

Citywide Outcome Priority #4: Livable Neighborhoods

Priority Goal #1: Provide for safe, clean and attractive neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.

Issues:

Housing Code Enforcement: Blighted housing is a sign of neighborhood disorder that can attract even greater social problems for a neighborhood, including increased crime. The Building & Safety Department enforces housing codes to ensure that housing stock is safe, clean and maintained.

Street Trees: Tree-lined streets enhance property values, provide energy savings, reduce storm water run-off, and reduce maintenance costs for paved asphalt streets. About one-third of possible street tree planting locations along public streets in Lincoln are occupied by a street tree.

Garbage: The City ensures the health and cleanliness of neighborhoods by responding to complaints involving garbage and/or hazardous materials. Garbage, mosquito and stagnant water complaints present the highest public health risk of all nuisance complaints. Currently, the Health Department resolves garbage complaints within 30 days.

Animal Control: The quality of life of Lincoln's residents is enhanced by providing health and safety enforcement and education regarding such issues as rabies control and prevention of injuries due to animal attacks. Citizens are protected from the dangers and nuisances caused by uncontrolled animals and irresponsible pet owners.

Progress Indicators:

1. Respond to housing complaints within 24 hours 100% of the time.
2. Respond in writing within 24 hours of inspection for compliance with minimum housing codes 100% of the time.
3. Maintain the average number of street trees per mile of streets in the community at 34 trees per linear street mile.
4. Decrease pruning cycle for street trees to less than 14 years.
5. Resolve 90% of nuisance complaints involving garbage, mosquitoes and stagnant water within 30 days.
6. Decrease the rate of humans injured by dog bites to less than 60 incidents per 100,000 population annually.

Goal #1 Tier 1 Programs	Department
Code enforcement	Building & Safety
Animal Control enforcement, licensing and permitting	Health
Goal #1 Tier 2 Programs	Department
Nuisance/solid waste complaints	Health
Animal Control kenneling	Health
Maintenance of street trees	Parks & Recreation
Goal #1 Tier 3 Programs	Department
Planting of new and replacement street trees	Parks & Recreation
Support to neighborhood watch/business watch	Police

Priority Goal #2: Reduce neighborhood disorder by providing services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict and support the quality of life.

Issues:

Police Non-Emergency Response: Neighborhood quality of life is impacted by police response. The Lincoln Police Department responds to non-criminal calls for service and enforcement of public order crimes such as abandoned vehicles, littering, prostitution, drinking in public and others.

Neighborhood Focus: Some neighborhoods suffer from greater crime, blight and social issues than the rest of the community, requiring a greater level of focus from several City government programs. The Stronger Safer Neighborhoods initiative, the Problem Resolution Team, Building & Safety inspections, problem-oriented policing and other efforts help provide coordinated action to solve these issues.

Progress Indicators:

1. Maintain an average response time to all priority one and priority two dispatches of no more than 5 minutes.
2. Maintain an average score of 90% in response to the Lincoln Police Quality Service Audit question: “Was the officer’s performance professional in every way?”

3. Maintain a positive response rate of 75% on the Quality Service Audit question “How safe and secure do you feel in the neighborhood where you live?”
4. Physical environment improvement: Stronger Safer Neighborhood Focus Area Condition Rating for entire area improves by 20%. Rating on targeted blocks improves by 50%.
5. 25% drop in repeat calls to property owners/residents with a record of high calls for police service after LPD / Stronger Safer Neighborhoods contact letter.
6. Resolve 75% of Problem Resolution Team cases (properties with significant issues requiring multiple agencies) within 120 days.
7. Maintain noise levels at or below City ordinance levels.

Goal #2 Tier 1 Programs	Department
Problem-oriented policing projects, Stronger Safer Neighborhoods	Police
Enforcement of public order offenses	Police
Problem Resolution Team	Police, Health, Building & Safety
Project Safe Neighborhoods	Police
Goal #2 Tier 2 Program	Department
Dispute resolution	Police
Goal #2 Tier 3 Programs	Department
Police response to non-criminal calls for service	Police
Noise control	Health
Parking and abandoned vehicle enforcement	Police

Priority Goal #3: Create quality and diverse housing options and encourage redevelopment that respects and revitalizes older neighborhoods.

Issues:

New Housing: Housing costs should remain at a reasonable level in relation to average wages in order to compete effectively with other communities to retain and attract workers and businesses. Land cost is an important aspect of housing affordability. If the supply of available land lots is not sufficient to meet the demands for new development, land costs will increase. A lot supply of four to six years is considered to be “healthy.”

Existing housing: Existing neighborhood housing should be maintained, improved and protected. Existing neighborhoods offer the majority of affordable housing in the community. A wide range of housing choices allows residents the opportunity to stay rooted in their neighborhoods. Revitalization programs make good use of exiting infrastructure and City services.

Affordability: The City of Lincoln needs to provide a spectrum of housing options that keep safe shelter affordable. Federal funds provided to the City should be fully utilized and highly leveraged for maximum impact in improving the existing housing stock and creating new affordable housing options.

Progress Indicators:

1. Maintain the ratio of median price for new and existing single family homes to median family income below the national average.
2. Maintain an adequate supply of available lots for new single family homes to satisfy estimated demand.

Goal #3	Tier 1 Programs	Department
	First Time Homebuyer Loans	Urban Development
	HOME/ affordable housing programs	Urban Development
	Neighborhood Stabilization Program	Urban Development
	Redevelopment (Neighborhood focus area plans, agreements, streetscapes) CDBG & TIF	Urban Development

Priority Goal #4: Encourage well-planned land use patterns and transportation systems.

NOTE: Well thought out land use plans and transportation systems have impacts across several Citywide Outcomes. Other indicators that impact this goal also are covered in the Outcomes Environmental Quality, Effective Transportation and Safety & Security.

Issues:

New Neighborhoods: City development review helps ensure that new developments are laid out in a logical way that avoids incompatible uses, creates a comfortable environment, keeps traffic in its proper place, and provides good connections to public and private services and amenities.

Maintaining Established Neighborhoods: City review of proposed changes to land use or transportation in established neighborhoods helps protect these areas from changes that destabilize and reduce confidence in the future of neighborhoods, a threat to continued reinvestment.

Design Standards: Building design standards for new construction in older neighborhoods help maintain and enhance the architectural character that is a key selling point for these neighborhoods.

Environmental Risk: City review of new developments and land use changes provide assessment of appropriate land use to protect people from hazardous chemicals or other environmental risks.

Progress Indicators:

1. Maintain rate of citizens who believe that land development patterns in Lincoln are well-planned and organized at 60% as determined by survey.
2. Maintain rate of citizens who know how to become informed/involved in planning and development issues at 60%.

Goal #4 Tier 2 Program	Department
Design standard compliance (Downtown, AV, older neighborhoods)	Planning
Goal #4 Tier 3 Programs	Department
Land use plan reviews	Health

Update development standards for neighborhood protection	Planning
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Priority Goal #5: Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality.

Issues:

Library Services: Libraries offer a broad range of books, periodicals and media; Internet access; and youth and adult programming. They offer opportunities for citizens to contribute as volunteers and attend community events. Libraries also are maximizing use of online services, so that residents can find information, contribute their own points of view, and quickly locate library materials.

Library Locations: The Bennett Martin Library is the Main Library, serving the entire city with a full range of services. Walt, Eiseley, Gere and Anderson branches are "quadrant" libraries, providing a full range of library services. Arnold Heights Branch provides a limited range of services to a geographically isolated part of the City. Bethany and South Branches are "neighborhood" libraries, smaller locations that offer limited services to a more immediate area. The Library's Bookmobile serves neighborhoods and people who cannot access other library services.

Neighborhood & Community Parks: Neighborhood parks provide age appropriate playgrounds and outdoor activity areas within walking distance of residences. Community parks provide greater amenities such as sports fields in each quadrant of the community. The national average for the 75 largest cities is 3.9 parks per 10,000 residents.

Neighborhood & Community Pools: Neighborhood pools give access within walking distances of residences. Community pools such as Star City Shores and University Place provide a greater array of activities such as zero-depth entry and waterslides.

Recreation Centers: The City of Lincoln has over time made a significant investment in core neighborhoods in the form of municipal recreation and community centers. In most instances, recreation centers are co-located with schools to reinforce their neighborhood focus. Services at municipal recreation and community centers can be categorized into two broad categories: human services, and fitness and leisure activities.

Human Services: “F” Street Community Center and Belmont Community Center serve as locations where neighborhood residents can access human services within their respective neighborhoods. Services are offered through cooperative efforts with other community agencies and organizations. Examples of human services available at these centers include family support, food distribution, meals for older adults and youth, literacy programs, and health-related services. These services assist in stabilizing families, and therefore in stabilizing neighborhoods.

Fitness and Leisure Activities: Community residents have access to activities at municipal recreation centers that enhance their fitness and wellness, including gyms, walking tracks, exercise equipment, and social activities. In addition, children and adults, many of limited means, have access to leisure experiences at recreation centers. Examples of opportunities at municipal recreation centers include game tables, card playing, rental rooms for family gatherings and celebrations, video games, computer labs and hobby classes.

Progress Indicators:

1. Maintain total attendance of people who choose to attend library events at 75,000 per year.
2. Maintain use of library community rooms at 1,000 groups who make reservations per year.
3. Introduce 250 library customers to opportunities to submit reviews of books and other materials, using the library’s catalog or the library’s web site.
4. Maintain number of individuals who volunteer at Lincoln City Libraries at 1,200 annually.
5. Maintain 5.1 parks per 10,000 residents
6. Maintain 3.5 park playgrounds per 10,000 residents.
7. Maintain 4.1 outdoor public pools per 100,000 residents.
8. Maintain percentage of people who rate Parks & Recreation assets and facilities as good or excellent:
 - a. Neighborhood parks: 80% (benchmark: 83%)
 - b. Outdoor pools: 80% (benchmark: 83%)
 - c. Street trees: 66% (benchmark: 66%)
9. Maintain .07 recreation centers per 20,000 residents.
10. Maintain percentage of users who rate recreation centers as safe, welcoming and engaging at 75%.

Goal #5 Tier 1 Program	Department
Quadrant library facilities and Bennett Martin library.	Library
Goal #5 Tier 2 Programs	Department

Operation and maintenance of neighborhood parks	Parks & Recreation
Operation and maintenance of community and regional parks	Parks & Recreation
Operation and maintenance of community pools	Parks & Recreation
“F” Street and Belmont Community Centers human services	Parks & Recreation
Neighborhood library facilities	Library
Goal #5 Tier 3 Programs	Department
Non-profit facility loans	Urban Development
Bookmobile	Library
Operation and maintenance of neighborhood pools	Parks & Recreation
Irving, Calvert, Air Park Recreation Centers fitness and leisure activities	Parks & Recreation

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
1	Code enforcement		Building & Safety	General Fund; B&S Fund	Provide for safe and clean neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	Animal Control enforcement, licensing and permitting		Health	Fees	Provide for safe and clean neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Nuisance/solid waste complaints	Responds to complaints about nuisance conditions including garbage, mosquitoes, and stagnant water.	Health	Occupation Tax	Provide for safe, clean, & attractive neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Animal Control kenneling		Health	General Funds	Provide for safe and clean neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Noise control	Maintains noise levels at or below City Ordinance limits by responding to noise complaints and providing assistance	Health	General fund	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Land use plan reviews	Reviews new developments and land use changes by providing health and environmental information and review for appropriate land use to protect people from hazardous chemicals or environmental risks	Health	Fee funded	Encourage well-planned land use patterns and transportation systems	4	Livable Neighborhoods	4

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
1	Quadrant library facilities and Bennett Martin library.	Gere, Anderson, Eisesly, and Walt branches	Library	General Fund	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Neighborhood library facilities	Bethany, South and Williams Branches	Library	General Fund	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Bookmobile		Library	General Fund	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Maintenance of street trees		Parks & Recreation	General Fund	Provide for safe and clean neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Planting of new and replacement street trees		Parks & Recreation	Developers, resident matching funds, grants, CIP, General Fund	Provide for safe, clean, & attractive neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Operation and maintenance of neighborhood parks	McAdams Park, Highlands Park, Williamsburg, and Irvingdale are examples	Parks & Recreation	General Fund	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
2	Operation and maintenance of community and regional parks	Regional: Holmes, Pioneers, & Antelope Parks; Community examples: Mahoney and Densmore	Parks & Recreation	General Fund, User Fees	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Operation and maintenance of community pools	Star City Shores, University Place, Highlands, Woods, & Eden	Parks & Recreation	User Fees, General Fund	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	"F" Steet and Belmont Community Centers human services		Parks & Recreation	General Fund, Fees	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality.	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Operation and maintenance of neighborhood pools	Airpark, Ballard, Belmont, Irvingdale, & Meadow Heights pools	Parks & Recreation	General Fund, User Fees	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Irving, Calvert, Air Park Recreation Centers fitness and leisure activities		Parks & Recreation	General Fund, Fees	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality.	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Design standard compliance (Downtown, AV, older neighborhoods)		Planning	General Fund	Encourage well-planned land use patterns and transportation systems	4	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Update development standards for neighborhood protection		Planning	General Fund	Encourage well-planned land use patterns and transportation systems	4	Livable Neighborhoods	4

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
1	Project Safe Neighborhoods		Police	DOJ Grants	Provide for safe, clean, & attractive neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Support to neighborhood watch/business watch		Police	General Fund	Provide for safe and clean neighborhoods to create desirable places to live.	1	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	Problem-oriented policing projects, Stronger Safer Neighborhoods		Police	General Fund, grants	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	Enforcement of public order offenses		Police	General Fund	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
2	Dispute resolution		Police	General Fund	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
3	Police response to non-criminal calls for service		Police	General Fund	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Parking and abandoned vehicle enforcement		Police	General fund, fees	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	Problem Resolution Team	Provides services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	Police, Health, Building & Safety	General Fund	Reduce neighborhood disorder: Provide services that abate nuisances, solve issues, resolve conflict, and supports the quality of life	2	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	First Time Homebuyer Loans		Urban Development		Create quality and diverse housing options and encourage redevelopment that respects and revitalizes older neighborhoods	3	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	HOME/affordable housing programs		Urban Development	HUD	Create quality and diverse housing options and encourage redevelopment that respects and revitalizes older neighborhoods	3	Livable Neighborhoods	4

Tier	Program	Description	Dept	Funding	Goal	Goal Priority	Outcome	Outcome Priority
1	Neighborhood Stabilization Program		Urban Development		Create quality and diverse housing options and encourage redevelopment that respects and revitalizes older neighborhoods	3	Livable Neighborhoods	4
1	Redevelopment (Neighborhood focus area plans, agreements, streetscapes) CDBG & TIF		Urban Development	CDBG and TIF	Create quality and diverse housing options and encourage redevelopment that respects and revitalizes older neighborhoods	3	Livable Neighborhoods	4
3	Non-profit public facility loans		Urban Development	CDBG	Provide community spaces and programs that enhance neighborhood vitality	5	Livable Neighborhoods	4