

**MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY**  
**October 10, 2011**

Tracy Corr, Chairperson, started the meeting at 5:38 P.M. Monday, October 10, 2011, in the Mayor's Conference Room, County/City Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Fourteen citizens and seven staff attended:

Tracy Corr	40 <sup>th</sup> & A St NA	Russ Irwin	Clinton NO
Sue VanHorn	Country Club NA	Carolyn Brandle	Eastridge NA
Paula Rhian	Everett NA	Nick Hernandez	Havelock NA
Doug Kerns	Havelock NA	Dianna Wright	Highlands NA
Myrna Coleman	Highlands NA	Scott Richert	Indian Village NA
Larry Evermann	Irvingdale NA	Dennis Hecht	Meadowlane RA
Bill Vocasek	West A NA	Russell Miller	Lincoln Neighood Alliance
Thomas Shafer	Public Works	Christy Eichorn	Planning Dept.
Wynn Hjermsstad	Urban Development	David Ensign	Urban Development
Meghan Sullivan	Stronger, Safer	Jon Carlson	Mayor's Office
Mayor Beutler			

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tracy Corr opened the meeting and asked participants to introduce themselves. Attendees checked in on the sign-in sheet.

Tracy announced Recycle, Lincoln! Lincoln Recycles Day, November 12, 2011. See Attachment 1.

Carolyn Brandle announced UN-L Big Event, Saturday, April 21, 2012, 9:00 A.M. to Noon.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Beutler mentioned the election of DiAnna Schimek to the City Council. She took the oath of office today replacing the late Jayne Snyder. He also commented on the appointment of Council Member Gene Carroll to the West Haymarket Joint Public Authority (JPA) replacing the late Jayne Snyder.

The draft Lincoln Corporate Partnership Plan for marketing Lincoln public assets for increased revenue is available at: <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/pdf/lcppd-20110923.pdf>. Rick Hoppe discussed this plan at the July, 2011 Roundtable. The Mayor requested citizen feedback on the various proposals especially from neighborhood groups.

Mayor Beutler announced the LPlan2040 joint City Council/County Board public hearing, Tuesday, 10/18/11, 5:00 P.M., Council Chambers, County/City Building, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln.

The Mayor fielded questions and comments.

### **STREET PROJECTS FUNDED WITH WHEEL TAX – THOMAS SHAFER**

Thomas Shafer, Design/Construction Manager, Engineering Services, Public Works & Utilities Department presented information on street projects funded with the new wheel tax. The wheel tax is adopted at the local level, pursuant to State Statute 18-1214, which authorizes cities and villages to levy a tax to be paid to the County Treasurer and to be credited to a ". . . road fund of such city or village. Such fund shall be used by such city or village for constructing, resurfacing, maintaining, or improving streets, roads, alleys, public ways, or parts thereof or for the amortization of bonded indebtedness when created for such purposes." (<http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/docs/wheeltax.htm>)

The increase in wheel tax this year provides an additional \$400,000 for residential street rehabilitation. Upon full implementation of the wheel tax, the residential street rehabilitation annual funds double from the current \$1 million annually to \$2 million annually. Currently, they are vetting the list of possible projects. Public Works will let bids between November 2011 and January 2012 and post the list of projects on the web site.

The increase in wheel tax this year provides an additional \$800,000 for arterial street rehabilitation. \$9.3 million of federal stimulus funds and \$6 million budget funds accomplished a lot of arterial street rehabilitation. This year, arterial street rehabilitation will focus downtown in the approximate area bounded by K Street to R Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Street to 16<sup>th</sup> Street. This project will be 2" milling of the surface. Public Works will let bids in the same time frame as the residential street rehabilitation.

In areas outside of the downtown project, contractors will use a new process, micro-surfacing, to save \$10 for each \$1 spent. Micro-surfacing removes less than 3/4" of surface before re-paving. This process seals cracks in the surface before they become larger and problematic and more expensive to repair. Additionally, micro-surfacing takes about an hour if no further, more serious repairs, are needed. The projects for micro-surfacing total 8 miles around Lincoln.

Finally, the increase in wheel tax provides additional funds for new construction and major overhaul work. The approved budget designated about \$2.5 million of the wheel tax to this area. This work will focus on the priority list in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) within the Comprehensive Plan.

Wheel tax money no longer pays for snow removal. General fund pays for snow removal based on the franchise fee from Lincoln Electric System (LES).

Thomas fielded questions and comments from the Roundtable.

### **PARKING REQUIREMENT FOR FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES - CHRISTY EICHORN**

Christy Eichorn, Planner I, Planning Department, presented information on parking requirements for fraternities and sororities. See Attachment 2. Prior to 1979, fraternities &

sororities were not a regulated use. During the 1979 zoning change, the City established the current parking requirements. A recent review identified the gender discrepancy in the current code. A survey of other college communities revealed no consistent standard for determining parking for fraternities and sororities.

The Planning Department proposes this text change to require fraternities and sororities provide parking at 0.75 spaces per resident, or 0.50 spaces per resident when within 600 feet of a university. Fraternities and sororities operate only within R-6, R-7 and R-8 zoning. Existing fraternities and sororities will be grandfathered.

This proposed text change is not yet scheduled for hearing by the Planning Commission.

Christy fielded questions and comments from the Roundtable.

### **SET NOVEMBER AGENDA**

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable is Monday, November 14, 2011, 5:30 P.M., in the Mayor's Conference Room, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, **3<sup>rd</sup> floor**. Next month's agenda will include a presentation on use groups by Christy Eichorn, Planning Dept.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

## RECYCLE, LINCOLN!

Citizens are asked to pledge to recycle and improve their recycling habits over the next year in recognition of Lincoln Recycles Day on November 12. However, a month's worth of events will celebrate recycling and safe disposal of waste! For details and to sign the recycling pledge, go to [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: *recycling*.

- Check out the **art exhibit** of "reclaimed" materials at the Lux Center for the Arts at 2601 N. 48<sup>th</sup> St., through October 29.
- Visit the Bennett Martin Public Library, Walt Branch Public Library, or the UNL Student Union to see plastic bottles compacted into a shipping bale. Guess how many plastic bottles are in the display and enter to **win a \$100 Gift Card** from Russ's Market Stores. While you're there, sign a pledge for recycling and pick up the 2011 Recycling Guide.
- **Saturday October 15** - Household Hazardous Waste Collection from 9am to 1pm at Woods Park parking Lot (31<sup>st</sup> and "J" Street.) For items accepted or not accepted at the collection, check [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: *household*.
- **Saturday October 29** - Drug Take Back events from 10am to 2pm:  
*Walgreens Stores: 8300 Northern Lights (84<sup>th</sup> & Holdrege) ★ 2630 Pine Lake Road  
4600 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street (70<sup>th</sup> and Pioneers Blvd.) ★ 1404 Superior Street  
Guardian Angels, 3200 O St.*
- **Saturday, November 12** - Free Wood Waste Recycling from 8am to noon at Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 S. Folsom Ct.
- **Saturday, November 12** – Usable Latex Paint Exchange at EcoStores Nebraska, 9am to 2 pm, 530 West P St.
- **Friday, November 18** – Household Hazardous Waste Collection – last one this year – Appointment Only, call 402-441-8084.

**Recycling pledge cards** can be picked up and turned in at 31 area locations between now and November 18. The locations include area recyclers, Russ's Market stores, City Libraries, selected community recreation centers and YMCA facilities, and other local businesses. A listing of the pledge locations is available on the City website.

**Support LPS!** In addition, residents can participate in a local recycling drive to support Lincoln Public Schools' recycling programs. The proceeds of the drive will be used for recycling equipment, outdoor education facilities, and environmental education such as field trips to the landfill or recycling process centers.

Between October 15 and November 18 take your recycling items to one of the following local businesses:

- Bring your scrap metal and aluminum cans to Alter Scrap Processing (525 "N" St.) or Sadoff Industries (5510 NW 39th St). You can designate that the funds from your recycled metals go to the LPS recycling program. At the end of the drive, each firm will match what the public donates.
- Traditional recyclables can be taken to Midland Recycling (440 "J" St.) or Recycling Enterprises (6100 N. 70th St). These firms will make a \$60/ ton donation for each ton of recyclables deposited at the recycling drop-off site on their property. These businesses will accept newspaper, cardboard, plastic #1-5, and aluminum and steel cans.

Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful  
Laurel Erickson, Coordinator • 402-441-8035 • [lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov)

# ATTACHMENT 2

## PARKING STANDARDS FOR FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES

In June of 2011 the City was contacted by a local attorney who noted the gender discrepancy in our city zoning ordinance regarding parking requirements for fraternities and sororities. The existing ordinance requires less parking for a sorority than a fraternity. The question arose if it is proper to continue this discrepancy solely on the basis of gender.

The code specifies that Fraternity, sorority, and rooming and boarding houses in the R-6 zoning district shall meet the following requirements

*Fraternities:* One space/400 sq. ft. livable floor area, within 600 feet of the building;

*Sorority, rooming or boarding house:* One space/700 sq. ft. livable floor area within 600 feet of the building.

In the R-7 and R-8 Districts:

*Fraternities:* One space/700 sq. ft. livable floor area, within 1,200 feet of the building.

*Sorority, rooming or boarding house:* One space/1,100 sq. ft. livable floor area within 1,200 feet of the building.

These parking requirements were developed and incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance during the 1979 zoning change. Prior to 1979 fraternities and sororities were not a regulated use and didn't have any parking requirements. These standards were reflective of a time when there were more college age men driving cars than women.

After reviewing the current parking requirements for fraternities and sororities Planning staff recognized two issues that needed to be addressed. First, there is a discrepancy between the way men and women are treated. Second, the current requirements based on "livable floor area" are too vague.

Staff was advised by the City Attorney that there is no likely legal basis for discriminating between male and female students and the parking requirements should be the same for both sexes.

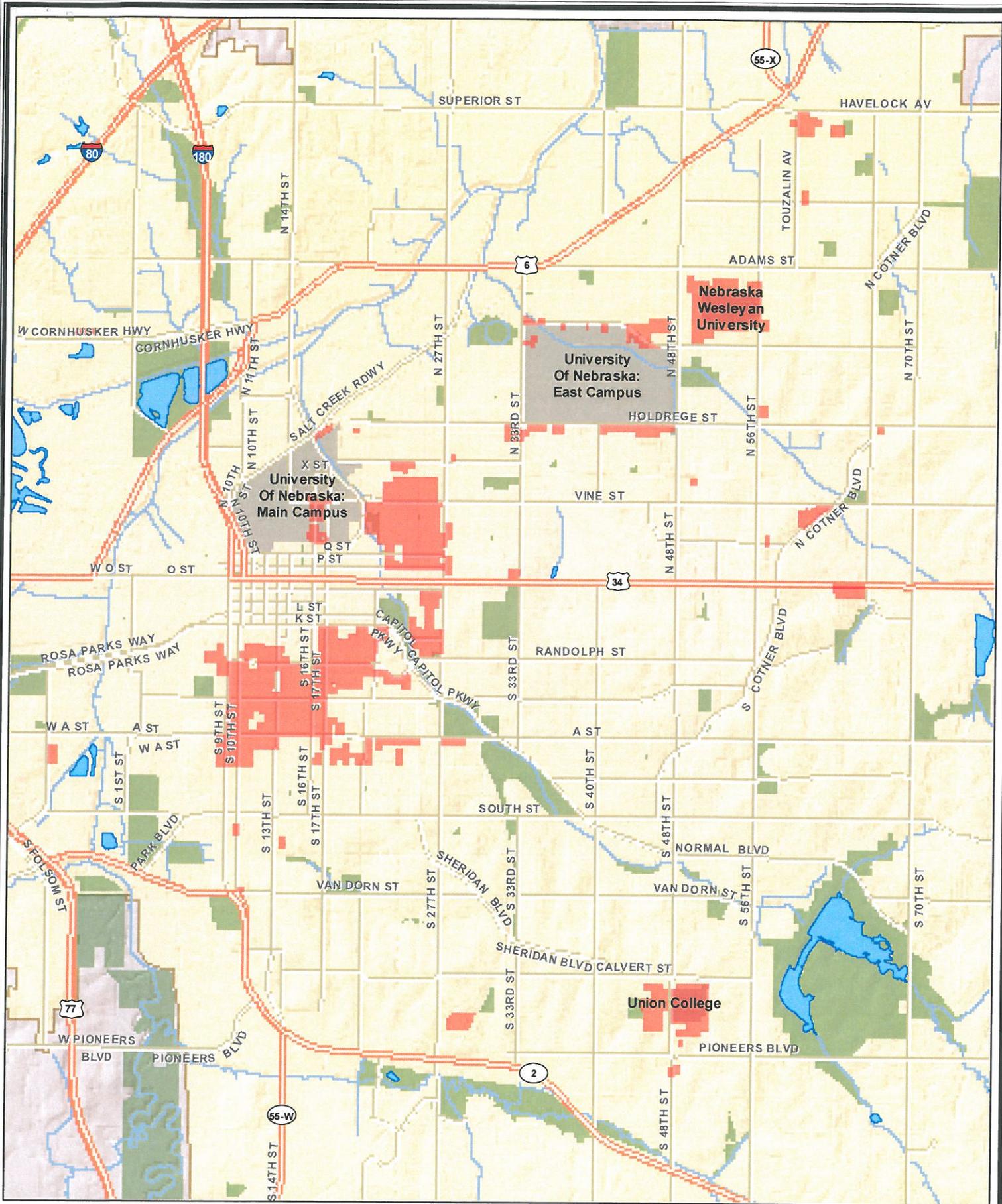
Staff researched what other college communities were doing with regards to parking standards for fraternities and sororities, reviewing zoning codes in California, New York, Texas, Illinois, Georgia and Kansas. Staff found an array of standards including but not limited to: 1 space per 2 residents, 1 space per bed, 1 space for every 80 square feet of sleeping area, 1 space for 200 square feet of gross floor area and 1 parking space per 2 Sleeping Units in addition to the parking requirements for primary Dwelling.

Calculating parking based on the number of residents is not as easy to calculate or enforce as a "per floor area" requirement, but floor area per resident ratios appear to vary widely. Calculating parking per resident is not uncommon. Lawrence Kansas, home to 40,000 KU students recently adopted a .75 per resident requirement for fraternities and sororities in their community.

Planning staff is proposing a solution that would address parking requirements based on the proximity of the fraternity or sorority to the associated college or university campus. The proximity to campus measure seems more appropriate than differentiating by zoning district. This proposal assumes that the closer a fraternity or sorority is to the campus the more opportunities exist for off street parking whether that is in a university parking facility or other private parking garage. It also assumes that students that live closer to campus (within walking distance) would have less need for cars and therefore parking requirements should be less.

This text change would require fraternity and sorority parking to be .75 spaces per resident or .50 spaces per resident when within 600 feet of a university. Parking shall be provided either onsite or within 600 feet of the premises. This is a lesser standard than what is currently required for dwelling units for unrelated persons which is 1 space per resident, but it is more than the requirement for dwellings in the R-6, R-7 and R-8 which only requires 1 space per dwelling unit and those dwelling units may have 3 unrelated persons living in them each with their own car.

In most cases the new standard will require fraternities and sororities to have more stalls than they are required to have today. Existing fraternities and sororities will be grandfathered and will only be required to add new stalls if they expand an existing or build a new building. There are avenues to seek reductions to these parking requirements on a case-by-case basis such as the Board of Zoning Appeals, City Council waiver and Historic Preservation Special Permit.



**ZONING DISTRICTS R6, R7 AND R8**

- Zoning Districts R6, R7 and R8
- Waterbodies
- Colleges
- Parks

  
 LINCOLN METROPOLITAN  
 PLANNING DEPARTMENT  


September 2011