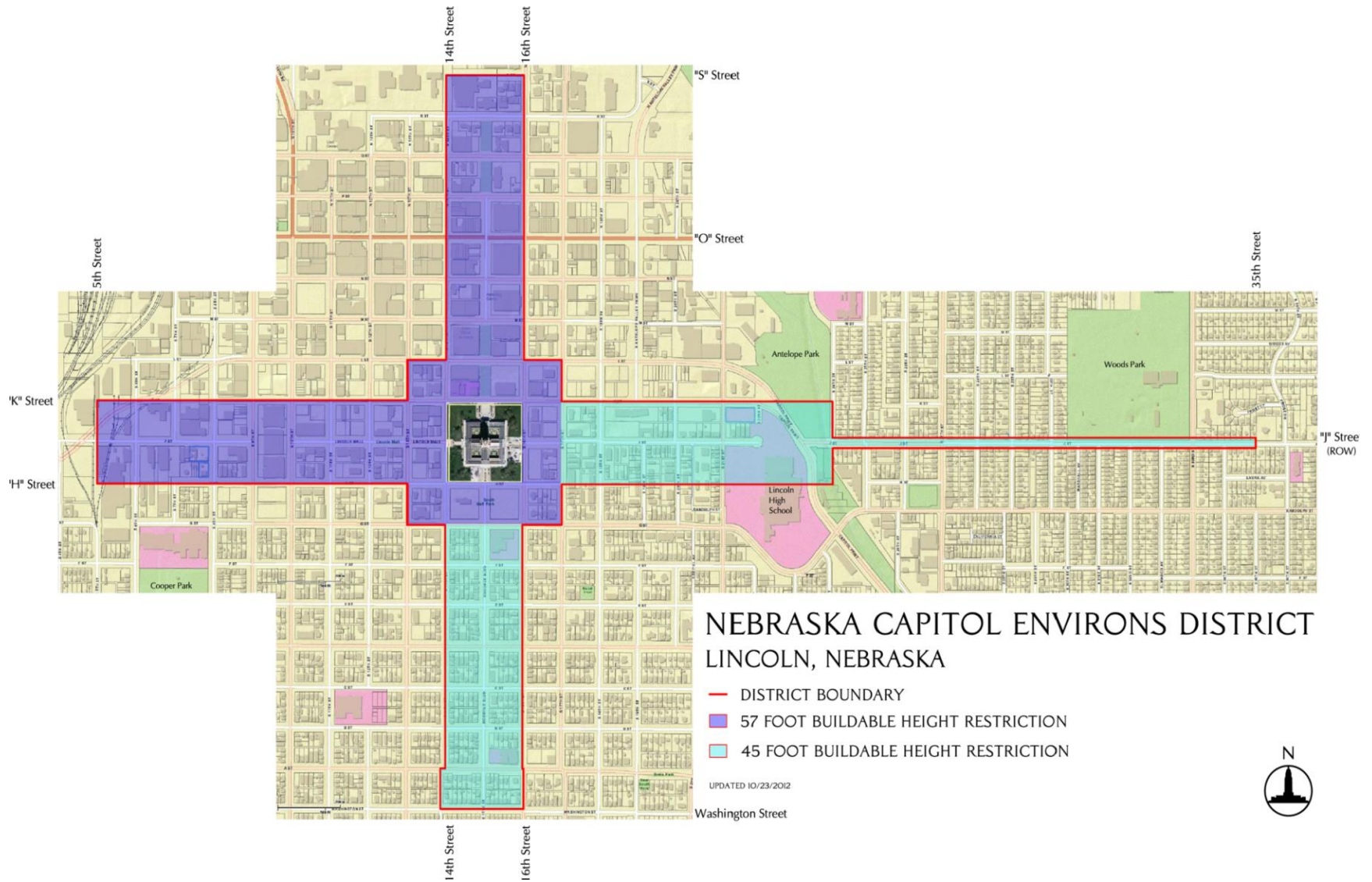


Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission - Annual Report 2019



The Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission was established in 1988 to strengthen existing protections for the setting of Nebraska's landmark State Capitol. The Commission's voting membership of seven citizen volunteers includes five members appointed by the City of Lincoln and two appointed by the State of Nebraska.

In 2019 Chairman Jeff Searcy completed 22 years of dedicated service on the Commission. Gene Crump and John Sinclair finished their terms as well. Kile Johnson, JD, accepted the Commission's election to chair the board. Heidi Cuca was appointed by Governor Ricketts. David Quade and Delonte Johnson were appointed by the City of Lincoln, bringing the Commission back to full strength, joining Commissioners Mary

Campbell (vice-chair), Karen Nalow, and Ann Post. The seven appointed citizen members are assisted by three *ex officio* members—Bob Ripley of the Office of the Capitol Commission (for the State of Nebraska), the director of Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department (David Cary), and Lynn Johnson (director of Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department). Staffing is provided by the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department, including planners Stacey Groshong Hageman and Ed Zimmer and administrative assistant Teresa McKinstry.

The Commission is required to meet at least quarterly by Section 27.56.060 of the Lincoln Municipal Code. The Commission met seven times in 2019.

Project Reviews

The Commission reviewed several widely varied projects in the Environs District in 2019.

In February, the Commission approved a skywalk link between the two Farmers Mutual buildings on their headquarters block on Lincoln Mall and South 13th Street. Application for the building permit for the link was received in late October and construction has begun.



Design for Farmers Mutual skywalk on Lincoln Mall at South 13th Street

In June, the Commission reviewed and approved updated concepts for an outdoor play area for Lincoln Children’s Museum at Centennial Mall and P Street.



LCM East Lot | FUTURE SCREENING STUDY
28 JUNE 2019 SCALE:1/4"

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LCM East Lot | BIRDSYE
28 JUNE 2019 SCALE:1/4"

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Photo-simulation of proposed outdoor play area at Lincoln Children’s Museum, Centennial Mall at P Street

Study of screening concepts between Centennial Mall and Lincoln Children’s Museum

In July, the Commission made recommendations regarding a major economic development proposal at Highway 77 and Bluff Road, north of Interstate 80, with suggestions for enhancing the development while respecting a premiere vista to the State Capitol tower on Lincoln’s skyline.

In August the Commission was pleased to approve a plan by NeighborWorks Lincoln to construct a duplex across South 21st Street from Lincoln High School on the east boundary of the Environs District.

Duplex proposed for 641-647 South 21st Street



Front
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Chief Standing Bear at the United States Capitol



The Nebraska's Capitol Environs District and Commission has had impact in 2019 well beyond its boundaries. The Chief Standing Bear monument, installed on Centennial Mall in 2017, resulted in a second casting of the sculpture by Ben Victor, installed at the Ponca Headquarters in 2018. A third



and final casting was placed in the U. S. Capitol in September 2019, representing Nebraska in Statuary Hall.