00
Install all new breakers, switches and relays	467.00
Install Whelen MC-100SIS Intersection strobe lights	322.00
Install third brake light - Whelen LED 500 Series	71.76
Replace upper side warning lights w/Whelen 900 LEDs	1,157.44
Replace rear light bar with four (4) Whelen 900 red LEDs	1,157.44
Mount Opticom in front of module	145.00
Replace rear tail/brake & amber turn signals w/600 LEDs	913.32
Replace rear back-up lights with 600 series halogen	Included
Replace front arrow turn signals w/Whelen 600 LEDs	309.24
Replace arrow turn signal over rr wheels w/Whelen700 LED	264.64
Install 700 Whelen grille strobes	318.24
Install Hideaway strobes in front turn signal	144.48
Install six Whelen 900 series scene lights	692.64

Install Whelen 9308Q LED 60" front light bar.....	1,703.52
Install eight (8) Weldon mini-LED lights 4 @side red & clear	600.00
New Cast Products bumper mount sire speakers.....	947.00
Install new siren foot switch.....	35.00
Install new fluorescent light timer.....	150.00
Install (8) new Whelen #8635 dome lights.....	496.96
Install new Fluorescent light bulbs.....	87.85
Install new 400,000 CP spotlight.....	58.42
New Federal LittleLite map light on front console.....	47.14
Replace step well lights.....	Included
Inspect and test all antennas.....	Included
Transfer VHF radios.....	Included
New seat belsts (four sets).....	225.00
Install new action area countertop – Corian solid surface.....	700.00
Install new floor covering.....	879.00
Upholstery as needed and new attendant seat.....	1,050.00
IV trays with dividers as per last unit.....	800.00
Replace wall covering as needed.....	675.00
Replace all cabinet corner guards.....	285.00
Install all new lexan interior cabinet doors & southco latches	1,900.00
Cabinet inserts with dividers for three (3) cabinets.....	555.00
Install new stainless steel on both sides of cot.....	75.00
Miscellaneous(RED BOX).....	315.00
Ford Service Manuals parts&service/diesel supp/operators....	255.00
Vanner 20-1050CUL inverter.....	1,400.00
Weldon V-Mux multiplexing electrical system.....	12,000.00
Paint roof white.....	75.00
Combination 115VAC/12VDC heat/ac system.....	4,450.00
Kussmaul 20 amp auto eject.....	400.00
Buell dual trumpet air horns.....	1,557.36
New Antenna Specialist antennas.....	270.06
Add Zico O2 Lift.....	5,912.00
Replace Hinges.....	400.00
LED Interior Dome Lights.....	1,890.00
Secondary Strap for cab doors.....	150.00
Camera.....	1,750.00
Stepwell LED.....	53.00
Onspot Chains.....	2,800.00

*Chassis payment due at date of chassis delivery to North Central Ambulance and includes municipal FIN. You will have to add back in FIN money if they do not have municipal FIN.

REMOUNT = Transfer module to new chassis per Federal Motor Vehicle Standards and Ford Quality Vehicle Modification Standards. Includes mounting, heating a/c system, chassis prep, heat management, elec. QA. cab to module connection, etc.

NCA will perform and document the following requirements as a Ford QVM re-mounter and meet all federal motor vehicle standards.

Pre build inspection
Build procedure
Weight analysis
Electrical analysis
Quail insurance
Final builder certification
Warranty
Final inspection

CHASSIS=Install heat shields, front wire harness, ambulance front console and switch panel, new console and emergency wire harness, frame modification, module, Mounting system, electrical connection to ford system, install siren speakers, emergency lights, rear bumper and tow hooks etc.

WARRANTY
BODY MODULE = LIFE TIME
PAINT = PPG 5 YEAR
WIRING = 5 YEARS OR 70,000 MILES
CHASSIS = 3 YEAR 36,000 MILE FOR

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 5:55 PM
To: John Spatz; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Jonathan A. Cook; Doug Emery; Jayne L. Snyder; Eugene W. Carroll
Cc: Mayor; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Police and Firefighters Pension Trust; Budget Amendments
Attachments: Milliman-page 6.jpg; Milliman-page 5.jpg

Colleagues:

Yesterday at our meeting to discuss budget amendments, the Police and Firefighters Pension was discussed. I have attached two pages from the August 31, 2009 actuarial report from Milliman. I encourage you to review these two pages. I have highlighted a few sentences for emphasis and to assist you in understanding the seriousness of the underfunding in which we find ourselves.

I would also like to mention two other areas for our Monday meeting and amendments to the Mayor's proposed budget:

1. The Mayor has assumed we will amend the City's ordinances that pertain to the Police and Firefighters Pension Trust to save $300,000 in this year's contribution. Except for Jonathan Cook, none of you sat on the City Council when I proposed this same amendment, which was defeated by the sitting City Council members at that time by a 4 to 3 vote (Jonathan voted against my measure). Ultimately, the ordinance before the City Council was passed 6 to 1 (I voted "no" because my amendment was not included). Ironically, the City's actuary testified at that hearing and when questioned about the proposed amendments, she stated she could not support the City's proposal but that she supported the "Jon Camp amendment". . .the same amendment now being requested by Mayor Beutler.

   You would think I would support this amendment that Mayor Beutler is asking us to pass since I once proposed it. I DO NOT for the following reasons:

   a. The market value of the PFFPT is approximately $60 million below the Accrued Actuarial Liabilities. Even had my original amendment been passed, which would permit the City to decrease its funding of the PFFPT in times of economic hardship, the past few years' investment returns are so significantly below expectations that I firmly believe the City needs to fund its commitment to our police and firefighters.

   b. The City had its actuaries to modify the PFFPT by changing the
      i. amortization of past service liabilities from 10 to 30 years, and
      ii. the smoothing from 4 to 5 years

   These two modifications serve to reduce this year's contribution by approximately $1.3 million.

2. Lease purchase of ambulances—as I have stated on several recent occasions, I do NOT support new purchases when "remounting" the existing boxes can be done at much less cost. I appreciate Chief Ford's recent email and attachments, but I have discussed this matter with others and the remount cost they quoted was approximately $40-42,000, nowhere near the $110-120,000 detailed in Chief Ford's attachments.

   Why not put this out for bid and see what the results are? When we discuss $154,000 in the cost of a new ambulance, this would be substantial savings.

   Chief Ford further notes that the ambulances are funded by "user fees". The "users" are Lincoln citizens. Regardless of whether the cost is paid with general funds (tax dollars) or by user fees, this is an expense to our citizens. **I see no reason to not to save money wherever possible and for whatever fund we are addressing**.

   Since the lease-purchase of ambulances is part of this year's budget request, I will ask that it be amended to "remount".

Thanks for your consideration,

Jon

JON A. CAMP

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200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
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COMMENTS

As of August 31, 2009, the actuarial accrued liability was $187 million and the actuarial value of assets was $177 million, resulting in a funded ratio of 95%, down from the funded ratio of 100% last year. However, using the market value of assets, the funded ratio is 72%. The stock market performance in the last plan year was significantly lower than the assumed rate of return. Most public retirement plans have experienced similar asset losses and a drop in their funded status. The investment return on the market value of assets for FY2009 was -17%. When compared to the expected return of +7.5%, the assets were around 25% lower than expected. Such a dramatic drop in the asset value results in a significant increase in the contribution rate for the Plan. When the fixed nature of the employee contribution rate is factored into the calculation, the impact on the employer contribution rate is even more dramatic.

Retirement plans use several mechanisms to provide more stability in the contribution levels. These include an asset smoothing method, which smoothes out the peaks and valleys of investment returns, and amortization of any actuarial gains or losses over a period of years. The Plan utilizes an asset smoothing method that spreads the difference between expected and actual return over a four-year period. The rate of return on the actuarial value of assets for the plan year ending in 2009 was about 1% as compared to -17% on the pure market value. The increase in the unfunded actuarial liability from the actuarial loss resulting from experience in FY09 is amortized over a 30-year period, which mitigates the impact of the unfavorable experience.

Given the size of the investment loss, an increase in the contribution level could not be avoided, even with the use of these "stability mechanisms". The normal cost remained fairly stable as a percentage of payroll, but the Plan's funded status changed from 100% funded to 95%. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability increased by $10 million. As a result, the City's actuarial contribution rate increased from 10.70% last year to 13.34% of pay in this year's valuation.

As mentioned above, the Plan utilizes an asset smoothing method in the valuation process. While this is a common procedure for public retirement Plans, it is important to identify the potential impact of the deferred (unrecognized) investment experience. The key valuation results from the August 31, 2009 actuarial valuation are shown below using both the actuarial value of assets and the pure market value.

	Using Actuarial Value of Assets	Using Market Value of Assets
Actuarial Liability	$ 187,292,374	$ 187,292,374
Asset Value	177,526,641	134,932,747
Unfunded Actuarial Liability	$ 9,765,733	$ 52,359,627
Funded Ratio	95%	72%
Normal Cost Rate	18.68%	18.68%
UAL Contribution Rate	1.52%	8.17%
Total Actuarial Contribution Rate	20.20%	26.85%
Member Contribution Rate	(6.86)%	(6.86)%
Employer Actuarial Contribution Rate	13.34%	19.99%

The asset smoothing method impacts only the timing of when the actual market experience on the assets is recognized in the valuation process. [If asset returns are not significantly higher than 7.50% over the next few years, the $43 million of deferred investment experience will be recognized and the employer contribution rate can be expected to increase significantly as shown in the "market value of asset" column in the above table.]

We conclude this Executive Summary with the following exhibit which compares the principal results of the current and prior actuarial valuation.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL RESULTS

1. PARTICIPANT DATA	8/31/2009 Valuation	8/31/2008 Valuation	% Change
Number of:			
Active Members	553	549	0.7 %
DROP Members	47	44	6.8 %
Retired Members and Beneficiaries	402	384	4.7 %
Inactive Vested Members	27	30	(10.0) %
Total Members	1,029	1,007	2.2 %
Projected Valuation Salaries of Active Members	$ 33,449,977	$ 32,265,715	3.7 %
Annual Retirement Payments for DROP Members, Retired Members and Beneficiaries	$ 8,918,444	$ 8,219,622	8.5 %
2. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Total Actuarial Accrued Liability	$ 187,292,374	$ 179,376,149	4.4 %
Market Value of Assets*	134,932,747	165,904,553	(18.7) %
Actuarial Value of Assets*	177,526,641	179,390,472	(1.0) %
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability/(Surplus)	$ 9,765,733	$ (14,323)	(68,282.2) %
Funded Ratio - Actuarial Value	95%	100%	(5.2) %
Funded Ratio - Market Value	72%	92%	(22.1) %
3. EMPLOYER ACTUARIAL CONTRIBUTION RATE AS A PERCENT OF PAYROLL			
Normal Cost	18.68%	18.61%	0.4 %
Member Financed	6.86%	7.90%	(13.2) %
Employer Normal Cost	11.82%	10.71%	10.4 %
Amortization of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability or (Surplus)	1.52%	(0.01%)	(15,300.0) %
Employer Actuarial Contribution Rate	13.34%	10.70%	24.7 %

* Excludes the COLA Pool Fund

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 4:14 PM
To: Doug Emery; John Spatz; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; Eugene W. Carroll
Cc: Mayor; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: Police and Firefighters Pension Trust; Budget Amendments

Doug:

Thanks for responding. . .I appreciate your communication.

PFFPT: One of the first observations I had when I first joined the CC in 1999 was that the PFFPT was left to the "bottom of the fiscal barrel" during budgeting. When the funds ran out, the contributions were decreased. I have consistently supported funding adequately because of the obligation we have to our firefighters and police.

The City of Lincoln also had a substantial excess reserve when Jonathan Cook and I joined the CC. Mayor Wesely used this to balance budgets for several years although I opposed doing so, preferring to save it for a "rainy day".

Regarding sources of funds. . .well, just look at the entire budget. There are really few "cuts". Instead, there is a shift of funds. Moving the function of PSOs to the parking fund was merely a way to initially capture $600,000+ for LPD. Cutting 2 bus routes ended up taking $75,000 out of the Transport Plus contract. The adjustment in the actuarial assumptions, as noted in my original email, amounts to another million dollar transfer.

Privatizing the ambulance service can be accomplished in 6 months and will allow us to use comparability to either maintain current firefighter compensation or even decrease it because our "array" would shift to non-ambulance fire departments. In the early 1990s, when Mike Johanns added "paramedics" on the fire trucks/engines versus EMT-B, there also was an increase in the overall compensation due to difference comparisons. Ask the labor lawyers. Even John Cripe winced when I asked him in our executive session. This is just the way the system works.

Regarding ambulance remounts. . .Doug, we have no research staff. I had to do my own investigation but I do apologize for not obtaining the information earlier. Here is information on point:

1. Chief Ford's data was not divulged until just last week when he responded to my email. When the "lease-purchase" was discussed, he verbally said $80-80,000 to remount and his data now shows $110-120,000.
2. His data is attributed to Fireguard (http://www.fireguardusa.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=26&Itemid=21), a dealer for Braun and Osage ambulances, among other fire apparatuses. North Central Ambulance (http://www.northcentralambulance.com/index.htm), is another Braun dealer but its web page does have a section on "remounts" although no details on pricing are given.
3. My investigation found several remount services that did detail pricing on their web pages. I have attached 3 sources to this email
4. My investigation also found an ambulance company that performs its own remounts and quoted the $40-42,000 for the type of ambulances LFR has.

Doug, apparently I have misunderstood you and other CC colleagues' concerns on the unfunded levels in the PFFPT, the sidewalk program, the streets and roads, and the ever increasing costs of personnel. My goal is to develop a strategy to tackle these fiscal needs. When I have raised these concerns before, the usual response is "wait till we address the budget" which is our current topic.

So, in summary, my solutions to the emerging fiscal challenges include, in addition to fine tuning each Department, the following:

1. Privatize the ambulance service
2. Privatize the operation of StarTran and reorganize the route structure into more frequent and core routes
3. Reorganize our fire department to meet today's needs of medical response 80% of the time versus the ever decreasing fire response

4. Lobby a successful change at the State Unicameral on the comparability and CIR laws
5. Utilize our Audit Committee to review keys areas like
   a. Carryover unspent funds
   b. Public Works and enterprise funds
6. Let's also discuss the national trend toward privatization—there have been many recent articles, including two this past week in the Wall Street Journal and the Lincoln Journal Star.

Thanks for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Jon

JON A. CAMP

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200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
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From: Doug Emery [mailto:demery@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 7:23 PM
To: Jon Camp; John Spatz; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; Eugene W. Carroll
Cc: Mayor; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: Police and Firefighters Pension Trust; Budget Amendments

Jon,

Okay I will play. If you want to vote against the pension differal where does the 300 K come from? I did not hear your or anyone else offer up any solutions yesterday. As I said it is fine to discuss the fire department or abulance being privatized but you and I both know the will not get done in time to affect THIS budget. So I ask again, where does the 300 K come from?

As far as the ambulance refits, I have to wonder why this was not discussed until the day we voted on this, and that included a delay that YOU requested. We seem to enjoy the drama and publicity these last minute issues provide you. I still have not seen YOUR figures on the refit. Why did you not share those so that we could have used them in the decision making process?? At the last minute you asked for a second delay and offered no documentation. If the shoe were on the other foot you certainly would not expect me to ask you to vote for something without documentation.

Finally, I am disappointed that you act as if you are the only one who recognizes the city has a financial problem and that everyone but you is shirking their responibility. It is disrespectful to the rest of the council who care JUST AS MUCH as

Mary M. Meyer

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Thanks for your consideration,

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Mary M. Meyer

From: F&L [husker11@windstream.net]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 12:40 PM
To: Adam A. Hornung; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; John Spatz; Mayor; Mary M. Meyer; Brian D. Praeuner; StarTranInfo; debandjeff@inebraska.com
Subject: Correspondence with Mr. Emery

REPLY TO MR. EMERY:

Mr. Emery

What do you mean when you say in your email "We will continue to face these tough decisions until we are willing to pay for services in Lincoln"? Who are the WE? Are you talking about a price increase?

Limited bus service will only aide in slowing down Lincoln's future.

I believe the 56 Neighborhood South Route has changed twice in the last year without good notification by the City to passengers and potential passengers. There is confusion in the general population as to what bus runs where and when, especially when changes are made in the route. Communication to the public on routes is poor. Instead of deleting them, why not improve them?

Your antiquated and generic answers do not work. Instead of giving 'overview' answers get down to real answers on why the system is not working. See what other cities are doing to make their system work and duplicate it. Think out-the-box. Forget folding a system that can work and explore ways to make it work.

Please don't cave-in to convenient answers. Find a workable system that will make the City of Lincoln and bus patrons proud.

Remember: The bus system is a service for the City of Lincoln AND the passengers. Please combine both interests and make it workable.

I wish I could be in town for the August meetings but previous out of state plans from August 4-11 dictate otherwise.

Most Sincerely,
Fred Carter

-----Original Message-----
From: Doug Emery [mailto:demery@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 2:27 PM
To: F&L
Subject: RE: PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CUTS

Mr Carter,

These are the two LEAST ridden routes currently. We have to cut somewhere and ALL of the cuts are distasteful. PSOs, City Forester, Willard Community Center or Bus Routes. I can make a

compelling case for ALL of them. We will continue to face these tough decisions until we are willing to pay for services in Lincoln

Thanks for your input

Doug Emery

_____

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Mary M. Meyer

From: Doug Emery
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 7:23 PM
To: Jon Camp; John Spatz; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Jonathan A. Cook; Jayne L. Snyder; Eugene W. Carroll
Cc: Mayor; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: RE: Police and Firefighters Pension Trust; Budget Amendments

Jon,

Okay I will play. If you want to vote against the pension differal where does the 300 K come from? I did not hear your or anyone else offer up any solutions yesterday. As I said it is fine to discuss the fire department or abulance being privatized but you and I both know the will not get done in time to affect THIS budget. So I ask again, where does the 300 K come from?

As far as the ambulance refits, I have to wonder why this was not discussed until the day we voted on this, and that included a delay that YOU requested. We seem to enjoy the drama and publicity these last minute issues provide you. I still have not seen YOUR figures on the refit. Why did you not share those so that we could have used them in the decision making process?? At the last minute you asked for a second delay and offered no documentation. If the shoe were on the other foot you certainly would not expect me to ask you to vote for something without documentation.

Finally, I am disappointed that you act as if you are the only one who recognizes the city has a financial problem and that everyone but you is shirking their responibility. It is disrespectful to the rest of the council who care JUST AS MUCH as you do but who have a different idea of the direction the city should go. If you want to offer solutions I am open to discussion

Doug

From: Jon Camp [JonCamp@lincolnhaymarket.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 5:55 PM
To: John Spatz; ahornung@scudderlaw.com; Jonathan A. Cook; Doug Emery; Jayne L. Snyder; Eugene W. Carroll
Cc: Mayor; Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Police and Firefighters Pension Trust; Budget Amendments

Colleagues:

Yesterday at our meeting to discuss budget amendments, the Police and Firefighters Pension was discussed. I have attached two pages from the August 31, 2009 actuarial report from Milliman. I encourage you to review these two pages. I have highlighted a few sentences for emphasis and to assist you in understanding the seriousness of the underfunding in which we find ourselves.

I would also like to mention two other areas for our Monday meeting and amendments to the Mayor's proposed budget:

1. The Mayor has assumed we will amend the City's ordinances that pertain to the Police and Firefighters Pension Trust to save $300,000 in this year's contribution. Except for Jonathan Cook, none of you sat on the City Council when I proposed this same amendment, which was defeated by the sitting City Council members at that time by a 4 to 3 vote (Jonathan voted against my measure). Ultimately, the ordinance before the City Council was passed 6 to 1 (I voted "no" because my amendment was not included). Ironically, the City's actuary testified at that hearing and when questioned about the proposed amendments, she stated she could not support the City's proposal but that she supported the "Jon Camp amendment". . .the same amendment now being requested by Mayor Beutler.

   You would think I would support this amendment that Mayor Beutler is asking us to pass since I once proposed it. I DO NOT for the following reasons:

a. The market value of the PFFPT is approximately $60 million below the Accrued Actuarial Liabilities. Even had my original amendment been passed, which would permit the City to decrease its funding of the PFFPT in times of economic hardship, the past few years' investment returns are so significantly below expectations that I firmly believe the City needs to fund its commitment to our police and firefighters.

b. The City had its actuaries to modify the PFFPT by changing the
   i. amortization of past service liabilities from 10 to 30 years, and
   ii. the smoothing from 4 to 5 years

These two modifications serve to reduce this year's contribution by approximately $1.3 million.

2. Lease purchase of ambulances—as I have stated on several recent occasions, I do NOT support new purchases when "remounting" the existing boxes can be done at much less cost. I appreciate Chief Ford's recent email and attachments, but I have discussed this matter with others and the remount cost they quoted was approximately $40-42,000, nowhere near the $110-120,000 detailed in Chief Ford's attachments.

Why not put this out for bid and see what the results are? When we discuss $154,000 in the cost of a new ambulance, this would be substantial savings.

Chief Ford further notes that the ambulances are funded by "user fees". The "users" are Lincoln citizens. Regardless of whether the cost is paid with general funds (tax dollars) or by user fees, this is an expense to our citizens. **I see no reason to not to save money wherever possible and for whatever fund we are addressing**.

Since the lease-purchase of ambulances is part of this year's budget request, I will ask that it be amended to "remount".

Thanks for your consideration,

Jon

JON A. CAMP

Haymarket Square/CH, Ltd.
200 Haymarket Square
808 P Street
P.O. Box 82307
Lincoln, NE 68501-2307

Office: 402.474.1838
Fax: 402.474.1838
Cell: 402.560.1001

Email: joncamp@lincolnhaymarket.com

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money"

~ ***Alexis de Tocqueville*** (French Historian and Political scientist. 1805-1859)

Mary M. Meyer

From: Wendy Francis [wfrancis@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 12:03 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Commission on Human Rights
Attachments: Dear Mayor Beutler.doc

Dear Council Members,

I have previously written to Mayor Beutler about keeping funding for The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (see attached).

I now write to you to urge you to keep the LCHR as an independent department with a director that can continue the community
outreach; be the conduit for the City of Lincoln to many different community and diverse organizations and frankly, allow all persons who live
in Lincoln who believe they have been discriminated against to have access to a department that is non threatening because they
are not part of the 'Law Department'.

I urge you to keep The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights in tact, with a director. Larry Williams departure leaves a big void
in this community and he leaves a wonderful legacy of outreach and bringing people together to help realize 'One Lincoln'.

Let's not let this slip away because of budget.

Wendy Francis

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Associate Broker, ABR, CRS, GRI, SFR
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http://wendyfrancis.woodsbros.com

Woods Bros Realty 7100 S 29th Street Lincoln, NE 68516

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Mary M. Meyer

From: Sheryl Burbach [sburbach@windstream.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 3:18 PM
To: Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Restore the Forestry Budget

Hello,

I am writing to ask you to fully restore the forestry budget. Lincoln's community forest continues to grow as Lincoln grows. With the upcoming emerald ash bore infestation we need these arborists in place to protect our forest.

The Forestry department has had more than their fair share of cuts…let these dedicated city employees keep their jobs.

Thank you for your time.

--Sheryl Burbach

Melvin & Sheryl Burbach
400 W Dilin Street
Lincoln, NE 68521

402-475-0201
402-304-7584 (cell)
sburbach@windstream.net

July 21, 2010

To Lincoln City Council members:

At its meeting Tuesday, July 20, the board of the Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance voted to support retaining the position of City Forester as well as the two city arborist positions that were proposed for elimination. The City Forester has many years of expertise that will be very much needed as the city faces the coming invasion of the emerald ash borer, which could destroy a large proportion of the city's trees. In addition, that level of expertise is needed in the ongoing planning and maintenance of street trees and park trees, which have helped Lincoln achieve its designation as a Tree City USA. The LNA represents many citizens who would prefer a tax increase rather than cutting vital positions and services.

Sincerely,

Bob Reeves, Clinton Neighborhood Organization
Member LNA Board

Bob Reeves
3236 Dudley St.
Lincoln, NE 68503

(402)464-1803

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JUL 23 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

536 W Keating Cir.
Lincoln, NE 68521

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JUL 23 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

July 22, 2010

Mr. John Spatz
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Spatz,

I am writing to ask that you restore funding for the city forester position in the city's budget. I am a former member of Lincoln's Community Forestry Advisory Board, and I believe the cutting of this position is shortsighted and will ultimately cost the city a great deal more.

Hazardous trees develop every year from storms, decay, root problems, and insect pests. It takes specialized training to be able to recognize many hazardous trees before they fail. A community forestry planner that organizes volunteers, unless he or she also has this training, will not be able to identify hazardous trees in their early stages. Two months ago, Omaha had a $3 million claim filed against it because a tree failed and killed a seven-year-old boy. Omaha went many years without a city forester on staff. They now have one who started sometime earlier this year. If Omaha had kept a city forester on staff, they may have been able to identify this hazardous tree and remove it before it failed. If Lincoln eliminates its city forester, new hazardous trees will develop every year and will likely go unnoticed. How many years of a city forester's salary would $3 million cover?

Probably in just two to three years, the emerald ash borer will arrive in Nebraska, and it will likely arrive in one of the major cities first. Within just a few years of its arrival in Lincoln, the city will likely face dozens or hundreds of trees each year that will need to be removed. Many or most of these will be large trees, too large and too many for volunteers to handle or keep up with. It will take a trained arborist to do triage on the dying trees to identify the ones that are most in need of being removed first, before they become a hazard to public safety or property. If anytime were a bad time to eliminate a city forester, this would be it.

Please reconsider and restore the city forester position to the city's budget.

Sincerely,

Mark Harrell

Mark Harrell

July 21, 2010

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JUL 23 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Mayor of Lincoln
The Honorable Chris Beutler
555 South 10th Street, Suite 301
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mayor Beutler,

I am writing in support of the City of Lincoln's Forestry Program.

I have had the opportunity to work with Steve Schwab, city forester, on many occasions as an event planner for the Arbor Day Foundation. Kooser Elementary, Adams Elementary, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have all recently received new trees thanks in part to Steve's help. The tree planting events were all very successful and Steve is owed credit for that.

Steve wore many hats while assisting with these events. Steve encouraged both Kooser and Adams Elementary to apply for events, an excellent opportunity for these two schools to receive fifty large trees. He helped select the types of trees for the event, always keeping in mind species diversity and what works well for schools. Steve also helped recruit several volunteers for the events and provided a hands-on training for all volunteers before the event started. Steve is one of the reasons the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was the first university in Nebraska to become a Tree Campus USA certified school.

Aside from the fact that I work at the Arbor Day Foundation, I'm also a citizen of Lincoln and feel very strongly about the changes to the city forester position. I am proud that Lincoln has been a Tree City USA for 33 years. Lincoln's urban forest is beautiful and thriving because of years and years of smart investment and dedicated care by management, the city's elected officials, concerned voters and professionally-trained arborists. Cutting back on our tree budget is a big risk, one that Lincoln cannot afford to take.

Please reconsider the proposed cuts to the Forestry Program budget!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Boettcher
2310 Atlas Circle
Lincoln, NE 68521

CC: Lincoln City Council

2119 Lake Street
Lincoln, NE 68502

July 21, 2010

RECEIVED
JUL 23 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

John Spatz
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Mr. Spatz:

I write to you today in support of Lincoln's tree program, as our trees deserve and require the full support of our city officials, and ask you to not cut funding to this valuable resource.

Lincoln offers many quality services to its residents and I understand the difficulty of cutting departmental budgets, which invariably effect large sections of the population. While I frequently visit both the public library and various neighborhood pools, not all of Lincoln's residents take advantage of these facilities, for example. But *every* citizen of Lincoln, and *every* person passing through this city, experiences our urban forest. These trees shade our homes, sidewalks, parking lots, schools, and businesses, providing us billions of dollars in benefits and they are worth protecting.

Although I am relieved to hear Mayor Beutler has decided to retain the two arborist positions, I am very dismayed with his decision to eliminate the City Forester position. Our City Forester is an extremely experienced professional and I find it hard to believe that a "community forester planner" to organize volunteers will provide us with the same level of expertise that a City Forester provides.

I have lived in Lincoln for 5 years and moving to a city in the middle of the Great Plains that is full of trees was a welcome start for my new home. Many of my neighbors have spoken about the October 1997 storm, how it ravaged the trees, downing power lines all over the city, damaging homes and vehicles. I have always been impressed that you would never know this storm caused so much damage because of the wonderful state of our community forest, which is such a testament to our City Forester and his staff being ready to protect and successfully manage this valuable, sustainable and natural resource.

I am proud that Lincoln has been a Tree City USA for 33 years and we should be leaders in this program, especially considering Nebraska is the home of Arbor Day. We simply can't afford to take for granted the management of our tree canopy by trained professionals.

I respectfully urge you to retain our City Forester position and help Lincoln maintain its standing as a shining example of a healthy community forest.

Sincerely,

Karina I. Helm

Karina I. Helm

July 20, 2010

Mr. Eugene Carroll
Councilman, City of Lincoln
555 South 10th Street, Suite 301
Lincoln, NE 68508

RECEIVED
JUL 23 2010
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE

Dear Councilman Carroll,

I'm writing to express important considerations about the proposed reorganization of the Lincoln City Forestry Department.

First, I applaud the Mayor and his staff for approaching the budget issues with an open mind. Cross training Parks and Rec staff and using volunteers as a supplemental resource for community forestry is a good vision. However our elected officials simply can't underestimate the importance of expert forestry management. Having a vision is one thing. Making the vision come to reality is entirely different and I'm afraid that the new role of Forestry Planner simply isn't thought out.

Cross-training and a supplemental volunteer program is a good idea. It is a model that works well in many cities across the country. But make no mistake. The model only works where volunteers are a supplemental resource, not a replacement. Volunteers need to be well trained and well managed. But even then, volunteers will never have the expertise to replace expert professional forestry.

My urgent request is that you ask the tough questions so that you fully understand the new Forestry Planner's role. This new position has not been thought out. Expertise and leadership has been woefully underestimated.

Our community deserves and requires forestry expertise and visionary leadership. Lincoln's trees are a billion-dollar asset that simply can't be left to be managed by a new Forestry Planner whose role seems to have been defined as a mere "volunteer organizer."

Who will develop plans and prepare professional staff to deal with the next storm such as the one in October, 1997, when Lincoln's beautiful tree canopy was devastated?

Lincoln was prepared. Our city's professional crews were hard at work immediately and effectively, saving tens of thousands of trees thanks to their expertise. Untrained chainsaw-wielding mercenaries were sent home. The result: thirteen years later, we're hard pressed to find evidence of that storm's devastation.

Other communities gambled and lost by underestimating the importance of having prepared management in place. Their trees suffered. Their entire community suffered.

Is the new Forestry Planner role defined well enough to mitigate the risk associated with the next calamity?

As the dreaded Emerald Ash Borer inches closer to Lincoln, does Lincoln have a plan in place that will protect our 100,000 ash trees? Will the new Forestry Planner, as its role has been defined, have the expertise and the network to draw upon the first-hand experiences of other city foresters who are dealing with this pestilence and understand which management techniques work and which don't?

There are also questions that need to be answered regarding the day-to-day care of Lincoln's trees. Who will review and approve plans and specifications for street, sidewalk, curb, and parking lot projects adjacent to our city's trees? Who will work with utility providers to approve any plans for trenching along our city trees? And who will make decisions and set policies for determining that the right trees are planted in right places and ensure that Lincoln has a diverse tree population?

Who will seek out best practices about pruning cycles and get a thorough understanding that so much depends on the individual species and ages of trees to get pruning right? The practice of a "ten-year pruning cycle" is completely obsolete. We need leadership that will learn best practices. Young trees every two years. Healthy hackberries every 20. Expert leadership won't settle for putting proper pruning, for example, on autopilot. The health of our trees depends on management with expertise.

Our beautiful community forest didn't just happen. We enjoy it thanks to the hard work and management of our Forestry Department and thanks to the vision and thoughtful governance of our elected officials.

Lincoln citizens benefit from our urban forest with clean air and water, very little flooding, higher property values, lower energy costs, and an exceptional quality of life thanks to our trees that really don't cost very much. The investment we make in city forestry is literally returned a hundred-fold in economic, environmental, and social benefits.

My urgent request is that you and your fellow Councilpersons insist on a Forestry Department management structure and investment that is commensurate with the value of our city's priceless green infrastructure. Without expert management, the value of this resource will certainly tumble.

Expert forestry management. This is what the trees of Lincoln and the citizens of Lincoln deserve and require. Please insist on a thorough description of what our forestry leadership structure will provide and not gamble on a mere "community organizer" to entrust with our billion-dollar asset.

Respectfully,

Woodrow Nelson
6831 Shadow Ridge Road
Lincoln, NE 68512

Mary M. Meyer

From: Rebecca Hasty [rhasty1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 3:09 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: city trees

If the Mayor does away with the city arboritist and the home owners have to take responsibility for the trees from their sidewalks to the curb, can we homeowners cut those trees down - PLEEZE - the trees have never been pruned, are a mess, and fall on our vehicles during storms and have the potential to fall on someone.

Hotmail is redefining busy with tools for the New Busy. Get more from your inbox. See how.

Mary M. Meyer

From: William Carver [williamc@myapplemail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 11:14 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep Forestry Position

Dear Council Members,

Please help to protect our valuable trees by restoring the City Forestry Position. We need the knowledge and experience of a forester now more than ever.

Thank You,

William Carver
2202 Washington St

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 10:14 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Stanford L Sipple
Address: 1300 S 37th Street
City: Lincoln, NE 68510

Phone: 402-890-5435
Fax:
Email: stan_sipple@yahoo.com

Comment or Question:
re: Ordinance 06-210 Street Name Change Rosa Parks Way

The City Council directed in Ordinance 06-210 that the name of Capitol Parkway West should change to Rosa Parks Way upon payment from the NAACP of $15000.

Please confirm the dates and amounts of payments the NAACP and or any payors on its behalf paid for the street name change.

Thank you.

STANFORD L. SIPPLE
890-5435
stan_sipple@yahoo.com

Mary M. Meyer

From: Wendy Francis [wfrancis@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 12:03 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Commission on Human Rights
Attachments: Dear Mayor Beutler.doc

Dear Council Members,

I have previously written to Mayor Beutler about keeping funding for The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (see attached).

I now write to you to urge you to keep the LCHR as an independent department with a director that can continue the community
outreach; be the conduit for the City of Lincoln to many different community and diverse organizations and frankly, allow all persons who live
in Lincoln who believe they have been discriminated against to have access to a department that is non threatening because they
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Let's not let this slip away because of budget.

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Woods Bros Realty 7100 S 29th Street Lincoln, NE 68516

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June 5 2010
Dear Mayor Beutler,

I am writing this letter in support of keeping the funding in the City's budget to retain The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (LCHR).

I have had the pleasure of serving on the LCHR for the past several years, finishing the term of a Commissioner who was not able to finish her appointment and then being appointed for a term of my own. I am serving my second year as the current Chair.

As a REALTOR®, Fair Housing plays an important role to my profession and by license law; I am required to take a Fair Housing class every 2 years. I assure you that I have taken classes regarding Fair Housing far beyond what is required for my license as this is a topic I am passionate about.

Should Lincoln not have its own Civil Rights agency, we, as citizens of the State of Nebraska have the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission (NEOC) that complaints can be filed with.

While both LCHR and NEOC do excellent work, LCHR differs from NEOC in several key matters:

1) The NEOC will only consider employment discrimination involving companies that have 15+ employees; LCHR accepts cases involving companies with 4+ employees.
2) As a state, Nebraska does not have a law preventing discrimination based on disability regarding public accommodations. That means, if a restaurant, store etc only has stairs and no ramp in, there is nothing that can be done at the state level. NEOC will not take these cases.
3) The state limits age discrimination at 70 years of age, where the city does not have a limit on age discrimination
4) In the area of housing, marital status is not protected at the state level but is at the city level. So single mothers denied housing on that basis count not turn to the NEOC, but could go to LCHR.
5) Cases must be filed within 10 days of incident for the NEOC, LCHR allows up to 1 year to file in accommodation cases.

A few years ago, the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, who is the agency the NEOC is reliant on, refused to act on a discrimination case because the persons filing the case may not have been in our country as documented persons. This caused The Department Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to take action against the NEOC and the because of the

- The

I want to point out some differences between the NEOC and LCHR and how the City gives more opportunity and a broader coverage:

NEOC:
Complainant must file within 10 days of incident
70+ can not file age discrimination based on age
does not recognize marital status

LCHR:
The company being filed against must have as minimum of 4 employees
Accommodation cases have up to 1 year to file
No age restriction
Marital status

The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights and The Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission are similar in some aspects

The fact that the City of Lincoln has its own civil rights agency speaks volume of our City and Community.

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 1:35 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Margaret (Peg) Cullen
Address: 3066 San Agustin Dr
City: Lincoln, NE 68516

Phone: 402-423-0408
Fax:
Email: pcullen@neb.rr.com

Comment or Question:
I moved to Lincoln May 2006 from North Platte, Ne. Friends a block from me pick me up for Aging Partners to Lake St Center. Heard Tuesday this Center would be closing, would be going to downtown center. Please don't force this wonderful center to relocate, St James church has a chair lift for handicap. Kelle Brandt keeps our center entertaining, sees everyone is included in cards etc. so no one is left out, keeps our center neat and clean. Just one big question why are these centers being closed? I don't drive downtown,can handicaped people be able to walk a distance especially if snow and ice.Thank you,PegCullen

Mary M. Meyer

From: Tom Piccini [tpiccini@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Mayor; Council Packet
Subject: Please do not eliminate our City Forester

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Trees are one of the many reasons I moved to Lincoln 25 years ago. It is another reason I moved 4 years ago into the neighborhood I now live in.

When looking at Lincoln's overall budget, Lincoln's trees should not be put at risk for a comparatively small amount of potential budget savings. We need a professional Forester in place to see to the health and safety of our trees. Our trees are one of our biggest assets and taking a short term cost savings approach to the management of this asset could easily translate into untold loses to our tree assets in the future.

I'm totally in favor of building a volunteer base to assist the city in the maintenance of our trees, which can help us save us some money, but with out the expertise of our City Forester to develop and oversee our tree maintenance, I don not see a volunteer crew of tree helpers as a solution to maintaining our tree assets and justifying elimination of our City Forester to save a relatively small amount of money in the short term.

I appreciate your taking the time to consider my input on this subject.

Tom Piccini

July 23, 2010

To Lincoln City Council members:

The proposal to eliminate the “City Forester” cuts the head off of an important city function which is vital to our quality of life. We need management ability and expertise to continue the successful forestry program. I hope the City Council will take the big picture view instead of a very short term fix. This proposed cut will be added costs later. Steve Schwab is a community leader and has been a valuable city employee for many years. Aside from the loss of expertise, this treatment of a loyal and esteemed community member is repugnant.

Sincerely,

Steve DeLair

Mary M. Meyer

From:	Chip Doolittle [chip@arborsystems.com]
Sent:	Friday, July 23, 2010 4:06 PM
To:	Mayor; Council Packet
Cc:	Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Adam A. Hornung; John Spatz; Jayne L. Snyder
Subject:	Lincoln City Forestry
Attachments:	image003.gif; Lincoln City Forester.pdf

ArborSystems
Tree Injection Solutions

July 23, 2010

The Honorable Chris Beutler
Mayor City of Lincoln
555 South 10th St., Suite 301
Lincoln, Ne 68508

Dear Mayor Beutler:

I would like to talk about the possibility that Lincoln may make the same disastrous mistake Omaha did several years ago, and has only this year rectified the problem. I heard you are seriously thinking of getting rid of Steve Schwab and possibly letting a new person run a team of volunteers. This would be a big mistake.

I own a company in Omaha called ArborSystems, Inc. We manufacture and distribute tree care products around the US, and around the world. I am a past board member of the Nebraska Arborists Association and a past board member of the Midwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture – a 7 state organization of fellow arborists. I am the first certified tree person in the Midwest Chapter of the ISA, and a past owner of a tree and lawn care company that operated in Omaha for many years. Although I live in Omaha now, I grew up in Lincoln, or more specifically, Cheney, and am a proud graduate of Lincoln High, class of 1965!!

Not having a forester in Omaha for the last few years has not worked. The biggest problem is we have not had someone in charge of removing hazardous trees on a timely basis. Someone needs to be in charge of the crews that maintain these trees, and it needs to be someone with the knowledge of what it takes. Steve Schwab is that man.

Having a list of volunteers in the wings is going to be a ticket to disaster. While there may be many people with good hearts, what volunteer knows the value of a properly trimmed tree? Does that volunteer know how to perform a proper cut that avoids damage to a tree? Does that volunteer know how to assess a tree after storm damage as to its viability? Volunteers don't know these things; Steve Schwab does.

Lincoln needs to retain a proven City Forester who has a great reputation around the area. The future headache is the looming problem of Emerald Ash Borer in a few years, which will make that person even more critical. How is the city going to implement the removal of dying trees and the treatment of this pest? Whose liability is it when a dead ash tree falls on a car or person? It fell because it was dead, but the city of Lincoln is going to have a lot more trees around town that are going to die. How are volunteers going to keep up with this and know which trees should be cut first?

It was really bad for Omaha for several years not having a forester. But not having Steve Schwab in the Capital City of Nebraska would be a travesty. I'm a conservative and appreciate keeping a budget. But this is a case where the tree situation needs to be carefully analyzed to maintain Lincoln's healthy trees.

Sincerely,

Chip Doolittle
President

P.O. Box 34645 | Omaha, NE 68134-0645
Toll-Free 800-698-4641 | Phone 402-339-4459 | Fax 402-339-5011
www.ArborSystems.com

Mary M. Meyer

From: Elaine Kodad [eckodad@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 9:54 PM
To: Council Packet; Doug Emery
Subject: NO to drinking after 1:00

Some personal thoughts on the bar closing time ... thank you for your time!

How can this even be a tough decision?!

Don't you really think patrons have had enough to drink by 1:00. To change this would only contradict other decisions where drinking has been a concern. Why do people think Lincoln always has to keep up with Omaha. The bar owners who are using the "more sales tax for the city thing" don't really care about that .... they are being greedy. The scene downtown at midnight and 1:00 is already crazy with college kids standing everywhere. This is just going to create and encourage more trouble.

Also, this would mean even longer shifts for bartenders who have already worked a long night. And for some bartenders this is a second job. Why can't it just stay the way it is now. It has worked all these years ... why not now.

I say "no" to encouraging more alcohol before driving. There has to be a better way to make more $$$$$$. Use your own common sense when you make this decision. Don't be influenced by the greedy. Help and encourage people to stop drinking at a sensible time.

This is not Chicago, Kansas City or any other BIG city. This is Lincoln, Nebraska and I'm proud to be from Lincoln and what it stands for.

The New Busy is not the too busy. Combine all your e-mail accounts with Hotmail. Get busy.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jeanette Fanmeyer [jako@inebraska.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 12:14 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: bars and budgets

While considering the city budget, would you all calculate just how much more the city tax payers will have to pay in overtime for police officers to babysit the patrons of the bars at closing time, if the closing time is extended until 2 AM. If ALL the bar owners had patrons who were responsible adults, no police presence would be neccessary. Consider the budget, Lincoln cannot afford to have bars close at 2AM. Just what can one do between 1&2 am that cannot be done before 1 AM? Can the increased cost of police overtime to the the city be justified by the amount of tax revenue produced in 1 hour. If any of you do not believe, expecially downtown, bars need their exiting patrons babysat, just drive through downtown at 12:45 AM on a weekend. While the rest of the city wonders 'just where have all the police officers gone.'

jeanette fangmeyer

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 5:49 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: John Fischbach
Address: 520 Eldora Lane
City: Lincoln, NE, 68505

Phone: 402-805-4233
Fax:
Email: arborx1@aol.com

Comment or Question:
I just learned about the possibility of the elimination of our City Forester Steve Schwab.

I have been a city arborist, longer than Steve Schwab has been in Lincoln, for nearly 33 years.

We need Steve as City Forester. Someone else like was said in the Sunday newspaper, would be like the situation Des Moines Forestery Dept had several years ago. They had an administrator that did not know the difference between a pine and an oak. That department suffered and the entire City of Des Moines Forestry program suffered. Even the Parks and Recreation in Des Moines knows very little about trees because they do not have a Forester. Plus in their wisdom, the city council in Des Moines, as yet to establish a Licensing program for local arborist. No one carries the proper insurance.

We need a City Forester that will take the effort to police 'out of town' arborists (tree services) that have not taken the test and have the proper insurance to do business in the City of Lincoln. Especially, after a snow or ice storm like we did back in 1997. Without a city forester, there is no body that fill that job, that will safe guard the citizens and property of Lincoln.

If we ever get the Emerald Ash Borer, what will happen to Lincoln if there is no one at the wheel to establish a special assessment program to protect our trees. Without Steve, we will probably lose 1/3 of the city owned trees. Has anyone for the City Council looked at the Tree Inventory and location of species. Who's street will be hardest hit due to this pest or any pest.

Steve has been instrumental in maintaining trees in Lincoln. There are many pin oaks owned by the city, that have been treated for iron chlorosis and will now live. The cost of iron treatment on these large trees are 1/10 the cost of removal(depending upon who does the bidding). That is $450 per tree (possibly more) that would not be taken out of your budget.

I do not know Steve's salary, but save only 150; 60 year old pin oaks in the city of Lincoln and you probably saved Steve's job. There are 3 in front of the Hruska Law Center, 12 around the historic church at 17th and H (I believe), many on the city's golf courses, many around Northeast High School, and many more along the city's streets. Look for yourself and then ask yourselves, if Steve was gone, could the City of Lincoln funds handle all those dead trees. I know you will make the Big Tree Services (those with the equiptment) very happy

and the city would go broke or the city could leave them standing and then suffer a major lawsuit if a dead branch fell on someone. There would be no doubt that the city knew about the situation and did nothing about. There are many dead trees on homeowner's private properties and there is nothing in place (city code) to protect neighbors or guests.

Think also of the tons of carbon that would be absorbed by those healthy trees, not dead or dying. Chlorophyll absorbs CO_2 and the use of sunlight = carbohydrate + oxygen, which is then released for us humans to stay alive.

Thank you taking the time to read this request and hope to hear from all 7 city council persons about this situation.

from John Fischbach, Licensed and Insured arborist since 1977.

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 7:11 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: PJ French
Address: 361 S. Village Drive
City: Centerville, OH 45459

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
I don't know what's worse, a Police Chief who believes he has "absolutely no interest at all in helping the federal gov't do their job" enforcing the law, or the fact that he relies on a "Multicultural Advisory Committee" to determine how he deals with illegals. This guy is going out of his way to protect Lincoln's illegals from arrest or deportation. When one was threatened with deportation because she attempted identity fraud, the Chief huddled with "Multicultural" leaders to assure them he didn't want this to happen! What does race or 'culture' have to do with the law? His job is to enforce the law, period. How can you put up with this?

Mary M. Meyer

From: lionema@cox.net
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 7:15 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Chief Casady

Well your fair town has made national and international news for having a Chief of Police who decides when to enforce the laws and against who HE will choose to enforce the law for or against. When you have someone who breaks the law I do not believe there is any provision to see if they are legal or illegal. His actions are the ones that are illegal and his job needs to be on trial.

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 7:37 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Kay See
Address: 13 Woodcock circle
City: Abilene, Tx

Phone: 324-668-4947
Fax:
Email: seekay@suddenlink.net

Comment or Question:
Your police chief needs to go. People with his attitude are why we have so many illegals in the us

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 8:33 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Maura Zazenski
Address: 8245 S High Ct
City: Littleton CO 80122

Phone:
Fax:
Email: Mzaz@ATT.net

Comment or Question:
You must investigate your police chief for not enforcing the law. My family & I are frequent visitors to your beautiful city but the behavior of your Chief makes us think twice about going to Lincoln next month. The people of Lincoln deserve better as do visitors. We will be watching for your public response to this issue. Respectfully submitted, M Zazenski

Mary M. Meyer

From: William Carver [williamc@myapplemail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 8:38 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support Performanced Base Inspections

Dear Council Members,

Please support Items 10-88 and 10-89 regarding Performance Based Inspections. Your support will continue to help protect our neighborhoods.

Respectfully,

William Carver
Near South Neighborhood Resident

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 8:52 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Wesley Bates
Address: 804 Jeffee Drive
City: Kermit, Texas 79745

Phone: (432) 586-2424
Fax:
Email: dad_54_2007@yahoo.com

Comment or Question:
To Whom It May Concern,
I have read the post telling about your police chief. Im truly sorry that he can't uphold the laws in your city.
I know most people wants nothing to do with immigration reform but if we don't stand up now later is going to be too late. So please consider terminating your current Chief of Police.
Thank You for your time
Wesley Earl Bates

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jeri [hunnykins@everestkc.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 7:20 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Impressed with Lincoln
Attachments: 333.jpg; IMSTP9.gif

Hello,

I would like to express my interest in living in a city where the police chief finds it ok for anyone, but especially an illegal , to perpetrate identity theft. Apparently he feels it is better to pander to a small group than protect the citizens of his city. Please continue to allow such a bonehead to be on your payroll. Otherwise, if he did his job, the illegals might all run across yet another border and into Kansas.

Jeri Correll

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Mary M. Meyer

From: dogboy2@vzw.blackberry.net
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 9:16 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Chief

There needs to be a stop put to the immigration issue. I don't live in your town nor state but US citizens need to unite against the illegal population that is draining the economy. The Chief of Police is spineless like most and if he is not going to uphold the laws fpr the community he was sworn to protect then get rid him.
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jonathan Skean [jonathan.skean@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 9:17 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed ordinance changes 10-88 & 10-89

I hope you will vote to approve items 10-88 & 10-89 to provide for performance-based inspections. This would benefit responsible property owners and the neighborhoods of those who need more oversight. If you disagree, I would be sincerely interested in considering factors you think I might be misunderstanding.

Best regards,
Jonathan Skean
1700 S 21st St

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 11:27 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

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InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
  General Council

Name:     Keith Besherse
Address:  2816 Forest View Ct N
City:     Puyallup, WA 98374

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
City Of Lincoln,

What does race or 'culture' have to do with the law?
Your Chief of Police's job is to enforce the law, period.
Illegal alien isn't an "undocumented worker."  Illegal alien is a criminal.

Keith Besherse
Puyallup WA
```

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jeffrey Reusche [jreusche65@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2010 8:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Chief

I am a retired California peace officer. Your chief is a disgrace if he will not execute his oath of office. Breaking the law has nothing to do with race gender or sex.... You do the crime and you get time.

J Reusche
Vacaville, CA

Sent from my iPod

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 1:03 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Carrie Reynolds
Address: 1234 W Nebraska
City: Lincoln, NE 68501

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
Please relay to mayor. You need to replace your chief of police. It's apparent he thinks he has the authority to pick and choose the laws he wants to enforce. This has got to end now before chaos reigns. Your job is at stake. Do the police really have the authority to pick and choose they want to enforce? If the chief wants to do that what is going to stop the cops on the street. I'm getting so disgusted with everyone in office - all hell is going to break loose.

Mary M. Meyer

From: RBabyKat@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 12:57 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Chief Casady

As former residents of Lincoln and having traveled the entire state for many years, we feel we need to speak up and protest the position Police Chief Casady is taking regarding illegal immigrants. We read that he is unwilling to help the Federal Government do their job.

We lived in Colonial Hills off of Deer Creek and the Police Chief at that time, resided in the block right behind us. I had an office on "O" street and another at Gateway. We now reside in Marana, a suburb just NW of Tucson, Arizona. We are very supportive of Fremont having passed the recent laws to protect themselves from illegal aliens. You simply cannot imagine what it is like having the constant flow of illegal aliens, mostly Hispanic/Latino, because of the proximity of Mexico to Arizona's southern border. We have murders, rapes, gangs, human and drug smuggling, kidnappings and home invasions. The cost of providing education, housing, food and healthcare, not to mention the incarcerated illegals, is astronomical. I might also mention the diseases they bring with them, like drug resistant T.B., measles, whooping cough, mumps, hepatitus and a lot more. California is a zoo now. Downtown Los Angeles is like being in Mexico. The state is broke and Arizona is close to being broke, too. I assume you knew that a large section of Arizona has been posted as a warning about entering because the drug cartels and illegal immigrants have taken it over. Now this is the United States! You think for one moment that they couldn't do the same to Lincoln? Where is our Federal Government? Where is our Border Security? Where are all the "boots on the ground?" Our law enforcement in Arizona admit, they are out-manned and lack the weaponry to fight the cartels with their advanced weaponry (Ak-47's) and technology they are using to spy on our Border Patrols so they can avoid them. The fence as it is, is a joke and no where near complete.

This garbage of the poor illegal aliens doing the work Americans won't to do is pure nonsense. Kids in school and especially college, are more than anxious to do this work....working in the fields, babysitting, housecleaning, window washing, working construction, janitorial, restaurants, and you name it. With so many unemployed, desperately looking for any kind of work, this is a mute point. Our own daughter has been trying to find work for a year and a half and she's 55 years old.

We find that La Raza has had a big influence and supported these "ethnic" classes that were being taught in our schools. Sure, they were mostly Hispanic and they were being taught that they were "superior" and that Americans hated them, how to protest and march, with teachers and professors railing against S.B. 1070 and trying to incite civil war. Fortunately, Tom Horne withdrew all "ethnic" classes from our school system. California is even worse. They refuse to speak English, flaunt their "heritage" " and demand everything. They are extremely rude. Often times, a long time American citizen, usually Caucasian, is terminated from their job and a young person barely out of high school is hired as a replacement. Probably because it is cheaper and also because they are bi-lingual. It is disgusting to go into a new Wal-Mart in a non-Hispanic neighborhood, and cannot find an employee there who can speak English or has a clue where anything is stocked. They slowly but surely take over. Is this what you want?

Arizona has passed a law where you can now carry a concealed weapon. Now why do you suppose they did that? Well, my husband took the training, bought a gun and has a permit for it, plus a permit to carry a concealed weapon. We are fearful of our very lives and have a security alarm system and motion detector lights. I might add, we also live in a gated, upscale community on Dove Mountain with security 24/7. We still have break-ins. We used to have three trauma centers in Tucson, we are now down to one because of the illegal immigration. The cost is unbelievable. Of course, the hospitals and Department of Economic Security (food stamps, healthcare, etc.) and the Health Department who treat illegal immigrants in these "drop" or "safe" houses, cannot report them. It's against the law. They really know how to abuse our system. They even borrow each other's children in order to get more from DES.

Just a side note. My husband is still a member of Masonic Lodge #300 and the Sosostris Shrine in Lincoln. He was a Shrine Clown when we lived there.

Please, support Arizona and S.B. 1070 in their endeavor to have the U.S. Government enforce our immigration laws and stop the "anchor baby" program as well. We definitely do not want amnesty for any illegal. This is not about race...what is there about "illegal" that people don't understand? Illegal means they have broken our laws and entered our country illegally. We can no longer afford to be "the nice guy" and open our borders to terrorists and drug cartels and illegal aliens. Can you name a country, anywhere, that allows that?

If your Police Chief is unwilling to do the job he is being paid to do, FIRE HIM! According to the polls, the majority of Americans support Arizona and S.B. 1070. We hope you will do likewise.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Stewart
Doxiene C. Stewart
12907 N. Eagle Mesa Place
Marana, Arizona 85658-4001
Tele: 520-572-4956
E-mail: rbabykat@aol.com

Mary M. Meyer

From: David Schupbach [davidschupbach@rocketmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 6:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Chief of Police

I always thought of Lincoln NE. as a law abiding city, but a recent article made me wonder... According to an article in the July 22 Journal Star, Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady **IS A LITTLE CONFUSED.**

"The chief told them it was never his intent to see her threatened with deportation. Officers arrested her because of the fake ID, he said, not her immigration status.
"She appears to be a law-abiding citizen that's been here for quite some time," *he said."*

How can someone who is here illegally be a law abiding citizen?

"During Thursday's meeting, the chief and committee members said they're worried about the possibility of Nebraska passing a law requiring local police to enforce immigration law. Such a law is set to go into effect in Arizona next Thursday.
Casady said such a law would make immigrants here fear police, and thus less willing to report violent or other serious crimes."
"I have absolutely no interest at all in helping the federal government do their job," *he said.*

I DO understand that Chief Casady and his department are probably as overworked as local law enforcement officials nationwide, and him and his men have my whole-hearted moral support.
However, I believe there may be need for a paradigm change in this instance. When people are in our Country illegally, they make a mockery of those of us who ARE obeying the law, paying taxes to support our society, our elected officials, due process, Medicare, Medicaid, and all the other wonderful benefits we enjoy.
And I am sure that Chief Casady enjoys the indirect benefits of Federal Dollars spent in his area.
Maybe we all need to rethink this issue...

Mary M. Meyer

From: WebForm [none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 6:25 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for
General Council

Name: Mary Borakove
Address: 1143 Mulder Dr
City: Lincoln, NE, 68510

Phone: 402-421-9568
Fax:
Email: maryborakove@gmail.com

Comment or Question:
Council,
Please reconsider the proposed elimination of the City Forester job. It is positions like this that help make this city be more professional and attractive to people who want to move here. We moved here 3 years ago, talked with the City Forester regarding selection of new trees near our house. Lincolnites will see the difference without one on board, and so will possible businesses and people looking to move here. Keep him by increasing the property tax by 5 cents!

Mary M. Meyer

From: Dee Hutchins [DeeH@gfertpc.com]
Sent: Friday, July 23, 2010 2:32 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Trees

Dear City Council members, One of Lincoln's great assets is the number of wonderful parks, bike trails, and generally 'green' areas for our citizens to enjoy. With the slow but steady insect migration and destruction that appears to be encroaching as well as urbanization in general, it seems that a knowledgable professional should be in place in order to save these areas. Please reconsider the decision to cut the City Forester's position from the budget and help save these wonderful areas of Lincoln.

Thank you, Deanna Hutchins
Lifelong Lincolnite

July 23, 2010

Dear City Council Members:

Although two arborists' positions have been restored to the 2010-11-city budget, the City Forester position remains eliminated. The Mayor and Parks and Recreation Director have proposed replacing the City Forester position with a new Community Forester Planner.

As a life-long Lincoln resident I want my tax money used wisely. But is it wise to replace a knowledgeable, experienced professional with a volunteer coordinator when a deadly Emerald Ash Borer infestation is quickly approaching Lincoln?

The City Forester makes sure we get the most investment from our tax dollars by spending wisely on tree planting and care. As part of that Community Forestry Program, he is responsible for planning & supervising the management of our 126,000 park and city trees (and tens of thousands of private trees too).

Our current City Forester holds a BS. in Forestry and arborist certifications from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and the Nebraska Association (NSA). He is also a licensed First Class Arborist and holds a Nebraska Certified Pesticide Applicator's license. The City Forester also has 21 years of experience in successfully managing Lincoln's Community Forestry Program.

I looked into two of the volunteer programs the Parks and Recreation Director mentioned in his LJHS article (7/22/10). Both the Tree Trust www.Treetrust.org in Minneapolis/St. Paul and Friends of the Trees www.friendsoftrees.org in Portland, Ore. were intriguing. Both have a focus/mission on education as well as tree care/planting. Both are non-profits. A volunteer program could be a great opportunity for the city but not at the expense of the City Forester position.

I question, why are we rushing into this now? These programs take thoughtful, careful preparation. They also take money, lots of money. Training material such as books and videos will be needed to train volunteers. New pruning equipment needs to be purchased. And, let's not forget the biggest expense, insurance. I have not seen any mention of how this new program is going to be funded.

Keeping the City Forester position makes sense for Lincoln, Tree City USA. Lincoln's trees have been assessed as a 1.4 billion dollar investment. As we continue to grow as a city, so will our tree investment. And, so will our need for an experienced, knowledgeable City Forester.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Amy Greving
amygreving@windstream.net
(402) 484-7681
629 South 55th st
Lincoln, NE 68510

Mary M. Meyer

From: Kathy Benecke [kbenecke4444@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2010 5:10 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LAKE STREET CENTER

DEAR COUNCIL MEMBERS

It has come to my attention that the Lake Street Center, located at 11th & Stillwater, in the St James United Meth.Church may be closing by Aug 30th, 2010. Kelle Brandt is the very capable director at this Center.

I am speaking as a member of St James , a resident of the Irivingdale neighborhood, living just 3 blks from the Center, and I do use the Center,,participating in lunches, receiving flu shots, services of nursing students, speakers and much more.

Just recently I had the opportunity to ride the Senior bus to the **Downtown Center** for an event they were sponsoring, parking for all of the buses coming and going was very congested in the small area located in front of the Center, with the tail end of the bus sticking out into the east bound lane of "O" St, slowing traffic. It was not a good situation for us or drivers on "O". We at the Lake St Center have a very adequate parking area, no dangers or congestion,,and access for delivery and visitors.

The neighborhood feeling at Lake St is a good feeling, the Center has been at St James for 30 yrs and has served us very well, we feel it will continue to do so.
Please consider our points of view.

Thank You,
Kathy Benecke
2665 South 12th st.
Lincoln, NE 68502

Mary M. Meyer

From: Beth Thomas [ethomas@neb.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 11:14 AM
To: Mary M. Meyer
Subject: Lake Street Senior Center

July 20, 2010

Dear City Council Members:

It has come to my attention that there is a possibility that the Lake Street Senior Center

and Belmont Senior Center is going to be moved to the downtown Center location

effective on August 30. I am speaking as a representative (lay leader) of St. James United

Methodist Church at 11th and Lake Street where the Lake Street Center is located.

The Lake Street Center has been in our church for well over 30 years. Our church has

always had a warm relationship with the Seniors.

We support their activities, and they reciprocate by supporting our activities. The director (Kelle Brandt) has always shown the utmost courtesy in consideration of our needs when the Center space is needed for church functions.

I was informed that there is a need to give better service to these people by bussing them downtown to the Center and that they would not be charged for this service. However, I began to think of the Seniors that still drive their cars to St. James since we have adequate parking available. Therefore, they can arrive and leave on their own time.

Ms. Brandt has recently converted a small Sunday school room to an area where Seniors or even members of the church can come in and exercise on equipment that has been donated to us. The room has just been carpeted by our custodian.

I understand that things like this often need to be done, but it seems this is a most inopportune time. Our church has just joined in a new entity with the congregations of Southminster United Methodist and Calvary United Methodist. We three churches will be served by one full time and one part-time minister. We plan to elaborate and publicize the activities of the Senior Center and therefore, increase the numbers of Seniors coming to use our facility.

I would appreciate your efforts in looking into the necessity of moving our Senior Center.

Sincerely,

Beth Thomas, Lay Leader

St. James United Methodist Church

2400 So. 11th St.

Lincoln, NE 68502

Mary M. Meyer

Subject: FW: Lake Street Sr. Center

From: mardellcarter@aol.com [mardellcarter@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 6:31 PM
To: Jon Camp; Jonathan A. Cook; Doug Emery; Eugene W. Carroll; Adam A. Hornung; John Spatz; John Spatz; Jayne L. Snyder
Subject: Lake Street Sr. Center

To Our City Council members

We the people of Lake Senior Center have become aware of actions that could close our Center and two other neighborhood centers .Belmont and Maxey.

The question is WHY ?

We are being served in a location that is easy to get to .Parking is ample.We are offered many activities and services.We have independence to come and go as we please,which allows us to do the things in the community and still take part in the Center.The Van Service is very important to those who need it.The Center provides us information on topics important to our lives.We have a variety of activities offered us,plus a meal.

What is very important is the sense of family we have at Lake Senior Center. For most of us the Center is a 2nd Home !!

We believe the Centers location in neighborhoods are important. The St James Church where we are located have been " host " for over 30 years. What a wonderful relationship we have.

That has and does help a lot of older adults and families. WHY take that away ? As the saying goes,IF IT AIN 'T BROKE WHY FIX IT ?

WE WANT TO STAY AT 2400 S 11 TH Where we also have a very caring and loving manager that is always concerned about each and every one of us.

Respectfully.

The people of Lake Senior Center

2400 S 11th.

P.S.

Signatures will follow but we felt our wishes needed to be presented to you as soon as possible.

TELEPHONE MESSAGE FROM
Mrs. Mills

Do keep the police officers in Lincoln’s middle schools.
They are an asset to the schools and therefore the community.

Mary M. Meyer

From: Jerry Hubler [JerryHubler@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 9:48 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Hello Lincoln

Time to fire your current police chief, and get one who will do his job.
Enforce the law!

Jerry Hubler

Lawrenceville, GA 30044