



## *Directors Meeting Agenda*

Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

555 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street – City Chambers

- I. City Clerk Advisories
- II. Mayor's Advisories
- III. Director's Advisories
- IV. City Council: Commissions, Committees, and Event Updates
- V. Post-Meeting Council Members Calls to City Directors
- VI. **Adjournment** – Next Directors Meeting – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

### Correspondence – Online for Review

- I. Directorial Correspondence
  - i. DIRECTOR LETTER OF WAIVER – Kristi Merfeld
- II. Constituent Correspondence
  - i. West side of S Bennington Place – Roxie Sullivan
  - ii. Alleyways and Snow Emergencies – Nicholas Mizeur
  - iii. Sidewalks Snow Removal – Arturo Alvarez

The Directors Meeting Agendas and Minutes may be accessed online at:  
<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/City-Council/Directors-Minutes-Agendas>

**From:** [Roxie Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Council Packet](#); [Justin P. Carlson](#)  
**Subject:** West side of S Bennington Place  
**Date:** Monday, January 15, 2024 10:20:58 AM

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Good morning,

When I read this morning that the City has decided to not continue with snow removal today and resume on Tuesday I decided to send you a note. I must say I worked at NDOT for 44 years and have never heard of a government agency or its contractors taking a day off during the emergency snow removal process. I have lived on my circle street for 40 years so I've seen all kinds of snow removal on our street. The normal emergency process used to be one side of the street is declared an emergency and cleared & then after a few hours the other side is. We normally see big farm tractors or private trucks with blades clearing us out.

However, for some reason with the recent two snows at the beginning of January the emergency was declared only on the "even number" of the street for multiple days. As of today no one has ever come back to clear the "odd side" of the street where my neighbors (from across the street) parked on both sides of my driveway for several days because of the parking ban. After the storm a small landscaping company truck went by with a blade multiple times over two different days but went out around the parked cars leaving a barrier in the street.

Per the City's directive, I put in a request on Saturday about noon on their website to get the "odd" side of our street plowed so we can all get out without having to shovel the street. I just received a notice that someone on the street behind me also made a request. I have seen on social media that many Lincoln residents are having the same problem so I thought I'd just address a note to all of you. If this was the end of March it wouldn't be so bad but it's only early January. When snow starts melting it runs down my side of the street into the drains so any snow buildup in the curb causes my driveway to fill with water.

I'd appreciate anything you can do to get our street cleared on the west side. We have a lot of winter ahead.

Thank you,

Roxanne Sullivan











**From:** [City Clerk](#)  
**To:** [Council Packet](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Alleyways and Snow Emergencies  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:49:43 AM

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**From:** Nic Mizeur <nmizeur@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 5:32 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <CityClerk@lincoln.ne.gov>  
**Subject:** Alleyways and Snow Emergencies

If we're going to continue to have snow emergencies eliminating lots of street parking then all alleyways in Lincoln need to be large limestone (3/4" or bigger) or paved. Dirt alleyways don't work in the snow and cold because they become wet, icy mud pits full of deep divots that vehicles get stuck in. There are many neighborhoods in Lincoln, including the one I live in, where the only parking access people have on their properties is via an alleyway. To leave alleyways as dirt is extremely dangerous in the winter and a disservice to 1000s of people in Lincoln.

I look forward to this being improved upon in the future since snow emergencies will always be a thing in Lincoln.

Nicholas Mizeur

**From:** [Kristi L. Merfeld](#)  
**Subject:** DIRECTOR LETTER OF WAIVER  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 9:54:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [DIRECTOR LETTER OF WAIVER .pdf](#)

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Attached is the Planning Director's letter to deny the waiver of the Neighborhood Design Standards for 4207 Pioneers Blvd

Thank you

**Kristi Merfeld**

Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department  
555 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street Ste 213  
Lincoln NE 68508  
402-441-7491

January 10, 2024

Dear Mr. Gruenemeyer,

You are receiving this notice regarding the requested waiver to the Neighborhood Design Standards for the construction of a new single-family home at 4207 Pioneers Boulevard. Designs for new homes in the well-established neighborhoods of Lincoln are required to meet Neighborhood Design Standards which encourage construction that is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The Standards focus on a limited number of basic design elements that have a significant effect on compatibility, such as the orientation of windows and entrances toward the street, height and massing, and location of parking.

The proposed design is an underground home with just the garage above the surface and is incompatible with a few requisites in the Neighborhood Design Standards.

The analysis is below:

The entire proposed house is underground, with the car garage being the only structure above ground. The designers have attempted to make the house appear like its neighboring properties, but some design elements that are found in the adjacent properties cannot be incorporated into the project due to its function as a car garage.

The building design has similar materials, height, roof pitch, setbacks, and the required openings fronting the street to appear like the adjacent homes. However, the proposed structure is atypical in Lincoln and fails to meet the design standards concerning garage patterns, porches, and steps above grade,

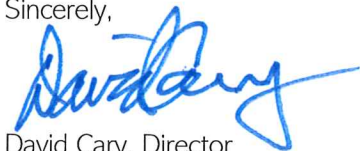
"If there is no garage pattern shared by at least half of the residential properties on the same and facing block front, garages may be attached and face the street provided the garage portion of the building is set back from the main plane of the principal facade at least five feet." In this case, the garage is the only structure above ground.

When a design does not meet the Neighborhood Design Standards, the Planning Director has the authority to approve or deny a waiver based on his decision as to whether the proposed design meets the intent and spirit of the Standards. The Planning Director has reviewed the materials and denied the requested waiver.

You may appeal the Planning Director's decision denying the requested waiver. The required Notice of Appeal shall be filed with the Planning Director within 14 days of the mailing (postmark) date of this letter. Upon receipt of the appeal, a public hearing will be scheduled within 45 days with the Urban Design Committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office at 402-441-6361 or [agopalakrishnan@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:agopalakrishnan@lincoln.ne.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David Cary, Director  
Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department

**From:** [Arturo Alvarez](#)  
**To:** [Council Packet](#)  
**Subject:** Sidewalks Snow Removal  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 1:52:30 PM

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Good afternoon,

I submitted a report to the seeclixfix website, but I'm not sure how long that takes. I am curious as to how or if the responsibility of a homeowner to shovel snow is enforced.

The streets surrounding West Lincoln Elementary School, specifically Dawes Ave, are never shoveled. It is extremely difficult for children and families who walk to school to do so when the residents do not shovel their sidewalks - worse, they shovel their driveways creating mounds of snow on either side. Children are forced to walk on the road which is extremely dangerous at any time, but especially so with the roads in the conditions they are in.

Please can this be addressed ASAP.

Thank you