

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY

December 10, 2018

Tracy Corr opened the meeting on Monday, December 10, 2018 at 5:35 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City/County/Building, Lincoln, NE.

Attendance

Thirteen residents and two City staff attended:

Tracy Corr – 40 th & A NA	Jennifer Powell – Country Club NA
Pat Anderson-Sifuentez – Everett NA & NWL	Pat Stear – Hartley NA
Myrna Coleman – Highlands NA	Jeremie Memming – Indian Village NA
Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane Area RA	Mike DeKalb – University Place CO
Keith Roland – University Place CO	Russell Miller – Witherbee NA
Randy Smith – Woods Park NA	Bennie Shobe – City Council
Shawn Ryba – South Downtown CDO	Lin Quenzer – Mayor's Office
Lynn Johnson – Parks & Recreation Dept.	

Welcome & Introductions

Attendees were welcomed and introductions made. Councilman Bennie Shobe volunteered to take notes.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Beutler was unable to attend.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Response and Recovery Plan

Lynn Johnson, Director, Lincoln Parks & Recreation Director: 402-441-8265; ljohnson@lincoln.ne.gov.

Lynn Johnson provided an overview of the Emerald Ash Borer Response and Recovery Plan. See **Attachment 1**. Nearly all public and private untreated ash trees will die during a 15-year period after EAB activity begins in an area. About 12% (14,145) of Lincoln's public trees are ash. There are another 40,000 to 50,000 privately-owned trees that will be affected. The Response and Recovery Plan identifies the actions the City will take to protect citizens and their property, engage the community in response and recovery, preserve the community tree canopy over the long term, and diversify the community tree population.

During the first ten years, City staff will work on phased removal of public ash trees and planting of replacement trees in cooperation with neighborhood groups and community organizations. In addition to removal, some trees may be treated through the Adopt an Ash resolution recently passed by City Council. In years 11 – 15, the City will hire contractors to remove the larger trees. In addition, the City will:

- Help residents identify good options for tree replacement (Call 402-441-7840 and press "O").
- Educate tree-owners about treatment methods. The time to treat will be May through June in 2019 with treatments then repeating every other year. Treatment cost are approximately \$150 for a 12-inch tree. Treatments should be done by a certified, licensed arborist.
- Promote use of ash wood, which will be plentiful. There are sawmills in Lincoln that are willing to work with ash wood.
- Development of a plan to assist low-income property owners with management of ash trees on private property.
- Engage citizen pruners in trimming young trees.
- Provide a map of all public ash trees.

- Develop broader outreach plans.

Roundtable attendees offered their thoughts and concerns:

- Some residents have large ash trees and a limited ability cover the cost of tree removal.
- There are two other invasive insects that effect ash trees, but are not fatal to the tree: the Japanese Beetle and the Asian Longhorn Beetle.
- Could Parks & Rec provide a press release which neighborhood associations can re-print in their newsletters?
- Lynn said he would be happy to talk with neighborhood groups.
- If a resident does their own removal, they need to contact their trash hauler to see what the hauler's policy is for removal of tree waste. Policies vary from hauler to hauler.

Announcements

- There will be a Christmas Tea at the historic White Hall Mansion on Sunday, December 16th, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- NeighborWorks Annual Neighborhood Forum will be held on February 9, 2019 at Candlewood Church, 2640 R Street, Lincoln, NE, US, 68503.

Next Meeting/Agenda

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable will be January 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. The topic is TBD.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bennie Shobe

Lincoln Emerald Ash Borer Response & Recovery Plan

Presentation to Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable

December 10, 2018



REVIEW OF EMERALD ASH BORER

Toledo, Ohio



Credit: Dan Hanna, Ohio State University

Ash-lined street

3 years later

REVIEW OF EMERALD ASH BORER

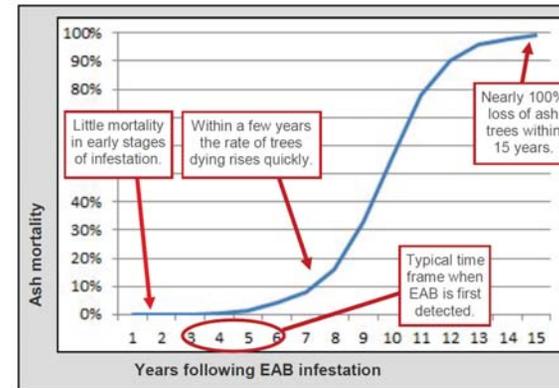
Invasive insect that arrived in the US in 1992.

EAB now in 35 states, including Nebraska.

Affects all varieties of ash trees.



EAB "Death Curve"



Nearly all public and private untreated ash trees will die during a 15-year period.

Public Ash Trees in Lincoln

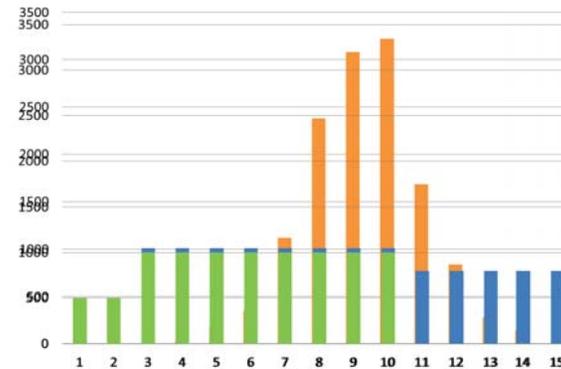
112,360 public trees in Lincoln



Ash 12%
14,145 public ash trees along streets and in parks

Inventory of public ash trees in Lincoln has been completed.

EAB Preparedness and Response Planning



- Managed ash tree removal
- Interim Treatment
- Planting of diverse mix of replacement trees

■ City staff remove smaller trees
■ Contractors remove larger trees

EAB Preparedness and Response Planning



Goals

- Protect citizens and their property
- Engage community in response and recovery
- Preserve community tree canopy over long term
- Diversify community tree population

EAB Preparedness and Response Planning

- Community outreach and engagement
- Establish an “Adopt and Ash Program”
- Develop a strategy to promote utilization of ash wood
- Develop a strategy to assist low-income property owners for financial assistance with management of ash trees on private property.
- Engage citizen pruners in trimming young trees

EAB Preparedness and Response Planning

Projected cost of \$22.8 million over 15 year period.**

About \$11.9 million would fund work by private companies for large tree removal, interim treatment, and planting replacement trees.

What should a homeowner do?

Identify and evaluate ash trees on their property.

Determine whether to treat or to remove ash tree(s).



Assistance with Management of Existing Street Trees

Removal crew will spend about 100 days removing ash trees each year,

and then will spend about 150 days each year trimming existing street trees.



QUESTIONS?

