

## BRIEFING NOTES

<b>NAME OF GROUP:</b>	PLANNING COMMISSION
<b>DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:</b>	Wednesday, April 1, 2020, 12:00 noon, Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 South 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.
<b>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Shams Al-Badry, Tom Beckius, Dick Campbell, Tracy Corr, Tracy Edgerton, Cristy Joy and Cindy Ryman Yost; Deane Finnegan and Dennis Scheer absent.
<b>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Paul Barnes, Kellee Van Bruggen and Allan Zafft of the Planning Department.
<b>STATED PURPOSE:</b>	Briefing on the “ <b>Transportation Improvement Program and Capital Improvements Program</b> ”.

Chair Tracy Corr called the meeting to order and acknowledged the posting of the Open Meetings Act in the back of the room.

Paul Barnes stated the briefing is to talk about the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Planning staff will present the items. This is an unusual briefing in that it is being televised, which is not normal procedure. This is due to the coronavirus and social distancing measures.

### **Capital Improvements Program**

Kellee Van Bruggen is the lead planner on the CIP project. Staff is using a new software for this. She believes it will integrate much better with the Finance Dept. Materials were distributed in November 2019. A lot of departments had previously worked with the software. The departments submitted their CIP projects. Staff worked on putting the book together. The Mayor’s CIAC (Capital Improvements Advisory Committee) and other departments have reviewed this. The first two years of the CIP are in the budget that goes to the City Council. Years three through six identify the needs of the community further out. All the projects should be in conformance or generally listed in the Comprehensive Plan. We use a priority rating for the projects. We also use some outcome based budgeting. We asked departments to take a look at their existing facilities. We also asked departments to apply a 5% inflation rate to their projects. The CIAC develops a working version of the CIP. The CIAC is made up of the Mayor’s staff, Planning, LTU (Lincoln Transportation and Utilities) and Finance Dept. staff. There were multiple meetings and revisions to the CIP. There is a lot of behind the scenes work to review the capital requests and determine the level of conformity with the adopted Comprehensive

Plan. The Planning Commission comments are forwarded to the CIAC and then to City Council. There are different levels of conformance: in conformance, generally conforms, not in the plan and not in conformance with the plan. There are also many factors used in the recommendation.

Aging Department only has one project. They are asking to replace two transport vehicles in years two and three.

Libraries is working on the replacement of the Downtown library and upgrading all branch libraries in year three. They would also like to replace the Bookmobile.

Lincoln Electric System (LES) is unique. They follow a separate budget cycle. They have already presented to the City Council. This is their budget that has already been approved by LES. They are converting overhead to underground lines.

Parks & Recreation has ongoing revenue for replacement of trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer. There are also Wilderness Park Master Plan improvements.

Fire Dept. and Police Dept. are combined for Public Safety. Fire Dept. has said their top need is modifications and repairs to their fire stations. They are doing a study. There is also a joint public safety request for a joint emergency operations center.

Urban Development has an ongoing project for downtown irrigation. A new project is the West O Entryway Project. They also have a lot of parking operations such as a Command Center and parking meters.

Broadband Infrastructure has one ongoing project. This is to replace, update and expand infrastructure.

Solid Waste Operations have a continuing project for recycling drop off sites and biogas to vehicle fuel project in year three.

StarTran has a maintenance facility relocated proposed in year two. They need to replace some of their bus and handi-vans, along with the purchase of charging stations.

Wastewater reorganized their projects. A lot of growth is focused on the Stevens Creek area.

Water Dept. has two new large projects. They are looking at mitigation projects at the Ashland Wells. They are also looking for a new source of water.

Watershed Management has a typical GO (general obligation) bond schedule that they are on.

Transportation did an overhaul of their department as well. There is a base level of \$2 million for sidewalk maintenance and repair. Since they moved to large project categories, they have been working on developing a project website where you can look for much more detail.

The CIP is now online and available for review:

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/long/cip/2020-26/index.htm>.

April 15, 2020 will be the Planning Commission review for conformity. Those findings will be forwarded to the CIAC and then to the City Council.

Beckius stated there has been some discussion in the development community in terms of seeing when a developer goes through a development, a list of outstanding liabilities that the City has agreed to construct at some point in the future, but may not have a date in the six year plan. Barnes responded that a lot of these items are typically enclosed within an agreement or somewhere else. It hasn't always been in a cohesive place. Several years ago there was an effort for departments to come together and talk about these. We got a much better handle on these. We understand these are being better handled at this point. Beckius wants to know if there is an actual list. Barnes stated that a lot of this was discussed in the past. Information can be found at <https://lincolnonthemove.com/>.

### **Transportation Improvement Program**

Allan Zafft stated that the Lincoln MPO is federally required to adopt a TIP. These are projects that receive federal funds, subject to a federally required action and regionally significant. The TIP is coordinated and developed in coordination with the State TIP. This has to be updated annually. This is a four year schedule of projects. It can be amended as needed. The projects must come from the Long Range Transportation Program (LRTP). They must be fiscally constrained. The MPO planning area is Lancaster County. The TIP is developed by the Technical Committee in coordination with other agencies such as Nebraska Dept. of Transportation, Lancaster County Engineer, Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU), StarTran, Airport Authority, Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) and Parks & Recreation, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, and others. The TIP must go through a public review, including Planning Commission and a public review. This goes on to Technical Committee and the Officials Committee. Various types of projects are programmed such as capital improvement projects, major maintenance and Intelligent Transportation Systems.

Nebraska Dept. of Transportation has nine projects. The first is the South Beltway. There are roadway and bridge rehab projects.

Lancaster County has three projects.

LTU has nine projects. The TIP shows the five project categories. The Transportation System Preservation has identified seven projects, system optimization has four projects. Four projects aren't using federal funds, but are regionally significant.

Joy wanted to know how people in the area are notified that a project is going on. Barnes stated that for different road projects, they are managed by LTU and their consultant team. He knows there are multiple means of notification that they use. Beckius believes it would be interesting to see if there are ways of notification that can be used for the neighborhood organizations

Zafft continued that StarTran has thirteen projects for purchasing of buses, handi-vans, computer hardware and software, amongst other things.

Ped, Bike and Trails has four projects shown. There is the Rosa Parks Way Trail, the Beal Slough Trail Projects, the Fletcher Landmark Trail and the Wilderness Hills Trail.

RTSD has one project. This is the 33<sup>rd</sup> and Cornhusker project. Barnes noted that this project continues to evolve. The construction year is being proposed is somewhere around 2026.

Zafft stated that the MPO Project Coordination Committee met multiple times. After Planning Commission review, this goes on to the Technical Committee, then Officials Committee and then it is submitted to the State for inclusion in the State TIP.

Corr looked at the map. She wonders about the work on Randolph Street. She questioned where the project is in the process. Zafft thinks construction is probably in 2023.

Barnes commented that links to the documents were emailed out this morning.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.