



Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 18th, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

555 S 10th Street Luxford Studio

- I. Approval of Directors Meeting Minutes from September 11th, 2023
- II. City Clerk Advisories
 - i. Public Comments will be held tonight.
- III. Mayor's Advisories
- IV. Director's Advisories
- V. City Council: Commissions, Committees, and Event Updates
- VI. Post-Meeting Council Members Calls to City Directors
- VII. **Adjournment** - Next Directors Meeting - October 2nd, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Correspondence - Online for Review

- I. Directorial Correspondence
 - i. BP230913 - 1 AA Weekly Approvals City - Jennifer McDonald
- II. Constituent Correspondence
 - i. Fwd: Woods Park/Tennis Proposal - Jane Holt
 - ii. Vote YES for the Local Food System Plan - Alexis Hansen
 - iii. Grant Daily - Letter of Support for Food System Plan - Grant Daily

The Directors Meeting Agendas and Minutes may be accessed online at:
<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/City-Council/Directors-Minutes-Agendas>

Memorandum

Date: September 13, 2023
To: City Clerk
From: Clara McCully, Planning Dept.
Re: Administrative Approvals
cc: Shelli Reid, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from September 5, 2023, through September 11, 2023:

AA23051 to Change of Zone 16036A for the Wilderness Hills Planned Unit Development, was approved by the Planning Director on September 5, 2023, to allow light trespass up to 3.2 footcandles vertically and 2 footcandles horizontally between the internal lot lines of Lots 5A, 5B, and 6, generally located at the southeast corner of S. 27th Street and Yankee Hill Road.

From: [Jane Holt](#)
To: [Council Packet](#)
Subject: Fwd: Woods Park/Tennis Proposal
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 6:28:44 PM

September 11, 2023

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

Over the years, Lincoln's community leaders have emphasized the importance of maintaining the quality and vitality of our neighborhoods—especially our older and historic neighborhoods. Lincoln's aspirational thinking regarding these values is commendable and wise.

A recurring conflict of interest at Woods Park is challenging those commendable values, though. The Woods Park Tennis Center is seeking the city's approval for another proposed expansion of the tennis complex. This expansion—like the previous ones—will destroy park green space by adding more buildings and another parking lot. In fact, over 50 mature trees would be removed...in a park that just got an Arboretum status this spring.

Because it is located in one of Lincoln's densest and most culturally diverse areas, keeping Woods Park green and open is good for the health of the citizens as well as the health of the city. Yet, the history of Woods Park has been one of incremental downsizing of green space available to the neighborhoods that surround the park and the community at large. When Woods Park was created in 1948, the population of Lincoln was around 98,000. With the present population three times that number, the park's remaining green space is more valuable and more necessary now than it was then.

It must be noted that the number of citizens who surround and utilize this park far exceeds the number of tennis players in the city of Lincoln. And, with the city's push for affordable housing, the Gatehouse Row—98 new housing units just west of Wyuka—will bring in at least 200 new neighbors. Woods Park is an easy 10-minute walk from those condos, while most of the tennis users drive to the facility.

By what rationale, then, would the city of Lincoln allow a private and well-connected special interest to again expand their presence and eat into the well utilized green space of this public park?

Our contention is not with the tennis center's overall mission or its current footprint. Our concern is that Woods Park has sacrificed more than its share of valuable green space. That is why our committee is adamantly opposed to any further destruction of green space, whether it be for the tennis center or another entity.

We are counting on the support of our city's leadership in order to preserve Woods Park for now and for the future. Enough is enough. We have attached two images—of Woods Park now and of the park, if the tennis plan were to pass. Both are from the 33rd-Street entrance. We look forward to knowing where you stand on this.

Signed,

The Woods Park: Keep It Green committee

Carole Curry Mike Kreikemeier Heidi Uhing

Ward Curry Amy Miller Gary Wells

Steve DeLair Patti Nielsen Mary Anne Wells

Lisa Gengenbach Mary Kay Roth

Jane Holt Mary Schwab



From: [Alexus Hansen](#)
To: [Council Packet](#)
Subject: Vote YES for the Local Food System Plan
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:25:32 PM

Dear Members of the Lincoln City Council,

I write to you to express my support for the Local Food System Plan that is coming before you for your consideration on September 18th.

As a resident of Lincoln who has a direct interest in the safety and reliability of our food supply, I ask you to approve the Local Food System Plan.

I support the Local Food System Plan because I am passionate about not only sustainable agricultural practices but also food sovereignty within communities. From my perspective as a Hydroponic Specialist and UNL graduate (I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences with minors in Plant Biology and Environmental Science), I would like to see more community gardening, implementation of regenerative agriculture practices, and increased accessibility to fresh, safe, and nutrient dense food to improve resiliency, sustainability, and support the many people going hungry in our community.

As we all eat, we all have a vital stake in ensuring the security of our food supply. Planning a resilient *local* food system will put food production back in the center of our lives, strengthening the ties that connect us as a community. Thank you for your support of this Food System Plan.

Sincerely,
Alexus Hansen
Hydroponic Specialist
Biological Scientist

From: [Grant Daily](#)
To: [Council Packet](#)
Subject: Grant Daily - Letter of Support for Food System Plan
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 11:00:48 PM

Dear Members of the Lincoln City Council,

I write to you to express my support for the Local Food System Plan that is coming before you for your consideration on September 18th. As a resident of Lincoln/Lancaster County who has a direct interest in the safety and reliability of our food supply, I ask you to approve the Local Food System Plan.

I support the Local Food System Plan because it provides a guide towards addressing our local food insecurity problems, showing how we can make our community more climate resilient, economically successful, and ultimately, support a good quality of life for residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County.

As mentioned in the plan, 90% of the food Lincolniters eat is imported from outside the state, and local grocery stores/restaurants stock just three days of inventory. Our globalized food system provides a lot of variety, but it is extremely carbon intensive, is not structured to withstand supply chain stocks (such as COVID-19 or poor harvests caused by drought conditions), is not resilient to climate change, and currently fails to provide adequate nutrition to low-income residents or those located in food deserts. Taking steps to bolster our local food system support a community that is more prepared for current climatic shifts, improve food access, and will support local entrepreneurs. People visit, and stay, in communities with strong "food cultures", and quality, locally produced ingredients are a cornerstone of local food economies.

From my perspective as a Community/City Planner (working for the City of Omaha), I can attest that developing a food system plan brings us into current practice alongside communities such as Lawrence, KS, Minneapolis, MN, and Burlington, VT, who have already developed local food system plans. The American Planning Association has established a Food Systems Division, which advances food system planning as a core area of community and regional planning practice. Identifying goals for our local food system through this plan has been helpful in informing the more traditional planning practices of land use, transportation, economic development, parks and recreation, and housing.

As we all eat, we all have a vital stake in ensuring the security of our food supply. Planning a resilient local food system will put food production back in the center of our lives, strengthening the ties that connect us as a community. Thank you for your support of this Food System Plan.

Sincerely,

Grant W. Daily, MCRP, AICP
Community Planner
(Lincoln resident, City Planner in Omaha)