

Mayor's Environmental Task Force

Meeting Summary

July 7, 2016

- A partial attendee list is included as Attachment 1. Note this is only a partial list so we need to do a better job of getting all attendees to sign in!
- After introductions, Mayor Beutler provided an update of a couple key initiatives:
 - RecycleLincoln! – News Conference kicking off the ordinance campaign scheduled for Tuesday, July 12th. A copy of the proposed ordinance is included as Attachment 2.
 - Formal establishment of Lincoln's Food Policy Council (special thanks to Megan McGuffey and Tim Rinne as well as Rosina Paolini and Dave Dingman).
 - Official selection and engagement of five nationally renowned Energy Savings Performance Contractors to assist the City, County and Public Building Commission in evaluating and implementing energy savings improvements in public buildings and operations.
- Steve Owen with Lincoln Water System (LWS) and Donna Garden – Assistant Director of Public Works and Utilities provided a summary of LWS' draft grant application seeking funding from the Nebraska Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) for completion of a horizontal collector well and a bank stabilization project at LWS' Ashland Wellfield. LWS is seeking a letter of support from the METF. Frank agreed to sign on behalf of the METF but encouraged all organizational representatives to check with their appropriate governing boards to determine if they wish to be specifically called out in the cover letter as well. A draft letter of support is included as Attachment 3 and LWS would appreciate organizational input by Wednesday, July 20th if possible.
- Frank provided an update on the Haymarket Cleanup project and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program implementation. Additional announcements included:
 - Dan King shared that Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department was accepting nomination forms (included as Attachment 4) for the City of Lincoln & Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards up to July 15th 2016 (and probably past - depending upon numbers of nominations).
 - Carolyn Butler with the Nebraska Wildlife Federation and High Level Happiness in shared information on a Treehouse concept for low – income neighborhoods her organization is pursuing through the KABOOM Foundation in partnership with the Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities. She is seeking partners and other interested parties to

participate in the project. The grant application is due on July 29th with selections in August. Information on the project is included as Attachment 5.

- Cecil Steward shared that the Joslyn Institute applied for a USDA “Value Added Producer Grant” summarized as Attachment 6.
- Frank solicited and received additional participation in subcommittees and committed to facilitating subcommittee meetings in the next 30-60 days for purposes of proposing goals, actions and metrics to be incorporated into the City’s Sustainability Plan. The revised list of subcommittee membership is included as Attachment 7.
- To allow time for subcommittees to meet and contribute to completion of the draft Sustainability Plan, the next METF meeting will be held on October 6th, 2016 unless otherwise notified.

Attachments:

- 1) Attendee List
- 2) Draft Recycling Ordinance
- 3) Water Sustainability Fund Draft Letter of Support
- 4) LLCHD Environmental Leadership Awards Nomination Form
- 5) Treehouse Project Proposal
- 6) Joslyn Institute Summary of USDA “Value Added Producer” Grant
- 7) Subcommittee List

Attachment 1 – Partial Attendee List

Mayor Beutler's Environmental Task Force - July 7, 2016

Name	Representing	E-mail	Phone
Kurt Eder	Haymarket NA	KurtEder@Comcast.net	308 802 8685
Donna Garden	Puu	dgarden@lincoln.ne.gov	402-441-8605
W. Cecil Steward	CDSIU Inst. NEBE Wildlife Federation	CSteward@CDSIU.org	402-730-0890
Carolyn Butler	High Level Happiness	carriebl957@gmail.com	402-219-3066
Kim Morrow	Verdis Group	kim@verdisgroup.com	402-405-9425
Kendall Weyers	Bluestem Sierra	skyweyers@gmail.com	402-613-5774
Russ George	NEBCO Inc.	russellg@nebcoco.com	402-434-1878
Mark Brohmer	NE Env. Trust	mark.brohmer@nebrastka.gov	402-471-6795
Chaggi Thome	SYS	nevergreen@magisthore.com	402-304-4651
Donald Doudenberg	U-NL JISC	ddoudenberg2@unl.edu ddoudenberg@sustainabledesign.org	402-730-5996
Narilyn McNabb	Wachiska Audubon	mnmcnabb1@windstream.net	402-476-7463
Rosina Paolini	Lincoln Lancaster Food Policy Council	ra-paolini@gmail.com	402-423-7260



"OUR HOME, OUR FUTURE, OUR CHOICE"

Mayor Beutler's Environmental Task Force - July 7, 2016

Name	Representing	E-mail	Phone
Dan King	self	dannytheke@gmail.com	402-480-3046
Bob Ruskamp	LES	bruskamp@LES.com	402-473-3275
Victoria Keating	Purdue Environmental Studies	vkeating@lincoln.ne.gov	402-441-7558
Dave Gosselin	JWL		

Attachment 2 – Draft Recycling Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. _____

1 AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code
 2 relating to Solid Wastes by amending Section 8.32.010 to add additional definitions; by
 3 amending Section 8.32.040 to add new subsections (c), (d), and (e); and by adding new Sections
 4 8.32.115, 8.32.135, 8.32.136, 8.32.137, 8.32.138, 8.32.139, and 8.32.225; and repealing Sections
 5 8.32.010 and 8.32.040 as hitherto existing.

6 BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska:

7 Section 1. That Section 8.32.010 be amended to read as follows:

8 **8.32.010 Definitions**

9 For the purposes of this chapter, the following words shall have the following
10 meanings:

11 **Bottom ash** shall mean all residue that falls from the burn chamber of a device
12 used for incineration or to burn combustible or flammable material for heat, steam, or electricity.

13 **Building rubbish** shall mean all discarded or unwanted material or waste
14 material from the construction, remodeling, and repair operations on houses, commercial
15 buildings, and other structures including, but not limited to, excavated earth, stones, brick,
16 plaster, lumber, concrete, and waste parts occasioned by installations and repairs, but excluding
17 garbage, asbestos products, asphaltic products, and other hazardous wastes or hazardous
18 materials as defined in this and other chapters of the Lincoln Municipal Code.

19 **Commercial waste** shall mean waste produced by retail and wholesale busi-
20 nesses, services, entertainment establishments, and by hotels and restaurants.

1 **Demolition debris** shall mean all combustible and noncombustible waste material
2 resulting from the demolition of structures, roadways, or other paved surfaces, but excluding
3 garbage, asbestos products, asphaltic products, and other hazardous wastes or hazardous
4 materials as defined in this and other chapters of the Lincoln Municipal Code.

5 **Dwelling** shall mean any building or portion thereof which is designed and used
6 for residential purposes.

7 **Fly ash** shall mean all residue derived from incineration or burning of
8 combustible or flammable material for heat, steam, or electricity, with the exception of bottom
9 ash.

10 **Foam polystyrene packaging** means packaging made primarily from foam
11 polystyrene that satisfies one of the following criteria:

- 12 (a) Is designed for serving food or beverages;
13 (b) Consists of loose particles intended to fill space and cushion the packaged
14 article in a shipping container; or
15 (c) Consists of rigid materials shaped to hold and cushion the packaged article in
16 a shipping container.

17 **Garbage** shall mean all animal, fruit, or vegetable wastes resulting from the
18 handling, preparation, cooking, or consumption of food.

19 **Hazardous waste** shall mean all waste material which is ignitable, corrosive,
20 chemically reactive, radioactive, or toxic, as defined by the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations
21 (CFR) Title 40, Part 261 - Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste, and the Nebraska
22 Department of Environmental Quality Title 128, Nebraska Hazardous Waste Regulations.

1 **Health Director** shall mean the Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health
2 Department or duly authorized representatives of the director.

3 **Industrial waste** shall mean waste from factories, processing plants, and other
4 manufacturing enterprises.

5 **Infectious waste** shall mean wastes from hospitals, medical clinics, offices of
6 physicians, doctors, surgeons, dentists, veterinarians, pathological laboratories, research and de-
7 velopment laboratories, dispensaries, blood plasma centers, and other like facilities which
8 contain any of the following:

9 (1) Blood and body fluids that include fluid blood, blood products, and body
10 fluids. (This shall not include dried blood or dried body fluids.) Blood and blood products shall
11 include human serum, human plasma, and other human blood components. The term body fluid
12 includes semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, peritoneal
13 fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid, and any other body fluid visibly contaminated with blood;

14 (2) Infectious sharp waste, which shall include: all discarded items derived
15 from (i) human patient diagnosis, care, or treatment, or (ii) animals infected with zoonotic
16 disease, which could potentially transmit disease via direct subdermal (beneath the skin)
17 inoculation, including hypodermic needles, scalpels, and breakable containers containing
18 materials defined herein as infectious;

19 (3) Laboratory wastes, which shall include: all cultures and stocks of
20 infectious agents, including specimen cultures from medical and pathological laboratories,
21 cultures and stocks from research and industrial laboratories, wastes from the production of
22 biologicals, discarded live and attenuated vaccines, and culture dishes and devices used to
23 transfer, inoculate, and mix culture;

1 (4) Animal waste, which shall include: all such waste derived from animals
2 afflicted with zoonotic disease or purposely infected with agents communicable to humans,
3 including blood and body fluids, carcasses, body parts, excrement, and bedding of such animals;

4 (5) Other waste, which shall include wastes that contain pathogenic microbial
5 agents or other biologically active materials in sufficient concentrations that exposure to the
6 waste directly or indirectly creates a significant risk of disease.

7 **Lawn waste** shall mean grass cuttings or clippings and leaves.

8 **Limited landfill** shall mean a type of operation approved by the Health Director
9 in which only building rubbish and demolition debris are disposed of by plan on a specified par-
10 cel of land and operated and maintained in such a manner as to present no danger to the health
11 and safety and welfare of human beings.

12 **Liquid waste** shall mean any waste which contains free liquids which will readily
13 separate from the solid portion of a waste under ambient temperature and pressure as determined
14 by the federal Environmental Protection Agency Paint Filter Liquid Test Method 9095 of Test
15 Methods for Evaluation Solid Waste Volume 1 section C November 1986.

16 **NDEQ** shall mean the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

17 **Newsprint** means uncoated paper of the type generally used for, but is not limited
18 to, the publication of newspapers and commercial advertising inserts.

19 **Person** shall mean and include any individual, firm, corporation, association,
20 partnership, institution, or entity, whether public or private.

21 **Plastic bag** means any carryout bag composed primarily of thermoplastic
22 synthetic polymeric material, which is provided by a store to a customer at the point of sale and
23 incidental to the purchase of other goods.

1 **Plastic container** means any individual, separate, rigid plastic bottle, can, jar, or
2 carton, except for a blister pack, that is originally used to contain a product for sale at retail.

3 **Putrescible** shall mean capable of being decomposed by microorganisms with
4 sufficient rapidity as to be likely to cause nuisances from odors, gases, or liquids.

5 **RCRA** shall mean the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42
6 U.S.C., Paragraph 6901, et seq., as amended.

7 **Recyclable** means aluminum cans, steel (tin) cans, plastic containers identified as
8 #1 through #7, newsprint, recyclable paper, and recyclable cardboard. Recyclable shall not
9 include plastic bags or foam polystyrene packaging.

10 **Recyclable Cardboard** shall consist of clean and dry corrugated cardboard
11 consisting of three or more layers of paper material, at least one of which is rippled or
12 corrugated, regardless of whether it has glue, staples, or tape affixed, but not if it is permanently
13 attached to other packing material or a non-paper liner. Further, waxed cardboard or corrugated
14 cardboard contaminated with oil, paint, blood, or other organic material shall not be considered
15 recyclable cardboard.

16 **Recyclable Paper** shall consist of magazines, telephone books, cereal boxes,
17 mail, catalogs, copy paper, office paper, clean food boxes, paper bags, and other similar
18 materials, but it does not include paper towels, tissues, plasticized or waxed paper, hardbound
19 books, books with metal rings, folders with metal clips, or food boxes in which the food items
20 came into direct contact with the container.

21 **Recycling Collector** shall be any person engaged in the business of collecting,
22 hauling, or conveying one or more recyclables as defined in this section.

1 **Refuse** shall mean and include garbage, building rubbish, demolition debris,
2 putrescible waste, commercial waste, industrial waste, and special waste as herein defined, and
3 all sweepings, ashes, paper, cardboard, feathers, rags, glass, dishes, bottles, crockery, pans,
4 utensils of every kind and nature, pasteboard boxes, food containers, tin cans, and any other
5 waste matter or material. For purposes of this chapter, the term refuse shall not include
6 hazardous waste as defined in this chapter; universal waste, as defined by the Nebraska
7 Department of Environmental Quality Title 182, Chapter 25 - Standards for Universal Waste
8 Management, destined for a universal waste facility; or recyclables, as defined in Section
9 5.41.010 of this code, that have been separated out at the source.

10 **Refuse hauler** shall mean any person engaged in the business of collecting,
11 hauling, or conveying refuse as defined in this section or who, as part of the duties of such
12 person's occupation, collects, hauls, or conveys refuse as defined in this section.

13 **Sanitary landfill** shall mean a type of operation licensed or approved by the State
14 of Nebraska in which solid waste is deposited by plan on a specified portion of land, is compact-
15 ed by force applied by mechanical equipment, and then is covered by compacted suitable
16 covering material to a depth of at least six to twelve inches over individual cells of solid waste
17 materials, which are closed at the end of each day, and to a depth of at least twenty-four inches
18 over the finished landfill.

19 **Site** shall mean the contiguous land area where any regulated or related activity is
20 physically located or conducted. Properties that are separated only by a street, alley, or other
21 public right-of-way shall be considered contiguous.

22 **Solid waste** shall mean all putrescible and nonputrescible wastes whether in solid
23 or liquid form and includes garbage, scavenger matter, rubbish, ashes, refuse, fill dirt, sewage

1 sludge, street refuse, commercial and industrial wastes, demolition debris and all used con-
2 struction material, building rubbish, discarded automobile and other types of vehicle body parts
3 or portions thereof, machinery or parts thereof, discarded home or industrial appliances, iron,
4 steel, and other old or metal scrap material, manure, human excrement, vegetable or animal
5 solids and semi-solid waste, infectious waste, special waste, lawn waste, tree limbs, branches,
6 shrubbery, bushes, and other similar organic waste, including garden vegetative material, dead
7 animals or parts thereof, and other discarded solid materials.

8 **Waste hauler** shall mean any refuse hauler engaged in the business of collecting,
9 hauling, or conveying garbage, putrescible waste, or infectious waste or who, as part of the
10 duties of such person's occupation, collects, hauls, or conveys garbage, putrescible waste, or
11 infectious waste.

12 Section 2. That Section 8.32.040 be amended to read as follows:

13 **8.32.040 Public Sanitary Landfills; Location; Type of Solid Waste Accepted**
14 **for Disposal.**

15 Two public sanitary landfills are hereby designated for purposes of dumping and
16 disposal of solid waste. One public sanitary landfill shall be located on 48th Street,
17 approximately three quarters of a mile north of Superior Street. The second public sanitary
18 landfill shall be located at the southeast corner of 56th Street and Bluff Road. The types of solid
19 waste to be accepted for dumping and disposal at the public sanitary landfills shall be as follows:

20 (a) The 48th Street public sanitary landfill site shall accept for dumping and
21 disposal lawn waste as defined in Section 8.32.010; all recyclable material; all building rubbish
22 and demolition debris as defined in Section 8.32.010; all special waste as defined in Resolution
23 No. A-71367, unless otherwise designated for disposal at the 56th Street and Bluff Road site by

1 the Department of Public Works and Utilities; and all other solid waste as approved by permit
2 issued by NDEQ and the Public Works and Utilities Director.

3 (b) The types of waste to be accepted for dumping and disposal at the 56th Street
4 and Bluff Road site shall be all solid waste as approved by permit issued by NDEQ and the
5 Public Works and Utilities Director.

6 (c) Recyclable cardboard shall not be disposed in the City's public sanitary
7 landfills effective April 1, 2017.

8 (d) Newsprint shall not be disposed of in the City's public sanitary landfills
9 effective April 1, 2018.

10 (e) Recyclable paper shall not be disposed of in the City's public sanitary landfills
11 effective April 1, 2019.

12 Section 3. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
13 adding a new section numbered 8.32.115 to read as follows:

14 **8.32.115 Waste Hauler to Offer Recycling Services.**

15 Each licensed waste hauler shall offer curbside recycling services to all residential
16 and commercial customers. Such service is not required to be provided directly by the licensed
17 waste hauler, but may instead be offered to customers via contractual agreement between a
18 licensed waste hauler and a recycling collector or another licensed waste hauler. Each licensed
19 waste hauler must notify each of their customers of the availability of curbside recycling services
20 at least two times each calendar year. At a minimum, curbside recycling services offered shall
21 include curbside collection and removal of all recyclables at least once per week.

22 Section 4. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
23 adding a new section numbered 8.32.135 to read as follows:

1 **8.32.135 Recycling Collector; License Required.**

2 It shall be unlawful for any person other than a licensed waste hauler to collect,
3 haul, or convey recyclables separated at the source from property within the corporate limits of
4 the city or within three miles thereof without first having procured a license to do so under the
5 provisions of this chapter; provided, however, no license shall be required for any property
6 owner conveying recyclables from his or her own property or any business conveying
7 recyclables generated by said business in the course of its business operations.

8 Section 5. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
9 adding a new section numbered 8.32.136 to read as follows:

10 **8.32.136 Recycling Collectors; Duty to Recycle.**

11 Recyclables separated at the source and collected by a licensed recycling collector
12 or a licensed waste hauler shall not be comingled with waste or disposed of in a landfill.

13 Section 6. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
14 adding a new section numbered 8.32.137 to read as follows:

15 **8.32.137 Recycling Collector Vehicles or Containers; Specifications and**
16 **Inspection.**

17 Any vehicle or container used in collecting, hauling, or conveying recyclables
18 over the streets within the corporate limits of the city or within three miles thereof shall comply
19 with the following specifications:

20 (a) The part of the vehicle or container which contains the recyclables shall:

21 (1) be constructed of durable materials;

1 (2) be so constructed that liquids will not spill, leak, or be discharged
2 therefrom while the recyclables are being conveyed or the recyclables be
3 contained in such a way as to prevent spills, leaks, or discharges;
4 (3) be so constructed that recyclables will not fall, spill, blow from, or
5 otherwise leave the container until emptied at an approved location. If the
6 vehicle or container has an open top, the recyclables shall be covered to
7 prevent them from leaving the vehicle container during transport.

8 (b) The outside of the vehicle or container shall be kept well maintained, painted,
9 and free of excessive dirt and similar offensive materials at all times. The inside shall be kept
10 clean and sanitary when not in use.

11 (c) The vehicle or container shall be kept in good repair so as to prevent the
12 recyclables from leaking, spilling, or falling from or otherwise being discharged from the vehicle
13 or container during transport.

14 The Health Director is authorized to make such vehicle or container inspections as
15 deemed necessary to ensure adequate compliance with this ordinance.

16 Section 7. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
17 adding a new section numbered 8.32.138 to read as follows:

18 **8.32.138 Application for Recycling Collectors License; Information**

19 **Required.**

20 Application for a license to collect, haul, or convey recyclables shall be made to
21 the Health Director upon forms furnished by the Health Director, which shall set forth the name
22 and residence of the applicant, the business location, the number and kind of vehicles to be used
23 with a definite description of each such vehicle, and such other information as may be required

1 to satisfactorily identify the applicant and such vehicles. Each such license certificate shall be
2 numbered, and the applicant shall affix a permanent sticker with the license certificate number
3 provided by the Health Director to each vehicle used by the applicant in such manner as they are
4 directed by the Health Director.

5 Section 8. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
6 adding a new section numbered 8.32.139 to read as follows:

7 **8.32.139 Annual Reporting Requirement for Recycling Collectors**

8 Each recycling collector and waste hauler collecting recyclables shall complete an
9 annual report on forms provided by the City, to be submitted to the City at such time as the
10 recycling collector and/or waste hauler submits an application to renew its recycling collector or
11 waste hauler permit, relating to recycling collection services provided within the corporate limits
12 of the city and within three miles thereof which contains, at a minimum, the following: number
13 of recycling customers, types of materials collected, total weight of recyclables collected, total
14 weight by material type if applicable, and the location(s) where recyclables were delivered. Such
15 information shall be provided to the City in such a way that the recycling collector or waste
16 hauler submitting the information is not identified on the form containing the required
17 information.

18 Section 9. That Chapter 8.32 of the Lincoln Municipal Code be amended by
19 adding a new section numbered 8.32.225 to read as follows:

20 **8.32.225 Receptacles to be Provided for Recyclables; Specifications.**

21 All receptacles used to hold recyclables shall be durable, have a tight-fitting lid,
22 be water-tight and fly-tight, and be kept in serviceable conditions at all times. Plastic bags shall
23 not be used for outside storage of recyclables. Separate receptacles for holding recyclables shall

1 be provided to customers and maintained by the recycling collector or any licensed waste hauler
2 providing recycling collection services. Each recycling receptacle provided by a recycling
3 collector or licensed waste hauler providing recycling collection services must display the name
4 of the recycling collector or licensed waste hauler providing such service to the property. This
5 information must be displayed in letters at least one inch in height and must be located in such a
6 manner as to be easily readable.

7 A sufficient number of receptacles shall be provided to store recyclables prior to
8 removal from the premises. Such receptacles shall be kept on the premises in a place accessible
9 and convenient for the collection service and kept in a sanitary and serviceable condition. All
10 receptacles used for recyclables shall be kept covered or closed to prevent the entrance of insects
11 and rodents. The location of the receptacles shall be kept clean and well maintained.

12 The Health Director may grant an exception, in writing, to the strict application of the
13 requirements of this section where the property owner or business requesting said exception
14 demonstrates to the Health Director the effectiveness of the alternative method proposed by the
15 applicant and the Health Director determines that the practice for which an exception is being
16 requested will not result in a nuisance condition. Any exception granted by the Health Director
17 pursuant to this section may be revoked if, in the discretion of the Health Director, it is
18 determined that the procedure for which an exception was granted is not being implemented or if
19 a nuisance is being created in whole or in part by the practices allowed under said exception.

20 Section 10. That Sections 8.32.010 and 8.32.040 of the Lincoln Municipal Code
21 as hitherto existing be and the same are hereby repealed.

22 Section 11. Pursuant to Article VII, Section 7 of the City Charter, this ordinance
23 shall be posted on the official bulletin board of the City, located on the wall across from the City

1 Clerk's office at 555 S. 10th Street, in lieu of and in place of newspaper publication with notice
2 of passage and such posting to be given by publication one time in the official newspaper by the
3 City Clerk. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and
4 publication as herein and in the City Charter provided.

Introduced by:

Approved as to Form & Legality:

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2016: _____ Mayor
--

Attachment 3 – WSF Draft Letter of Support



Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

Dear Commission Members:

The City of Lincoln Mayor's Environmental Task Force (METF) was initially formed in 2008 to advise the Mayor on environmental and sustainability issues affected by City policies and programs. The METF includes a diverse group of individuals and organizations with interests in environmental quality and sustainability. METF member organizations specifically supporting this WSF application include the following:

- Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities (W. Cecil Steward, FAIA, DPACSA; President and CEO and Donna Woudenberg, PhD, Programs and Operations Manager)
- Anne McCollister, Electric Transportation Partners

Others/List TBD

The METF fully supports and recommends funding this important project which helps to ensure a sustainable water supply and improves Lincoln's ability to meet supply needs during drought conditions. The project also combines needed improvements for protection of existing and planned critical supply infrastructure from stream bank erosion caused by flooding and high river flow events. Specifically, this project allows for extracting water from the Platte River aquifer more efficiently during low river conditions through the use of a horizontal collector well (HCW). With the ability to provide needed supply during these conditions, Lincoln is much less likely to exercise its water right options that could have adverse impacts on junior upstream water users.

Additional positive impacts will be realized by the project including:

- Advancing LWS's Master Plan by partnering State and Local resources
- Improving safe drinking water sustainability for residential, municipal and industrial use
- Reducing statewide negative economic impacts that a water right call could cause, particularly to NE's agricultural sector
- Conserving water resources by using HCWs, which are more efficient in drawing water directly from the aquifer and reducing negative impacts on stream flows
- Helping maintain Platte River stream flows, reducing the loss of aquatic habitat and life
- Decreasing supply vulnerability by reducing dependence on vertical wells which are impacted by low water levels
- Protecting LWS critical infrastructure and enhancing the beneficial use of NE's water resources
- Assisting LWS in meeting the obligations of the Safe Drinking Water Act

- Preparing LWS to pursue potential State and Federal grant opportunities, maximizing local resources

While this application seeks funds for infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of Lincoln's water supply during drought conditions, the application also contains information documenting Lincoln's history and continued efforts towards efficient and responsible use of water. Lincoln's water conservation efforts date back many years and have been a fundamental part of effectively managing water supply to the extent that per capita water use has been reduced by over 25% in the last 30 years.

These efforts have included:

- A Water Conservation Task Force to offer advice regarding water use policy and promote water conservation efforts (now incorporated into the METF)
- Use of an inclining block rate fee structure where the price per unit of water is increased with high water use beyond normal health, sanitation and safety
- Development of a Water Management Plan that has specific actions to take during periods of water shortages including voluntary and mandatory restrictions
 - The Plan includes all the necessary ordinances required to implement enforcement of mandatory restrictions
 - The Plan also calls for implementing "Water Shortage Rates" to recognize the "value" of water during these extreme events and to further curb use
- Ordinance requiring all new irrigation systems to have a rain sensor installed

We believe this application meets the intent and spirit of the water sustainability fund by providing Lincoln the necessary infrastructure for Lincoln's water supply during drought conditions while reducing the potential of having to exercise water right options and the adverse impacts to upstream water users.

For the Mayor's Environmental Task Force.

Frank Uhlarik; CPG, CEA

Sustainability and Compliance Administrator, City of Lincoln, NE

Attachment 4 – LLCHD Award Nomination Form



City of Lincoln & Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards

Nomination Form

Deadline: July 15, 2016

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards honor businesses, organizations and individuals who have demonstrated environmental stewardship and dedication to sustaining and improving our environment.

Award Categories

Awards are given in each of the following categories:

- Business and Industry**
- Education** - educating the public or providing education in schools/colleges
- Community or Nonprofit Organization**
- Government**
- Agriculture** - rural or urban
- Individual Citizen**

Eligibility

To be eligible for an award, nominees must have been instrumental in identifying, reducing, or solving an environmental problem and/or promoting public awareness and active concern for the enhancement and protection of the environment. Additionally, nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following environmental practices:

- **Pollution Prevention/Risk Reduction:** Eliminate or significantly reduce the use of toxic products or harmful air emissions; reduce risk posed by hazardous materials through design, engineering, or other practices. Engage in integrated pest management.
- **Waste Reduction and Recycling:** Reduce the amount of waste discarded and use sound recycling approaches.
- **Water Conservation:** Reduce water use, increase reuse of water resources, increase use of rainwater and runoff or utilizing land use designs that reduce runoff or use drought tolerant plants.
- **Soil Conservation:** Reduce soil runoff or erosion and engage in practices that eliminate soil depletion.
- **Energy Conservation:** Reduce the use of electricity or fossil fuels by using energy-efficient products; using solar or passive heating and cooling systems; or engaging in other energy efficient practices.
- **Cleanup and Beautification:** Create or improve an area or neighborhood's visual quality through approaches such as: litter pickup; neighborhood clean-ups; removal of junk cars, tires, or appliances; and cleanup of streams, ponds, lakes, or shorelines.
- **Residential and Commercial Development:** Projects that use SMART growth principles; result in carbon impact reductions; use "green building" design principles; use environmentally

friendly and recycled content products; use energy efficient and water conserving designs; maintain or restore natural features; or reduce construction waste.

- *Other environmental practices*

Written Summary of Achievement

Submit a written summary describing how the nominee's efforts and achievements fulfill the eligibility as defined above. Please explain the following three items in the summary including specific environmental practices and quantify results:

- Description of environmental activity.
- Degree and length of involvement in environmental activity.
- Impact on public health, the environment or environmental awareness.

Letters of endorsement, photos, charts, or other supporting materials are encouraged.

Deadline

Please submit the Nominee Information and Summary of Achievement by **July 15, 2016** to Renae Rief at rrief@lincoln.ne.gov

Questions?

Call 402-441-4602

Ceremony

The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards Ceremony will be held in the Fall. Award recipients will be contacted prior to the ceremony. This awards program is funded primarily through private donations and sponsors.



INCLUDE WITH THE SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENT

NOMINEE INFORMATION

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

Nominee Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Check one category:

- Business/Industry
- Government

- Education
- Agriculture

- Community/Nonprofit Organization
- Individual Citizen

Attachment 5 – Treehouse Project Proposal

HIGH LEVEL HAPPINESS



Carolyn Butler
621 Lakewood Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510
carrieb1957@gmail.com
402-219-3066

The city of Lincoln is among the top five in the nation on lists ranging from businesses and careers to health and happiness. We are active, engaged, and ready to take the number one spot for overall quality of life. The time is right, then, to add depth to our city through a creative endeavor that will draw national and international attention. High Level Happiness proposes building ten large, multifaceted treehouses throughout the city. Each treehouse will be an original design that highlights aspects of Nebraska—our people, our passion, and our history. What better symbol could the city of Lincoln have to represent who we are and what we strive to be? Let's make Lincoln the first Community Treehouse City in the USA.



Why treehouses:

- Treehouses engender positive power and goodwill, according to Pete Nelson, author of *New Treehouses of the World*.
- By getting people into nature, treehouses provide tremendous health benefits: freeing the mind, soothing the spirit, and healing the body.
- Treehouses can offer a unique venue for events ranging from wedding receptions to outdoor education to business meetings. Such venues will draw national and international attention, boosting Lincoln's economy through both local involvement and tourism dollars.
- Current concerns about safety prevent many people, particularly children, from climbing trees. The treehouses would provide a safe opportunity for those people to explore a different level of our city.
- It is impossible to be grumpy in a treehouse!



Why Lincoln:

- Nebraska's sesquicentennial is coming up in 2017—what better way to celebrate where we have been and how we have grown as a community?
- Nebraska is home to Arbor Day and Lincoln is home to its Foundation. Numerous city and county groups are striving to make Lincoln one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the nation. We are also certified as a Tree City USA. Treehouses mesh perfectly with these facets of our city.
- Lincolnites enjoy the outdoors; the treehouses would provide novel locations to explore nature.



Why now:

- The current popularity of Animal Planet's *Treehouse Masters* and the resurgence of interest in treehouse building across the globe indicate the time is right for this fun, leading-edge community project.
- Abundant research indicates that exposure to nature can reduce stress, promote healing, and improve overall well-being, all of which are particularly important in today's high-stress, technology-filled culture. The treehouses will provide an avenue to get people into nature, in support of Lincoln's Community Health Foundation efforts to become the healthiest city in the nation.



What they will offer:

- A fun place to play! Just last year, Lincoln was named a U.S. Playful City by the Kaboom! Foundation.
- Treehouses will be equipped for activities ranging from education to receptions to conferences. Each treehouse will be built to accommodate specific functions, with most focused on recreation and education, and others more commercial in nature.
- The design for each treehouse will highlight some aspect of Nebraska: our pioneering spirit, the prairie schooner, life on the plains, indigenous cultures, sod structures, our commitment to trees, our prehistoric past, and so on.
- Each treehouse will be ADA accessible.
- An international design contest will draw attention to the project, adding to Lincoln's growing reputation as a progressive and hip city for young families and professionals, ultimately boosting Lincoln's economy.
- With enthusiastic community support and a profitable treehouse business model, Lincoln's success could lead to treehouses being built in other Nebraska cities, spurring more economic development.



How they will be funded:

- Startup costs will be secured through grants and in-kind support from community partners.
- Online crowdfunding for the treehouses will keep Nebraskans involved and foster emotional and financial investment.
- Treehouse rentals for various activities will fund ongoing programming and maintenance, enhancing their sustainability.



Meet the Dream Team:

- John Chapo, Director of the **Lincoln Zoo**. The Zoo is excited to participate in the project and, if funding is secured, plans to host one of the treehouses.
- Scott Wieskamp, Director of **Lincoln Public Schools Facilities and Maintenance** immediately saw the educational value of offering an exciting outdoor classroom experience to Lincoln's students.
- UNL College of Architecture Dean Emeritus Cecil Steward and President of the **Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities** tucked the community treehouse endeavor under its wing and will act as its (501(c) 3) financial agent. They will assist with the national and international design contest.
- **Encompass Architects** Tammy Eagle Bull and Todd Hesson will lead architectural design and construction.
- **Michael Hootman** has been a Senior Project Designer for some of the premiere architects in the United States. He has worked on major built projects in America, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East totaling more than two billion dollars in construction. He is Executive Director for LEAF: Lincoln Environmental Arts Festival and has signed on as a mentor.
- **Lincoln Green by Design** is a project supporter. **Nebraska Wildlife Federation** signed on to foster appreciation of wildlife, including birds that use trees and butterflies and insects that rely on trees for habitat.
- The **Nebraska Historical Society and Museum** is currently identifying Nebraska icons and images to be incorporated into the structures.
- We are bringing more people on board every day to create an unforgettable community project.



Are you ready to make Lincoln the first community treehouse city?

Join us as we help Lincoln climb to new heights!



KABOOM FOUNDATION
PLAY EVERYWHERE
SUBMISSION #995

Contact Information

(for individual submitting the nomination)

Name (First, Last) Carolyn Butler

E-mail Address carrieb1957@gmail.com

Phone Number (402) 219-3066

Organization Name (If applicable) High Level Happiness (501c3 status submitted and in progress) and Nebraska Wildlife Federation (501c3)

Website (Optional)

I represent Non Profit

Location of Play Solution

City: Name Lincoln

State: Nebraska

Zip Code: 68510

Neighborhood Name : (Optional) We have three options in low income areas: Clinton School neighborhood, Malone Center, or Indian (Native American) Center

Tell Us Your Idea

I would like to call this project... Our Neighborhood Treehouse

My project idea to create opportunities for kids and families to play everywhere is...

to make Lincoln, Nebraska the 1st Community Treehouse City in the USA - and possibly the world. Collaborating with Kaboom, Lincoln's leaders and everyday citizens we'll finance and build large, multifaceted, well-equipped, safe, artistic, Nebraska-themed, mind-blowing treehouses for everyone to enjoy. I've been talking about this idea for nearly a year and nearly everyone says, build one treehouse and the rest will come easily. The first one is for those who will appreciate it most, and least able to afford it.

This play everywhere idea would make it easier for kids and families in low income communities to play by...

If it's awesome, nearby and free, they will come! If they have input on it and it reflects who they are they will "own" it. Few things in life are as fun as hanging out in a treehouse, regardless of your age. Climbing into a tree to perch above the world below makes you feel special. Low income kids deserve an outdoor opportunity in their neighborhood that is safe, fun, and even envied.

I am submitting this idea because...

Experts agree, "Nature heals us all." Yet, kids and families are becoming frighteningly disconnected from the natural world. Richard Louv says we're "hardwired" to spend time in nature and if we don't we become anxious, depressed, over-stimulated, and sometimes obese. For inner-city and low income kids, we've got to bring nature to them.

The size of this play everywhere project would be...

Think about your project and how much space it would take up. Is it small, medium, or large?

Don't worry about calculating costs, this is just an estimate!

(Check one)

Project Size Large (\$25,000-\$50,000)

Show Us with a Picture

What does the area where you would like to add play look like now? (JPEG, PNG, GIF, PDF) [corner city lot-trees.jpg](#)

What will your project look like? A visual of what your project will look like is optional, but strongly recommended. It could be anything from a sketch on a napkin to a computerized design. (JPEG, PNG, GIF, PDF)

Show us the project that is the inspiration for your idea by adding a link.

I AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS I agree to the Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, and Official Rules.

Attachment 6 – Joslyn Institute USDA Grant Summary

USDA Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG) 2016

Summary

Lakehouse Farm LLC, Renee and Jerry Cornett, Owners (<http://lakehousefarm.com/>), submitted an application on July 1, 2016 as an “Individual Producer” for a USDA-VAPG 2016 Planning Grant.

The primary Goals and Objectives of this Planning Grant are as follows:

- Travel to at least two established/successful Food Hubs and bring related information to the project discussion
- Form a Steering Committee of regional Producers; meet and determine next steps
- Form a Steering Committee of regional End-Users / Consumers; meet and determine next steps
- Bring both Steering Committees together for a joint meeting to explore the potential of creating a Regional Food Hub and to determine next steps
- In carrying out the above, we will ensure that our efforts are COMPLIMENTARY to all existing food-related efforts in the region (producers, restaurants, farmers markets, community gardens, etc.). It is **not** our intent to be competitive. Instead, our intention is to enhance and/or expand existing efforts by being as inclusive as possible.

We will rely heavily on collaboration with the Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities (JISC), which will be hired as our grant contractor. JISC, whose mission is “to promote an integrated approach to sustainability through education, public visioning, partnership, and coordination”

(<http://www.joslyninstitute.org/history.html>) has a twenty-year history of successful completion of numerous local, regional, national, and international projects.

W. Cecil Steward, JISC President/CEO, and Sharon Kuska, JISC Vice-President, authored a book titled, “Sustainometrics.” This publication highlights the components of planning and development that must be taken into account in order to attain sustainability. The JISC website states “Sustainometrics represents a way to describe the interconnectedness of five domains of human activity – environmental, socio-cultural, technological, economics, and public policy – and their interplay with regard to achieving the goals of sustainability. Taken together, the Five Domains of Sustainometrics can guide holistic solutions, balancing human needs with the depletion of natural resources”

(<http://www.joslyninstitute.org/sustainometrics.html>). Using these domains to guide the Planning Grant will result in more sustainable outcomes.

In addition, the JISC published a feasibility analysis discussing the potential of creating a food hub in the Omaha/Lincoln Metro Region and Southeast Nebraska, titled “Feasibility Analysis: Regional Food Hub and Support Facilities” (http://www.joslyninstitute.org/food_hub_analysis.pdf, June 2015). The analysis states: “. . . with strategies for infrastructure and annual operations, and contractual connections between cooperating farmers, ranchers, and the markets for retail and wholesale, consumption of local foods in Lincoln and Omaha is feasible, and the demand is growing.” The recommendations of the Feasibility Study will be heavily considered and discussed during the course of this Planning Grant.

The expected direct and/or indirect outcomes of this Planning Grant include:

- Increased networking of producers and end-users/consumers
- Discussion of, statement of next steps towards, and/or the potential preliminary establishment of a regional food distribution system (Food Hub)

- Increased success and financial stability for regional producers
- Increased agricultural-related revenue for the region
- Increased end-user related revenue for the region (restaurants, markets, etc.)
- Increased health and well-being of regional consumers (increased distribution to all end-users/consumers, but particularly food deserts, public schools, rehabilitation facilities, etc.)
- Increased sustainability of regional agricultural production
- Increased adaptation to regional climate change

Although these outcomes are expected, there may be many more that are not anticipated at this time.

Attachment 7 – Subcommittee List

METF Member	e-mail	Subcommittee					
		Energy	Waste	Water Resources	Transportation	Land Use	Administration
Anne McCollister	anne.mccollister@gmail.com	X			X		
Mark Brohman	mark.brohman@nebraska.gov	X				X	
Rosina Paolini	rapaolini@gmail.com				X	X	X
Russel Miller	neb31340@windstream.net	X	X				
Tim Rinne	walterinne@gmail.com			X		X	
Ben McShane - Jewell	ben@communitycrops.org					X	
Brittney Albin	balbin@lps.org	X	X				
Victoria Keating	vkeating@lincoln.ne.gov			X			
Linda Stephen	Linda@UnfoldingCommunications.com				X		
Donna Woudenberg	dwoudenberg2@unl.edu		X	X			
Marilyn McNabb	mmcnabb1@windstream.net	X					
Dan Schlitt	schlitt@TheWorld.com	X				X	
Julie Diegel	jkdiegel@gmail.com		X		X		
Ruth Hietbrink	Ruth.hietbrink@blackhillscorp.com	X			X		
Dave Dingman	ch4nenow@gmail.com	X	X				
Carrie Hakenkamp	chakenkamp@wastecapne.org		X				
Dan King	dnking@lincoln.ne.gov		X	X			X
Lucas Sabalka	sabalka@gmail.com	X		X			
Megan McGuffey	marie.megan@gmail.com					X	X
Bob Ruskamp	bruskamp@les.com	X					
Gene Hanlon	ghanlon@lincoln.ne.gov		X				
Kendall Weyers	skyweyers@gmail.com			X		X	
Dave Gosselin	dgosselin2@unl.edu					X	
Cecil Steward	csteward1@unl.edu						X
Susan Alleman	susan.alleman@gmail.com			X		X	
Becky Seth	beck_seth@hotmail.com	X				X	
Amy Swoboda	aswoboda@legalaidofnebraska.org	X		X		X	
Brandon Garrett	bgarrett@lincoln.ne.gov				X	X	X
Donna Garden	dgarden@lincoln.ne.gov						
Kurt Elder	kelder@lincoln.ne.gov			X			X
Maggi Thorne	nevergiveup@maggithorne.com		X		X		
Russ George	russelg@nebcoinc.com		X				
Kim Morrow	kim@verdisgroup.com			X			