

# MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

Via Zoom Monday, November 14, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

## Meeting Notes

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### Welcome and Introductions

Paul Johnson volunteered to take notes.

### Attendance

- Mayor Gaylor Baird

Neighborhood Associations:

- Tracy Corr – 40<sup>th</sup> & A
- Gloria Eddins – Clinton
- Mary Reeves - Clinton
- Richard Piersol – Country Club
- Paul Johnson – ECCO
- Greg Baker - Everett
- Andy Gueck – Indian Village
- Geri Cotter - Irvingdale
- Carmen Maurer – Near South
- Chelsea Egenberger – NeighborWorks
- Teresa Thompson – UPCO
- Fred Frytag - Witherbee
- Randy Smith – Woods Park

Staff:

- Sarah Mason – KLLCB
- Sandra Washington – City Council
- Liz Elliot – LTU (Presenter)
- Donna Garden – LTU (Presenter)
- Tim Zach – LTU (Presenter)
- Jon Carlson – Mayor's Office
- Wynn Hjermstad – Urban Development

### Mayor Gaylor Baird's Comments:

**Flood Protection Updates** – Mayor Gaylor Baird and City Stormwater Team (See attached PowerPoint and information sheet)

- Thanks to LTU staff that have been working on the flood control project.
- City takes the position that this is a matter of Public safety and needs to be addressed immediately.

- Rainfall changes have changed the flood prone areas in Lincoln. FEMA is working on updating flood maps; this will be a 5-8 year project.
- Workshops and studies have been conducted for several years. Feedback has been sought from the public and other developer groups.
- City has proposed that projects in flood plain must be 1 ft over the current building requirements.
- FEMA has estimated increased costs for development.
- Development community wants to wait on additional changes for additional study results and comments.
- Mayor and City Team think that it's time for action.

Tim Zach – Superintendent of LTU Stormwater:

- Flood maps are out of date due to changes in precipitation from climate change.
- Two major guideline changes:
  - Freeboard Standards – Factor of safety between flood level and bottom floor of structures.
  - Stream Corridors – Properly sized corridor around the channels in Lincoln.
    - Current criteria is complicated and new criteria is much simpler.
- 84% of City is not in a flood plain, but we must protect the 16% that is in flood plain.
- Only construction activity within or immediately adjacent to floodplain area is impacted.
  - Includes new construction and existing property in which more than 50% of property cost is in improvement costs.
- How else are properties being helped?
  - Structural stormwater improvements
  - Master Plan includes improvements
- Flood & Water Quality Protection – Current projects: Dead Man's Run, Watershed Master Plan
  - Started in Oct 2017 thru present with meetings, studies and feedback
  - Salt Creek Resiliency Study – 2019-2021
    - One study recommendation is change in standards.
    - 2022 changes include temporary 2 ft freeboard requirement until new flood maps are created.
- Implementation
  - Adopt flood protection and water quality updated -60 days after City Council approval
  - New floodplain maps
  - Continue additional Salt Creek resiliency study
- Questions
  - If any portion of a property is in floodplain, then flood insurance required?
    - Survey can map where the structure is and that is what is being insured.
    - New Standards require entire area of development to be raised.
  - Will the strategies be reviewed when new maps are developed?
    - Yes.
  - Will standards be reviewed & reevaluated on a regular basis?
    - Discussion about doing that.

- Comments
  - Changing standards are based on 100-year floodplain; doesn't make the property flood proof.
- Are stormwater ponds/lakes offsetting the need for changing standards?
  - The lakes protect downstream properties and so don't change need for higher standards for property in the development.

**Announcements:**

- Resident organizing around affordable, quality, accessible housing issues, and Housing Advocate Potluck, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 p.m., NeighborWorks Meeting Room, 2530 Q, Parking and entrance off alley.
  - Mary Reeves, Clinton Neighborhood Organization, discussed several projects and concerns with affordable housing & transportation options in Lincoln.
  - City of Lincoln Solid Waste Management Recycling has "What Bin Does It Go In" link with searchable wizard.
- Scooters comment – the scooters are becoming a nuisance by being left scattered throughout the city.
  - Homeless individuals on sidewalk – Do not desire to go to shelter, but their belongings are encroaching on the sidewalks and impeding passage.
  - Question about should we go back to holding in-person meetings? A poll will be sent out to get opinions on this.

**Next Meeting / Agenda**

Next meeting suggested topics are the homeless population and more discussion about the scooters.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Paul Johnson*