

# **DIRECTORS' ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**Monday, March 8, 2021**

**555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

## **I. MINUTES**

1. Approval of Directors' Minutes from March 1, 2021

## **II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

## **III. CITY CLERK**

## **IV. MAYOR'S OFFICE**

## **V. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE**

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

1. Final Action dated March 3, 2021

### **LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

1. Public Health Update provided by Pat Lopez, Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

## **VI. BOARDS/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS**

*Suspended until further notice*

## **VII. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Disapproval of 98 Unit Complex Hartley Neighborhood – Jeannie Sunday
2. Heard Immunity by April and today's Press Conference – Shawn Trucke
3. 21003 Gate House Row Apartments – Gayleen Hayes
4. Support for Climate Action Plan – Lorrie Benson
5. Climate Action Plan – Nancy Becker
6. Climate Action Plan – Barbara Michael
7. Climate Action Plan – Iana Novak
8. Climate Action Plan – Kathryn Bellman
9. Please do not extend the mask mandate – Nick Collen
10. 21003 Gate House Row Apartments – Donna Stokes
11. Wyuka Development – Cheryl Irwin

## PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION NOTIFICATION

**TO:** Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird  
Lincoln City Council

**FROM:** Geri Rorabaugh, Planning

**DATE:** March 3, 2021

**RE:** Notice of final action by Planning Commission: March 3, 2021

Please be advised that on March 3, 2021, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolutions:

**Resolution PC-01745**, approving USE PERMIT 19023A, to expand the use permit by approximately 0.3 acres, on property legally described as a portion of Lot 73, I.T., located in the W 1/2 of section of 26-9-7, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located at South 84th Street and Hayek Drive;

**Resolution PC-01746**, approving WAIVER 21001, to waive the 3-to-1, width-to-depth ratio requirement, on property legally described as Lot 3, Second Boston Addition to College View located in the NW 1/4 of Section 5-9-7, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located at 3239 South 46th Street.

The Planning Commission action on these applications is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a notice of appeal with the Planning Department within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission

The Planning Commission Resolution may be accessed on the internet at [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov) (search for "PATS"). Click on "Planning Application Tracking Service (PATS)" at the top of the page, click "Selection Screen" under "PATS Tools" on the right side of the screen, type in the application number (i.e. UP19023A, WVR21001), click on "Search", then "Select", and go to "Related Documents".

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## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** Jeannie Sunday <Sundayjvb24@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 02, 2021 6:52 PM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** DISAPPROVAL OF 98 UNIT COMPLEX HARTLEY NEIGHBORHOOD

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL.

WE ARE IN DIRECT OPPOSITION OF THE BUILDING OF 98 UNITS OF THE HARTLEY NEIGHBORHOOD. TRAFFIC THROUGH OUR NEIGHBORHOODS IS AT AN ALL TIME HIGH, AND PARKING AT TIMES ARE NONE. SOMETIMES WE HAVE TO PARK A HALF BLOCK AWAY TO GET TO OUR HOME. 98 UNITS WILL BE HUNDREDS OF ADDITIONAL PEOPLE, MAKING OUR STREETS MORE CONGESTED THAN THEY ALREADY ARE. BUILD IT SOMEWHERE ELSE WE REQUEST A CALL BACK ON THIS SITUATION AND WISH TO BE HEARD. MR. & MRS. BARBER ( 402-477-7661 ) THANK YOU.

## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** trucks1975 <trucks1975@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 02, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Cc:** Pat D. Lopez; Health  
**Subject:** Herd Immunity by April and today's press conference

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

When is the health dept going to level with the citizens of Lincoln? Every week it is more of the same, just a little more vaccines, just a little less infections, a little lower positivity rate...yet no concrete plan to return Lincoln to normal is ever provided. What kind of leaders like keeping people in limbo for almost a whole year now, restricted and masked up?

The health director contradicted herself today during the press conference (starting at 31:50 of the replay) stating that there is no set vaccine threshold that will allow us to remove the mask mandate, but rather that case counts and positivity rates are what matters, yet providing no hard numbers that would in fact allow for the removal of the mask mandate. Also, despite the fact she won't answer if our tests are/have been using too high of CT numbers resulting in false positives, and despite the fact that no one will answer how we calculate positivity rates, she then ends that answer circling right back to vaccines and that we just need more people to get them.

That is complete double speak. Which is it? Vaccines doses or case counts/positivity rates? Most of the reduction of case counts has nothing to do with vaccines as the downward trend started before the vaccines had been fully rolled out. That means case counts are just naturally falling, or we changed the CT numbers to artificially reduce the case counts.

Dr. Makary, a professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Bloomberg School of Public Health, says we will be at herd immunity in April.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/well-have-herd-immunity-by-april-11613669731>

Also, the outright lies being spread about still needing to wear a mask and distance after being vaccinated or after recovering from COVID must stop. Our health officials know better. The notion that you can still spread the virus even after being vaccinated is just one sign that health officials have no idea what they're doing, or are lying to us on purpose. That's not how vaccines work. You don't need to be a medical doctor to know that. Even after contracting COVID, the virus is dead after ten days, and it's at levels that cannot make you or others sick.

I have personally talked to local Lincoln doctors that confirm this and have no idea why these falsehoods are being propagated and have said this goes against all known medical knowledge and training.

When I hear Dr. Fauci and others state that there is a possibility that you could infect people even after getting the vaccine, there is only two possible scenarios to explain that.

1. The vaccine is NOT effective at all and we have been lied to about it.

2. The vaccine is effective but we are being told that it is not effective in order to instill fear and further justify the mandates and restrictions.

You can't have it both ways. The constant double speak from our health officials is astonishing. The narrative of the day is often completely opposite of what the data shows. We have been told for months that the vaccine was the key, and now, it does not even matter if you get one or not, as we will still not be allowed to return to normal. This is so wrong and the health dept knows it.

Also, why are we continuing to keep up the mask charade? Again, the narrative that they actually do any good goes contrary to the CDC's own reports on the matter. Why the continued blind faith in masks when the overwhelming evidence shows that case counts spike even after mask mandates are implemented?

A quote from a CDC report dated last May:

*“In our systematic review, we identified 10 RCTs that reported estimates of the effectiveness of face masks in reducing laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infections in the community from literature published during 1946–July 27, 2018. In pooled analysis, we found no significant reduction in influenza transmission with the use of face masks.”*

[https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994_article)

So, 7 decades of studies on this topic, but now, seemingly overnight, we are supposed to believe they magically work. How gullible do you have to be to believe this? They may block the very large respiratory droplets but they do almost nothing for the smaller aerosols that we constantly hear are the main culprit for the virus spread. Continued masking of healthy people, especially school age children, given the current state of things in Lincoln, is dead wrong and the medical community should be ashamed of themselves for keeping kids in masks for this long.

I am calling on city council to have the courage to stand up to the health dept and put a stop to the madness. The medical community at large has shown they will keep the hype and fear up as long as they possibly can no matter the collateral damage. No more vague, ambiguous answers or timelines. Other areas of the state and nation are returning to normal and it is time we have a concrete plan to get Lincoln back to normal ASAP.

We also must have a “Never Again” attitude so that we never find ourselves in this situation again.

Shawn Trucke

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** Gayleen Hayes <dogsghayes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 02, 2021 7:11 PM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** 21003 Gate House Row apartments

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

My name is Gayleen Hayes and I reside at 3534 R street and have for the past 30 years. What this proposal means to me is continued traffic up and down my street, cars parked up and down the street.

There are 3 streets that will take the brunt of this added traffic and mine is one of them. I have worked long and hard to make my 100 year old house into a home and add something to the character of the neighborhood. How would you react to 64% added traffic in your neighborhood? Please take a second look at this proposal , save the integrity of my neighborhood.

Thank you for your time.

Gayleen Hayes  
Sent from my iPad

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** Lorrie Benson <lorriebenson2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** support for Climate Action Plan

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council Members,

I strongly support the proposed Climate Action Plan. Climate change is the single largest threat to Lincoln's present and future, and must be addressed now with bold and ambitious plans.

I know it will be challenging, but I'm confident of three things: Lincolniters can do what's required, you'll have many willing hands to help get the job done, and the results will make Lincoln a more attractive place to live and do business.

This is a moral and spiritual imperative. Thank you for considering my comments.

Lorrie Benson  
7100 Holmes Park Rd, #103  
Lincoln 68506

## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** Lorrie Benson <lorriebenson2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 10:17 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** support for Climate Action Plan

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Members of the Lincoln City Council:

The First-Plymouth Church Climate Action Team supports the proposed City of Lincoln Climate Action Plan. Climate change is the largest threat the city faces because it impacts every aspect of our community, including public health and safety, businesses and the local economy, infrastructure, fairness and justice, and overall quality of life.

Because we believe God calls us to protect all God's creation, including people and planet, we encourage you to be bold and ambitious and vote to approve the Climate Action Plan. We are optimistic we can address climate change and improve quality of life for all Lincoln citizens if we work together.

Thank you for considering our comments.

For the First-Plymouth Church Climate Action Team

Lorrie Benson, Chair

7100 Holmes Park Rd, #103

Lincoln 68506

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** Nancy Becker <nbecker180@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 10:51 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** Climate Action Plan

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I would like to offer my support for the proposed Climate Action Plan you will be addressing at the March 22 hearing. As a lifelong, now retired, educator with LPS, I am concerned about the threat the climate crisis brings to our community. It is my hope the Climate Action Plan will educate the Lincoln community and bring change to our city.

Nancy Becker

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** Barbara Michael <Babsie0626@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 10:54 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** Climate Action Plan

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I support this plan. Action is needed not just for us but for generations to come.  
Barbara Michael  
4711 Old Cheney Road #20

Sent from my iPhone

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** lana novak <llmnovak@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 11:26 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** climate action plan

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hope you will be supporting the climate action plan.

We will ALL need clean air, clean water and good soils to raise some of our own food. Hope more decisions are made FOR THE PEOPLE and what people really need and not just for the PROFIT of a few companies...

Thank you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**Angela M. Birkett**

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**From:** Kathryn Bellman <kathryn.bellman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** Lincoln City Council

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please support a climate action plan for the city. By being prepared and informed the city will be able to take steps to ensure the safety and well being of residents and infrastructure before a crisis develops. We should also encourage and develop sustainable alternate energy resources wherever feasible. Thank you for your consideration,

Respectfully, Kathryn Bellman

## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** nickc@ieselectricinc.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 8:47 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** PLEASE DO NOT EXTEND THE MASK MANDATE. THIS HAS GONE ON FOR FAR TO LONG ALREADY.

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Pubic Servants,

This has got to stop. In life there is always risk. People and businesses are smart enough to decide whether or not to wear a mask or make their customers wear a mask to come into their establishments. The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County do not need to make that decision for private citizens and business owners.

**Nick Collen**  
**402-890-7874**  
**Operations Manager | Project Manager | Estimator**



## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** Donna Stokes <donnas20@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 9:05 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** Appeal

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am emailing to oppose the Special Permit 21003 Gate House Row Apartments.

I live at 3411 R Street.

I oppose 98 units being built due to the increased traffic in our small neighborhood. There aren't enough parking spaces being allocated for each unit. 1.4 is NOT enough. For example, there is a duplex beside me and currently, there are 7 vehicles associated with those 2 units. Imagine if that was the case for these units or even half that many. I also am concerned about non running cars littering the streets around the neighborhood. This has been an issue in the past also.

The increased traffic is a great concern. There are many children in the neighborhood with a grade school close by. Traffic travels way too fast with no streets protected by stop signs. 35th and 34th streets are shortcuts between O St and Vine and traffic goes 30-35 most of the time without slowing down at intersections.

The original plan was for 48 units and it's increased to 98!!! To me, that is pure greed!!! Nothing else. I understand the need to affordable housing but why can't some current housing units lower their charge for rent? I'd like to know what the income levels for these units will be and what the rents will be. I hope and pray they will NOT be section 8 housing!

48-54 units is acceptable. 98 units is NOT acceptable!

Thank you for letting me voice my concerns,

Sincerely,  
Donna Stokes.

## Angela M. Birkett

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**From:** rcirwin@windstream.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 9:46 AM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Cc:** Cheryl Alberts Irwin  
**Subject:** Wyuka development  
**Attachments:** Wyuka ltr.docx

**[CAUTION]** This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Honorable Lincoln City Council,

The City's goal to increase low-income housing is well-intended. However, the Gatehouse Rows proposal for the west end of Wyuka Cemetery is not in the best interests of residents in the Hartley Neighborhood, nor in the best interests of neighborhoods where future units might be built. Please consider whether this development in this location is even in the best interests of central Lincoln.

These are the main concerns:

1. Crowded housing (98 units/4 acres of useable land; greenspace is noted, although negligible)
2. Gatehouse guests, some tenants (1.4 vehicles/unit) would be forced to park in existing neighborhoods)
3. Side street traffic increase, posing safety hazards
4. Vine Street traffic increase, posing safety hazards
5. More concrete – much more --increasing water flow during high rain and snow events, potential low-land flooding

A handy function exists in Word formatting. One can 'Make it fit' by selecting text that runs over a page. "Make it fit" will format the selected text nicely on one page. However, 'make it fit' should not be an option for this Gatehouse project in Wyuka.

Lastly, visitors, family and funeral parties go to Wyuka Cemetery to pay respects to loved ones and hold graveside services. The sights, sounds and activities surrounding 98 high-rise apartment units across the way would distract from the peaceful environment; as well as potentially encourage more foot and vehicle traffic in the cemetery proper. This is disrespectful of the deceased and their loved ones. Some deceased have been in Wyuka a century; do not disturb them.

Please do not approve this development as it now stands. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Irwin

3274 Merrill St.

Lincoln, NE 68503

402-464-7955 H

Lincoln City Council,

The City's goal to increase low-income housing is well-intended. However, the Gatehouse Rows proposal for the west end of Wyuka Cemetery is not in the best interests of residents in the Hartley Neighborhood, nor in the best interests of neighborhoods where future units might be built. Please consider whether this development in this location is even in the best interests of central Lincoln.

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Sincerely,  
Cheryl Irwin  
3274 Merrill St.  
Lincoln, NE 68503  
402-464-7955 H