



**CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA**

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February 2, 2007

2015 Steering Committee - Jim Abel, Larry Arth, Wendy Birdsall, Mike Dunlap, Terry Fairfield, Tom Henning, Brad Korell, Marc LeBaron, Tonn Ostergard, Kent Seacrest, Roger Severin, and Tom Smith

% 2015 Group
1111 Lincoln Mall, #350
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Members of the 2015 Steering Group:

In October 2005, the Events Facility Task Force I appointed recommended that the State of Nebraska, State Fair Board, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, City of Lincoln, Lancaster County and Lancaster County Agricultural Society approach the issue of events-related physical facilities in a unified manner that produces an integrated plan.

The Task Force concluded that the Lincoln community would be well served by building an arena, a hotel/convention center and an exposition center in a planned sequence. The preferred location for a future arena and hotel/convention center is the west Haymarket District, the group reported.

In submitting their report to me, the Task Force members asked and I re-authorized them to continue pursuing their recommendations.

On November 9, 2006, the Task Force submitted to me a comprehensive second report that reaffirmed the initial report's conclusion that the West Haymarket is the right location for a new arena and hotel/convention center. The Task Force's November 9 report urged me to appoint a new citizen group to build on the Task Force's work by informing the community about the vision that has been developed.

That same month, the 2015 Vision Steering Committee hosted a news conference to share its vision for Lincoln. As you know, that vision calls for the private sector to come together with the public sector to achieve a set of "pillar" projects for the community. In the 2015 group's view, the West Haymarket initiative must be one of those pillars.

The 2015 Vision Action Plan calls for appointing individuals to chair volunteer groups committed to implementing each of the pillar projects. I applaud this practical approach to organizing a complex, challenging and exciting task.


In my view, the time is right for a new citizen group to build on the progress of the Events Task Force. I have decided to name the 2015 Vision group as the citizen group to continue the community work.

Kent Seacrest
February 2, 2007
Page 2

The 2015 Vision Group is growing in numbers and the participants are Lincoln citizens who care enough about the community to invest in its future. I am glad to see them organize and step forward. This community is built on public private partnerships because government cannot and should not do it all. I welcome the 2015 group as an active and engaged partner in continuing the expansion of Lincoln's economy.

I look forward to working with your group.

Sincerely,



Coleen J. Seng
Mayor of Lincoln

cc: Dick Campbell, Chairman, Mayor's Event Facility Task Force
Lincoln City Council
Event Facility Task Force members