

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY

May 11, 2015

Tracy Corr opened the meeting on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 5:35 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City/County/Building, in Lincoln, NE.

Attendance

Sixteen citizens and two staff attended:

Tracy Corr – 40 th & A NA	Jeff Schwebke -- Arnold Heights NA
Carl Tesch – Autumn Wood NA	Mark Kohler -- Capitol View NA
Rifka Keilson – Country Club NA	Ann Bleed – East Campus CO
Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge NA	Paula Rhian – Everett NA
Nick Hernandez -- Havelock NA	Myrna Coleman -- Highlands NA
Scott Richert – Indian Village NA	Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane Area RA
Nate Blum – Prescott Area NA	Mike DeKalb – University Place CO
Bill Vocasek – West A NA	Jon Carlson – Mayor's Office
Barb Fraser – Community Learning Centers	Mayor Beutler

Welcome & Introductions, Volunteer to Take Notes

Everyone introduced themselves. Paula Rhian volunteered to take notes.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Beutler reported that he and his staff are working on priorities to focus on for the next four years. He asked for input of suggested focus areas to be sent to his office the next month. Discussion was held about the positive things we are seeing from entrepreneurs and comments were made about the importance of the Community Learning Centers.

Prosper Lincoln

Robin McDannel with *Prosper Lincoln* presented on the *Vital Signs* update and the new *Prosper Lincoln* community wide effort to address the *Vital Signs* findings. Attached are the brochure and comment card. They are hoping to receive at least 5,000 suggestion cards. The cards will be compiled by the Public Policy Center and divided by interest area. Then the steering committee will determine where the most interest is and narrow down the initial targets to work on. People can submit the suggestion cards via mail or through the website, www.prosperlincoln.org. It was suggested that a newsletter blurb be prepared for all the neighborhoods to include in their next printing. Suggestion cards are to be turned in by July 1st. **See Attachment 1.**

Announcements

- May 28th is *Give to Lincoln Day*.
- The City's *Annual Action Plan* is out for public comment and available on their website. June 6th will be the public hearing.
- Flatwater Shakespeare Company will be performing all over Lincoln. **See Attachment 2.**
- Bike to Work Week is May 8-15. **See Attachment 3.**
- Party in the Parks events start this week. All events are listed on the website:
<http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/parks/about/partyintheparks.htm>
- Capitol Humane Society Tails and Trails walk in May 16th. See details on their website:
<http://www.capitalhumanesociety.org/events/index.html/event/2015/05/16/tails-n-trails-pet-walk-festival>

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable will be June 8th at 5:30 p.m. The topic will be determined.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:28PM.

Submitted by Paula Rhian



Prosper Lincoln: Discussion Guide

Thank You for Participating

Thank you for being part of the Prosper Lincoln initiative. Your energy and passion for the Lincoln community will help us engage others and lead to positive change. Please use this guide as a tool when talking to others and use it to collect ideas from all segments of the city.

Be Informed:

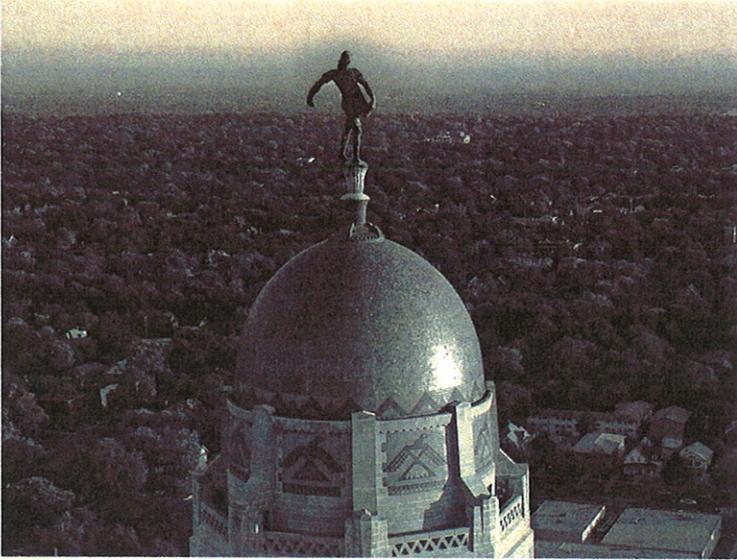
In early 2014, Lincoln philanthropic organizations, the business community, the City of Lincoln, and Lancaster County commissioned a report called Lincoln Vital Signs. The purpose was to create a shared understanding of our city, both its strengths and its challenges. Since its introduction, Vital Signs has been updated with two additional years of accumulated data. Three overarching findings continue to emerge from the report:

1. **Lincoln does many things exceptionally well.**
These successes should be nurtured. Lincoln is in an enviable position with its strong economy, highly educated workforce, strong public education system, high well-being, good health outcomes, and effective civic services.
2. **A growing proportion of Lincoln's population faces real need.** The number of people living below the poverty line has increased and median household incomes have declined. The increase is primarily due to families falling into poverty, not people in poverty moving here.
3. **Lincoln's children are particularly vulnerable.**
The face of poverty in our city is the face of a white child. More than 12,000 of our children, or 20% live in poverty—the largest percentage of any age group. That translates to 12,100 children. We have a higher rate of children in foster care than the national rate.

Get Involved:

Over the past year, dozens of conversations and meetings have taken place to share and discuss the findings from Lincoln Vital Signs. Now, there is a common sense of readiness to determine how to act upon these findings. The purpose of Prosper Lincoln is to bring the Lincoln Vital Signs report to life by identifying and reaching consensus on a shared community agenda for positive change in Lincoln.

1. Give your ideas. Fill out an Idea Card or go online www.ProsperLincoln.org
2. Talk with your friends and family and have them fill out a card
3. Go a bit further and talk with your networks, your work associates, church group, your neighbors, or your book club
4. Attend the breakfast May 12th.
5. Participate in Prosper Lincoln Week, week of June 14.



We are gathering all ideas for helping Lincoln Prosper! Each discussion group will collectively brainstorm ideas for each theme. Each participant will be asked to use the comment card to record their suggestions for the most impactful way Lincoln could address one or more themes.

Themes:

Prosper Lincoln is about gathering the best ideas for helping the Lincoln community prosper even more. Once you have identified who from your network you will engage and when, below are three themes that you can use to guide conversations and gather agenda item ideas.

1. Nurture youth success from cradle to career
2. Grow economic prosperity
3. Enhance quality of life

A. Discussion Questions

1. Theme: Nurture Youth Success from Cradle to Career

Trends in Lincoln:

- Increase in families in poverty
- Increase in graduation rate, but lower rates among minority and low income students
- High percentage of children with parents in the workforce

Discuss:

- In what ways does Lincoln already accomplish this goal?
- In what ways could Lincoln make progress in achieving this goal?

2. Theme: Grow Economic Prosperity

Trends in Lincoln:

- Low unemployment rate
- Since 2008, median household income (adjusted for inflation) has decreased 9%
- Highly educated workforce
- Growing population

Discuss:

- In what ways does Lincoln already accomplish this goal?
- In what ways could Lincoln make progress in achieving this goal?

3. Theme: Enhance Quality of Life

Trends in Lincoln:

- High overall physical, emotional, economic, mental well-being
- Low crime rate
- Strong neighborhoods

Discuss:

- In what ways does Lincoln already accomplish this goal?
- In what ways could Lincoln make progress in achieving this goal?

4. Across Theme Areas:

Thinking Big:

Big change happens when many people and organizations come together to take action.

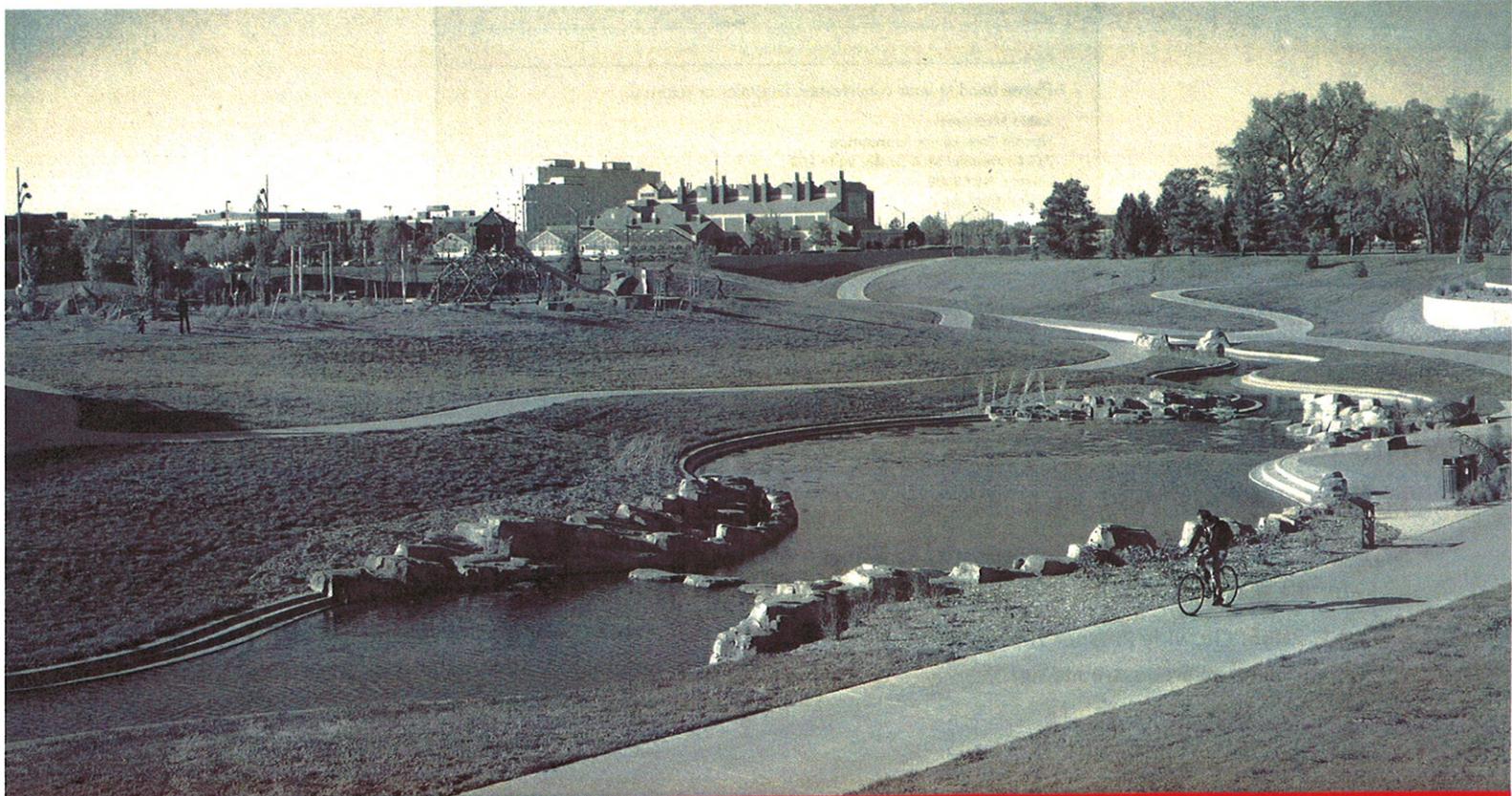
Discuss:

- What efforts have been impactful that required support across Lincoln to bring about a big change to our community?
- What is the most impactful action you can think of that would further one or more of the goals above?

B. Action (ask each group member to complete an idea card)

1. **WRITE IT DOWN!** Ask each participant to complete a card that gives us their suggestion for a big action our community should take to bring about big change!
2. **SPREAD THE WORD!** Invite participants to encourage friends to participate, individually or in discussion groups.

Collect the cards and return to Prosper Lincoln



Example of Idea Card:

Please go to www.prosperlincoln.org to print copies of the idea card to give to your discussion groups. We have some printed idea cards if you are unable to access the website. Please contact Robin McDannel. Call 402-474-2345 or email robinm@lcf.org.

Prosper Lincoln Idea Card 

What should our community do to ensure
youth are successful, our **economy grows**, and
our **community is strong and vibrant**?

Please provide your information to receive future email communications regarding Prosper Lincoln. Your ideas are kept confidential.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please hand to your conversation facilitator or return to:

Robin McDannel
Lincoln Community Foundation
215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 100
Lincoln, NE 68508
robinm@lcf.org

Give us your ideas online and learn more at:
www.ProspersLincoln.org

What's next?

- **May 12, 2015:** Prosper Lincoln kick-off event
- **May-July:** People across Lincoln participate and gather ideas for the shared community agenda
- **June 14, 2015:** Citywide Prosper Lincoln Week (Week of participation and awareness-building)
- **August:** Prosper Lincoln Steering Committee announces first community agenda items, and Working Groups begin to build action plans around the ideas
- **Fall:** Prosper Lincoln Culminating Summit to present final community action plan and share pledges and commitments to act

Flatwater Shakespeare Company – Summer 2015



Flatwater Shakespeare Company is continuing its summer touring program, Flatwater Free Shakespeare. Now in its 5th year, this year's production will be *As You Like It*. All performances will be offered free of charge.

Performances will be held at locations throughout Lincoln. All performances will begin at 7:00pm. Chairs will be provided at performances held at The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery. Patrons are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to the other locations.

Ivanna Cone will create a new ice cream flavor for *As You Like It*, and will donate free ice cream at all performances. Bottled water will be available for a suggested donation of \$1.

For more information, visit our website, www.flatwatershakespearecompany.org.

Performance Schedule

Thursday, June 4: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

Friday, June 5: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

Saturday, June 6: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

Sunday, June 7: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

Thursday, June 11: Bethany Park, 65th & Vine Streets

Friday, June 12: Cooper Park, S. 6th & D Streets

Saturday, June 13: Belmont Park, 12th & Judson

Sunday, June 14: Havelock Park, 64th & Ballard

Thursday, June 18: First Plymouth, 22nd and D Streets

Friday, June 19: James Arthur Vineyards, 2001 W Raymond Rd, Raymond

Saturday, June 20:* Trago Park, N. 22nd & U Streets

*the performance will follow the Juneteenth activities held during the day at Trago Park.

Sunday, June 21: Roberts Park, 56th & Sumner Street

Thursday, June 25: Densmore Park, 6761 S. 14th Street

Friday, June 26: LCF Garden, 14th & N Streets

Saturday, June 27: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

Sunday, June 28: The Stables at Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O Street

City Encourages Residents to "Bike to Work, Lincoln!"

The City of Lincoln is partnering with the local bicycling community to encourage residents to participate in Bike to Work Week, May 8 through 15. Two events are planned at the Jayne Snyder Trail Center in Union Plaza:

- A free Kickoff Rally is set for 7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday, May 8. Cyclists will meet at 7:15 a.m. at Cycle Works, 27th and Vine streets, and 7 a.m. at the Bike Rack, 3321 Pioneers Blvd., to bike as a group to Union Plaza for refreshments. Riders also are encouraged to ride to the Trails Center from their homes or workplaces.
- A free Ice Cream Social from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 15th will feature refreshments from the UNL Dairy Store and prize drawings.

The public can register for the activities and the prize drawing at these locations:

- Bike Rack, 3321 Pioneers Blvd.
- Cycle Works, 27th and Vine
- Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, 3140 "N" St.
- Lincoln Parks and Recreation, 2740 "A" St.

Bikers are strongly encouraged to wear helmets. The City also reminds residents that it is illegal to ride a bike on sidewalks in downtown and other congested districts. For more information, contact Mike Heyl, Public Health Educator, Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, at mhey1@lincoln.ne.gov or 402-441-3889.

Other related events coming up this summer including the following:

- The Great Plains Trails Network (GPTN) will host four free guided tours of Lincoln's trails as part of the "Tour de Lincoln" event. The tours will take place in all four quadrants of the City:
 - The southeast tour begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 14 at the Auld Recreation Center in Antelope Park.
 - The southwest tour begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 21 at the Auld Recreation Center.
 - The northeast tour begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 28 at the Jayne Snyder Trail Center in Union Plaza.
 - The northwest tour begins at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 6 at the Jayne Snyder Trail Center.

For more information, visit gptn.org.

- The 4th annual National Bike Challenge began May 1 and will continue through September 30. In the first three years, Lincoln placed third, first and second among communities with populations of 200,000 or more. In 2014, Lincoln had almost 1,500 registered riders bike about 807,000 miles. More information is available at nationalbikechallenge.org.
- The second annual "Bike to the Ball Park" event is Sunday, June 7. Cyclists who bike to Haymarket Park can see the Lincoln Saltdogs play the Wichita Wingnuts at 1:05 p.m. for just \$5. Activities in the stadium parking lot will feature displays from local bike vendors, free water bottles and a bike parade. The event is held in cooperation with the "Stay in the Game" program of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the Saltdogs. More information is available at saltdogs.com.
- The 13th annual "Trail Trek" is Sunday, June 28 at Haymarket Park. This celebration of Lincoln's trail system is led by the GPTN and the Lincoln Journal Star. Each participant will receive a shirt, a water bottle (first 1,000 entries), snacks and water and lunch at either Haymarket Park or Cortland. For registration and more information, visit journalstar.com/trailtrek.

More information on biking in Lincoln is available at bike.lincoln.ne.gov.