

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
Solid Waste Operations, 6001 Bluff Road, Lincoln, NE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Karla Welding, Solid Waste Operations, 402-441-7867

CITY DEVELOPING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The City of Lincoln has begun efforts to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan for Lincoln and Lancaster County. The Solid Waste Plan 2040 will provide a guide for policy decisions regarding solid waste management systems, facilities and programs for the next 30 years. The development of a comprehensive, integrated solid waste management plan was identified as a key strategy in the Lincoln-Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (LPlan 2040), adopted in October 2011.

The Solid Waste Plan 2040 is being guided by the Public Works and Utilities Department, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and a 20-member Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will review the components of the plan, evaluate community input, provide guidance and feedback and propose changes.

Miki Esposito, Director of the City Public Works and Utilities Department, said the average solid waste generation rate in the City and County averages more than seven pounds per person per day. "Most of us recycle at home and work, and all of us need to get rid of garbage, so this plan will have an impact on our everyday lives," Esposito said. "The plan will address waste reduction, reuse and recycling in addition to collection, handling and disposal capacity."

More information on the plan is available on the **project website at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: solid waste plan)** or by calling the **project phone number, 402-441-7738**. Esposito said public participation will be encouraged at every step in the process. The public can be involved by:

- Providing comments online or by phone.
- Following the planning effort on Facebook and Twitter at Solid Waste Plan 2040.
- Joining the mailing list online or by phone to receive additional information.
- Attending an in-person or online public open house. They will be scheduled at key milestones in the planning process, including the Needs Assessment and the System Definition and Refinement.
- Attending an Advisory Committee meeting. A schedule will be available online.

Esposito said a draft Solid Waste Management Plan is scheduled to be completed by late summer 2013. The plan will be submitted to the City-County Planning Commission, the County Board and the City Council for adoption as a subarea plan in LPlan 2040.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Solid Waste Operations, 2400 Theresa St., Lincoln, NE 68521, 402-441-7961

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 1, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Karla Welding, Solid Waste Operations, 402-441-7867

**PUBLIC INVITED TO OPEN HOUSE AND ONLINE TOWN HALL
ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The public is invited to an open house Tuesday, November 13th on the Solid Waste Management Plan for Lincoln and Lancaster County – Solid Waste Plan 2040. The open house will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on the lower level of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, 3140 “N” Street. The open house will focus on the Needs Assessment, which summarizes the current solid waste management systems, facilities and programs and identifies future solid waste management needs. Informative posters will be displayed and City staff will be available to answer questions. No formal presentation is planned.

The open house will be an opportunity for residents and businesses to provide input. “It is important to have a solid waste management plan that is forward looking, addresses conservation of resources, and ensures we are protecting the health and safety of our community and the environment.” said Miki Esposito, Director of the Public Works and Utilities Department.

An online “Town Hall” meeting also will be available from November 6th through 20th for anyone unable to attend the open house. It can be found at the on the project website at lincoln.ne.gov (**keyword: solid waste plan**). The public also may submit comments through the project phone line at **402-441-7738**.

“The public is encouraged to participate in the process because the solid waste management plan is intended to reflect the values and desires of residents and the businesses,” Esposito said. A draft of the Solid Waste Plan 2040 is scheduled to be completed by late summer 2013. The plan will be submitted to the City-County Planning Commission, the County Board and the City Council.

In addition to using the project website and phone number, the public can be involved by:

- Following the planning effort on Facebook and Twitter at Solid Waste Plan 2040.
- Joining the mailing list online or by phone to receive additional information.
- Attending an Advisory Committee meeting. A schedule is available online.

The plan will be a guide for policy decisions regarding solid waste management systems, facilities and programs for the next 30 years. The development of a comprehensive, integrated solid waste management plan was identified as a key strategy in the Lincoln-Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (LPlan 2040), adopted in October 2011. The Solid Waste Plan 2040 is being guided by the Public Works and Utilities Department, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and an Advisory Committee.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-441-7511

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 1, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-441-7831
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INPUT SOUGHT ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mayor Chris Beutler today encouraged residents to attend an open house and to participate in an online town hall to share their comments on the Solid Waste Management Plan for Lincoln and Lancaster County. Solid Waste Plan 2040 will provide a guide for policy decisions regarding solid waste management systems, facilities and programs for the next 30 years.

The open house is from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, August 13 at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD), 3140 “N” Street. The online town hall is available August 6 through 20 at the project website, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: solid waste).

“The plan will address waste reduction, household hazardous waste management, recycling and composting – issues residents deal with every day,” Beutler said. “Our goal is to create a comprehensive, integrated system to provide secure long-term disposal and reduce the amount of material going to the landfill.”

Solid Waste Plan 2040 is being guided by LLCHD, the Public Works and Utilities Department and a 20-member Advisory Committee. The committee has identified “preferred paths” that include increased resource conservation, waste reduction and recycling. This information is included in a System Definition document that will serve as the basis for developing recommendations.

The average solid waste generation rate in the City and County averages more than seven pounds per person per day. It’s estimated that residents currently recycle about 18 percent of our residential solid waste, compared to a national average of almost 35 percent.

“These broad ‘preferred paths’ are pointing us to a future of significantly greater recycling efforts all across the community,” Beutler said. “The Advisory Committee is recommending that Lincoln join so many of our peer cities and require that curbside recycling be provided to every household, giving every resident the easiest way to recycle. There are many economic opportunities and jobs that could be created with increased recycling and waste diversion. And as ratepayers and taxpayers, we will save money delaying the need for new landfill space.”

Residents would be encouraged but not required to use the curbside recycling service if it were offered to all households.

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In addition to the open house and online town hall, the public can comment through August 20th in the following ways:

- Send an e-mail to **email@SolidWastePlan2040.com**.
- Leave a message on the project information line at **402-441-7738**
- Mail comments to **Solid Waste Plan 2040, 2400 Theresa Street Lincoln, NE 68521**.
- Sign up for the mailing list through the website or by e-mail, phone or mail.
- Attend an Advisory Committee Meeting. The schedule is available on the website.

The development of a solid waste management plan was identified as a key strategy in the Lincoln-Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (LPlan 2040), adopted in October 2011. After the open house and online town hall, the Advisory Committee will develop recommendations and prepare the final plan which is expected to be presented to the Mayor by November. The plan will be submitted to the City-County Planning Commission, the County Board and the City Council for adoption as a subarea plan in LPlan 2040.