



# NEBRASKA CAPITOL ENVIRONS COMMISSION

The Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission will hold a meeting on **Friday, August 25, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.** in the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, in **City Council Chambers** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. For more information, please contact the Lincoln City/Lancaster County Planning Department at 402-441-7491.

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## AGENDA

September 22, 2023

1. Approval of meeting record from [August 25, 2023](#)

### **Discuss & Advise**

2. LES work at [332 Centennial Mall](#)
3. Staff report & miscellaneous

**ACCOMMODATION NOTICE:** *The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public's access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights at 402-441-7624, or the City Ombudsman at 402-441-7511, as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request.*

<https://linclanc.sharepoint.com/sites/PlanningDept-Boards/Shared Documents/Boards/NCEC/Agendas/2023/092223.docx>

## NEBRASKA CAPITOL ENVIRONS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

APPLICATION NUMBER	N/A
APPLICATION TYPE	N/A
ADDRESS/LOCATION	332 Centennial Mall S/1501 M Street
HEARING DATE	September 22, 2023 (discussion only at this time)
ADDITIONAL MEETINGS	N/A
APPLICANT	Michael Weskamp, 402-473-3274, <a href="mailto:mweskamp@les.com">mweskamp@les.com</a>
STAFF CONTACT	Collin Christopher, 402-441-6370, <a href="mailto:cchristopher@lincoln.ne.gov">cchristopher@lincoln.ne.gov</a>

### RECOMMENDATION: DISCUSSION ONLY

#### Summary of Request

In an effort to serve added load demands in the area – such as the redevelopment of the Pershing block, LES is planning to complete work between the State parking garage (1501 M Street) and the Scottish Rite building (332 Centennial Mall S). As it relates to the purview of the Capitol Environs Commission, this work would include the addition of a new utility cabinet that would be located just east of the Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte sculpture.

At this point the proposal is for discussion only, but the Commission is being asked to weigh in on the proposal and its impact on Centennial Mall.

#### Compatibility with the Design Standards

Guideline 18.12 provides clear direction on how utilities should be treated in relation to the malls. While the work completed as part of the Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte sculpture installation provides some screening of this equipment from Centennial Mall, the question in front of the Commission is whether additional screening should be required and what form that screening should take.

#### Guideline 18.12:

Utilities, dumpsters, service areas, and the like should be located as inconspicuously as possible, and screened from Capitol Square and the Malls with permanent materials which are compatible with the adjacent buildings.

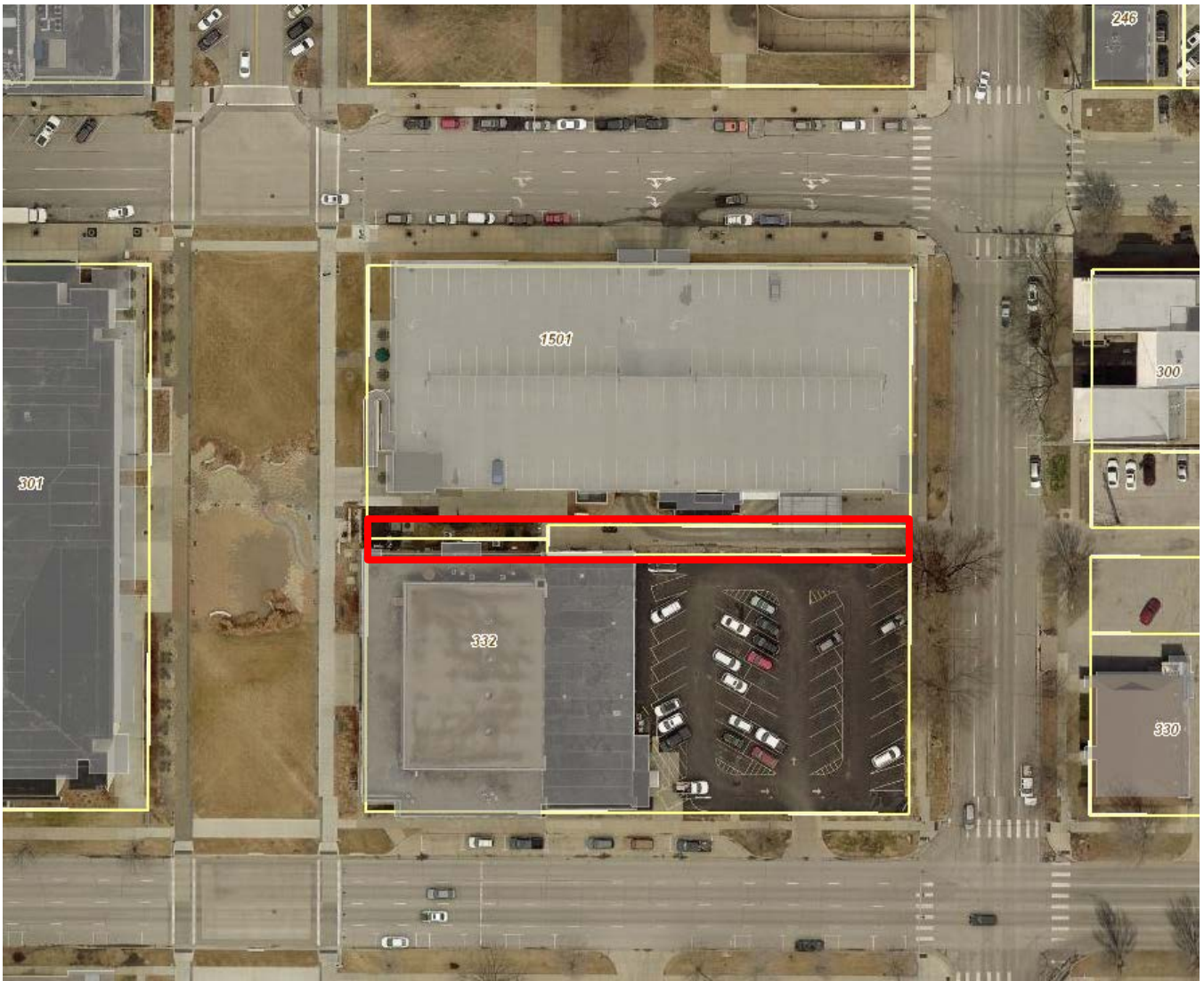
#### Recommendations

This item is for discussion only at this time. To help facilitate this discussion, staff has included photographs of the existing conditions of the corridor. What those photos articulate is that the Picotte sculpture and its associated limestone and landscaped backdrop do provide some level of screen for the proposed utility equipment. However, they also show that the equipment would not be screened from certain angles, and that there is already a significant collection of existing equipment in this area today. Further complicating the

matter, it is Planning's understanding that this corridor has significant underground utilities running through it that would make additional landscape plantings a challenge.

The Commission should consider the applicant's request and provide guidance on how to meet the intent of the Capitol Environs Design Standards.

ATTACHMENT A – Location Map



ATTACHMENT B – Photo of Proposed Utility Cabinet Location



ATTACHMENT C – Existing Conditions Photos







