

# MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY

## August 10, 2015

Tracy Corr opened the meeting on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City/County/Building, in Lincoln, NE.

### Attendance

Twenty citizens and five staff attended:

Tracy Corr – 40 <sup>th</sup> & A NA	Jeff Schwebke – Arnold Heights NA
Carl Tesch – Autumn Wood NA	Mark Kohler – Capitol View NA
Russ Irwin – Clinton NA	Rifka Keilson – Country Club NA
Paul Johnson – East Campus CO	Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge NA
Carolyn Brandle – Eastridge NA	Paula Rhian – Everett NA
Pat Anderson-Sifuentez – Everett NA & NW-L	Myrna Coleman -- Highlands NA
Scott Richert – Indian Village NA	Amy Karabel – Irvingdale NA
Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane Area RA	Nate Blum – Prescott Area NA
Mike DeKalb – University Place CO	Bill Vocasek – West A NA
Fred Freytag – Witherbee NA	Lin Quenzer – Mayor's Office
Jon Carlson – Mayor's Office	Wynn Hjermsstad – Urban Development Dept
Russell Miller – Lincoln Neighborhood Alliance	Adam Rhoads – Health Dept – KLLCB
Miki Esposito – Public Works & Utilities Dept	

### Welcome & Introductions, Volunteer to Take Notes

Everyone introduced themselves. Adam Rhoads volunteered to take notes.

### Mayor's Comments

Mayor Beutler was not able to attend, but Jon Carlson noted that the City is in the middle of budget planning. The focus is on public safety (Lincoln Fire & Rescue, fire trucks and radio system) and parks.

### Our Streets

Miki Esposito, Director of the Public Works and Utilities Department, presented several points of information. In terms of Transportation Infrastructure and Finance, the summer of 2015 has been a "Summer of Progress." There's been development of infrastructure this year than ever before:

- 24 miles of street surfacing/resurfacing compared to 60 miles during the last 5 years
- 110% increase in investment (2015-2016 fiscal year)
- 10 different project areas
- Focus is on street rehabilitation instead of new streets.

New equipment is making street maintenance more affordable and efficient. The new spray patcher equipment requires 1 employee instead of four, allowing employees to be working on additional maintenance projects. The new poly-patcher equipment uses better and more durable materials. Quicker, cost effective street repairs mean more drivable streets.

In 2015, \$4 million has been directed to sidewalk repair to make our sidewalks more walkable. That money is taking care of about 10,000 backlogged service requests and bringing Lincoln's sidewalks into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Grant programs are available to residents to get reimbursed for non-priority sidewalk repairs.

The biggest area of change is in traffic management systems. A traffic management master plan has been developed, the most important part of which is a software upgrade that will greatly improve traffic flow.

Challenges to be faced include an aging, deteriorating infrastructure, growth of population and needs, and no increases in Federal gas tax funding. Some help with funding has come through the State of Nebraska Build Nebraska Act, Nebraska Department of Roads and wheel tax.

The Public Works and Utilities Department is funded through:

- State gas tax: 43%

- Wheel tax: 30%
- Federal gas tax: 10%
- General funds: 7%
- Impact fees: 7%
- Other funding: 3%

Expenses, totaling \$55 million, are distributed over a variety of projects:

- Major roads: 33%
- Street maintenance: 22%
- Street rehab: 16%
- Ongoing expenses: 12%
- Debt: 9%
- Winter/snow removal: 8%

For the average street user, the fees per household come to about \$34/month or just over \$1 per day. The department's focus is on preventative maintenance which is more cost effective than waiting for infrastructure failure. From the department's perspective, this is working well with arterial streets, but not as well for residential streets.

A question was asked about the possibility of using flashing yellow lights at street intersections. Esposito said City engineers do not like flashing yellow lights, so they will not be implemented in Lincoln. A concern was expressed about traffic and road conditions on West A Street. In response to another question, Esposito explained that road maintenance prioritization is done by technological evaluation & assessment.

### **Announcements**

- Streets Alive! – Volunteers are needed for the day of the event, Sunday, 9/20/15, 9 am to 6 pm. **See Attachment 1.**
- 2015 Scrap Tile Collection – August 29, 7 am to 7 pm, at 6601 W. Fletcher Avenue – west of the Lincoln Airport and adjacent to Nine Mile Prairie at the old bunker site. ONE DAY ONLY! **See Attachment 2.**

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable will be September 14th at 5:30 p.m. The topic will be determined.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

*Submitted by Adam Rhoads.*



## Volunteering at *Streets Alive!* Sunday, September 20, 9 AM - 6 PM

We need your help! Sign-up on your own or bond as a group with friends, family, co-workers, or church member. Whether you'd like to sign up for an hour or for the day, you'll a great time. All event volunteers will receive a free t-shirt to wear the day of the event. To sign up:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054aaaae23a5ff2-volunteer>

### **Set-up Crew**

So much to do before the event! Help set up tables, chairs, information booths and stages. Assist with placement of signage. Moderate lifting will be involved.

### **Exhibitor Assistants**

Assist exhibitors in finding their tables and getting set up. You may be asked to move barricades to allow access to the route for set-up and/or assist in carrying exhibitor materials to their tables. (within 1 block)

### **Safety Monitors**

Monitor pedestrian safety at crosswalks, and child safety at the bounce houses

### **Information Booths**

Be the hot spot at one of our 5 information booths to assist exhibitors, entertainers, and participants in finding their way. You'll also be an access point for anyone to reach one of the event producers if needed.

### **Runners**

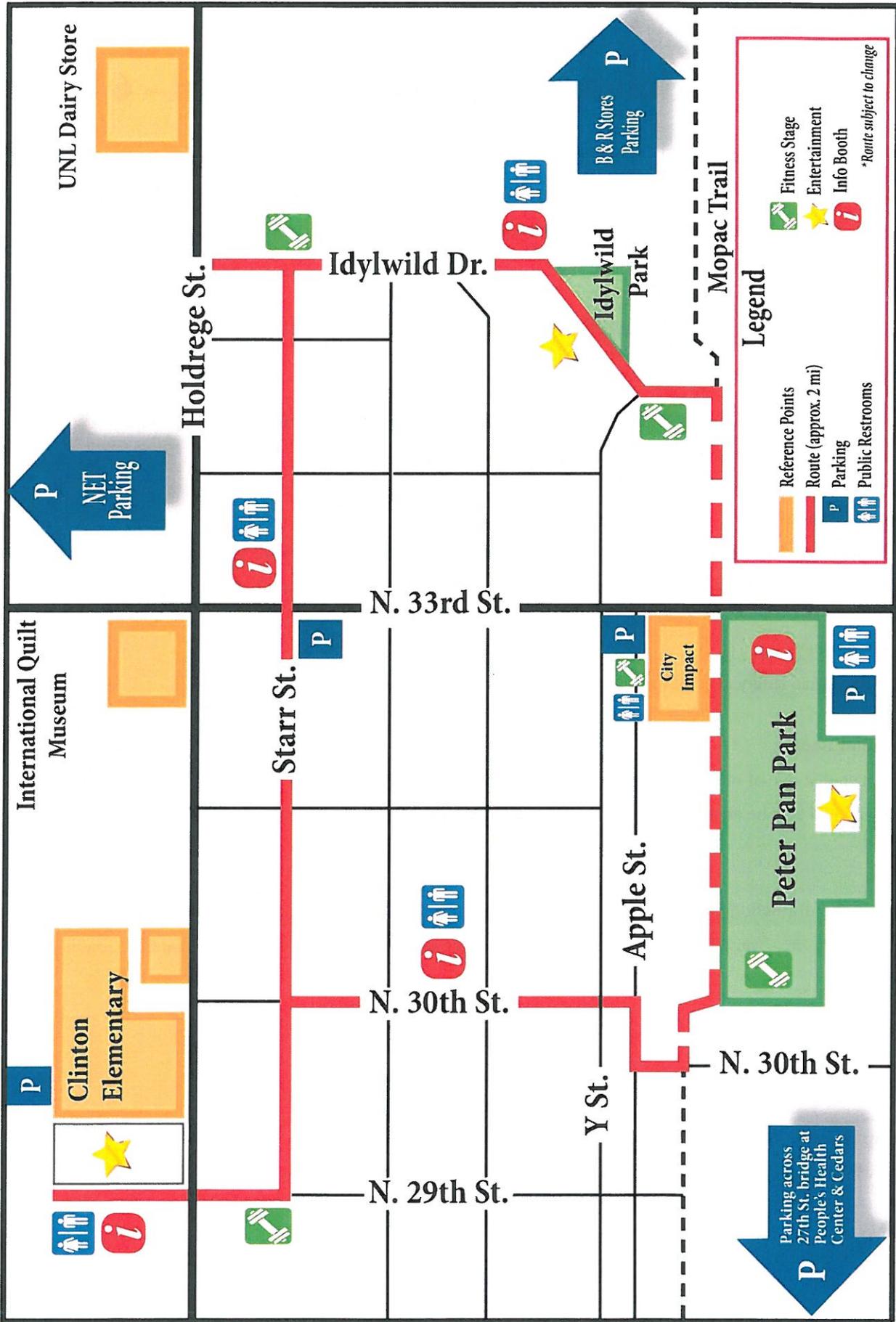
Check in with information booths & exhibitors along the route to determine needs. You may be asked to distribute water, materials, etc. You will need a bike and helmet. A bike trailer may be helpful to carry materials, but is not required.

### **Hashtag Hero**

Post pictures and comments from the day. Chat, tweet, post and click away!

### **Clean-up Crew**

That's a wrap! Help take down information booths, load up tables and chairs, pull signs, and pick up any trash left from the event.



Parking across 27th St. bridge at People's Health Center & Cedars

# 2015 Scrap Tire Collection

## Saturday August 29, 2015 Only

### 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

West of the Lincoln Airport at 6601 W Fletcher Avenue  
(adjacent to Nine Mile Prairie at the old Bunker Site)

Consider accessing NW 48th Street from Hwy 34 to the North due to construction from "O" Street to W Adams St on the South

