

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

Via Zoom Monday, September 12, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions

Tracy Corr, Chair, began the meeting with introductions. Paul Johnson volunteered to take notes.

Attendance

Neighborhood Associations:

- Tracy Corr – 40th & A
- Gloria Eddins – Clinton
- Richard Piersol – Country Club
- Paul Johnson – ECCO
- Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge
- Greg Baker - Everett
- Pat Stear - Hartley
- Andy Gueck – Indian Village
- Pat Bracken – Irvingdale
- Geri Cotter - Irvingdale
- Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane
- Carmen Maurer – Near South
- Haider Al Haider – NeighborWorks
- Chelsea Egenberger – NeighborWorks
- Tut Kailech – NeighborWorks
- Teresa Thompson – UPCO
- Bill Vocasek – West A
- Russel Miller – Witherbee
- Randy Smith – Woods Park

Staff:

- Sarah Mason - KLLCB
- Alex Gorynski – LCF (presenter)
- Stacey Hoffman – UNL (presenter)
- Jon Carlson – Mayor's Office
- Wynn Hjermstad – Urban Development

Mayor Gaylor Baird's Comments (given by Jon Carlson on behalf of the Mayor who was unable to attend):

- COVID is stable – numbers are down. There will be a press conference to announce the availability of the new booster.

- There have been some recent homicides, but violent crime is down. The main crime in the city is auto burglaries.
- Rent and Utility Assistance Program is winding down will be done by the end of the year. The program is only providing assistance for those who have not received previous assistance.
- Leadership Lincoln is hosting Mayor's State of the City on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:30am.

Lincoln Vital Signs – Alec Gorynski, President and CEO, Lincoln Community Foundation: alecg@lcf.org, 402-474-2345; Janell Walther, PhD, Sr. Research Manager University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, ppc.nebraska.edu: Jwalther2@nebraska.edu, 402-472-2762; Stacey J. Hoffman, PhD, Senior Research Manager, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center: shoffman3@unl.edu, 402-472-4673.

Lincoln Vital Signs has been providing a comprehensive picture of the socio-economic state of our community and its neighborhoods since 2004. The Lincoln Community Foundation on behalf of its partner funders, along with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, will present the most recent findings from the recently published Lincoln Vital Signs. **See attached PowerPoint presentation.**

- LincolnVitalSigns.org – ProsperLincoln.org
- Data is Broad overview from public sources. Trailing indicators through 2019; does not include pandemic period. Tracking long-term trends
- Community profile – population growing, older citizens growing fastest. Newcomers drive the growth. Most are white, but 21% are non-white.
 - Percent of population below poverty threshold. Baseline date of 2008, rose & didn't drop to 2008 level until 2019
 - Three census tracts below poverty level
- Children – largest concentration in areas south of downtown
- Economy & Workforce
 - High workforce participation (72%)
 - Low unemployment (4.2%)
 - Cost of living – 94% of national average
- Education
 - High rates of proficiency compared to rest of Nebraska, but drop from COVID
 - Graduation rates are also higher than rest of Nebraska & national rates
 - Free/Reduced public school lunch program enrollees increasing
- Health
 - Lancaster Co life expectancy it about 80 yrs. Some census tracts are much lower
 - Lower deaths due to cancer, heart disease
 - Births to teen mothers – trending lower, following national trends
 - Youth alcohol & cigarette rates are declining
 - Youth marijuana use steady, but lower than national
- Crime
 - Youth Crime rates in drug & property crimes are higher than national rate
 - General crime is lower than national

Questions / comments:

Are mental health trends being tracked? Not very good data.

Many positive trends in the data.

City has many disparities.

Data & presentation is more complete on the website.

Announcements

- Streets Alive taking place in the UPCO neighborhood.
- Shout out to the LPD after the shootings on “T” Street.
- NeighborWorks Opening Doors Awards – September 22 @ 4:00PM at the Lincoln Children’s Zoo.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection – 9/24 @ Star City Shores 9:00 am – 1:00 p.m.
Permanent site open September 1 on the third Thursday of every month. Website - Haztogo.com

Next Meeting / Agenda

There will be no meeting in October.

Next meeting in November we will discuss Flood Control.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Johnson