

# MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

Via Zoom Monday, December 14, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

## Meeting Notes

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### Attendance

Fifteen residents and six City staff attended.

Tracy Corr – 40th & A NA  
Richard Piersol -- Country Club NA  
Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge NA  
Pat Stear – Hartley NA  
Andy Gueck -- Indian Village NA  
Fred Frytag -- Witherbee NA  
Lindsay Limbaugh – Community Learning Ctrs.  
Ann Post – Home Builders Assoc. of Lincoln  
Jon Carlson -- Mayor's Office  
Tim Byrne – Lincoln Transportation & Utilities  
Mayor Gaylor Baird

Gloria Eddins – Clinton CO  
Paul Johnson -- East Campus CO  
Paula and Greg Baker -- Everett NA  
Sue Burkey – Hartley NA  
Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane RA  
Randy Smith -- Woods Park NA  
James Michael Bowers -- City Council  
Dan Marvin - Urban Development Dept  
Wynn Hjermstad – Urban Development Dept  
Rachel Jones - Planning Department

### Welcome and Introductions

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

### Mayor Gaylor Baird's Comments

The Mayor expressed condolences to group concerning Mike DeKalb's passing. She also expressed her condolences to Tracy. 2020 has been a difficult year, but with the first of the vaccine being administered today, future will be brighter. COVID evaluation factors have been improving, but we all need to continue the precautions that help control COVID spread. The holidays will be hard this year, but next year will be better.

On a positive note, the street construction and improvements undertaken this year are making the city a better place to live.

### Short Term Rentals

Rachel Jones, Planner, Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Dept., 402-441-7603; [rjones@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:rjones@lincoln.ne.gov).

In early 2020, the City hosted public open houses to gather input on efforts to establish new regulations for short-term rentals. Planning Department staff is currently working on a proposal. The intent is to get the proposal to the public in early 2021 for additional comments. Please see the website for information on the previous discussion draft at <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/Home> (search: short term rentals). Contact Rachel with questions and comments.

Question: Has Covid been incorporated into the proposal?

Answer: During the pandemic, the number of rentals have dropped. The City will take into account the effects of the pandemic, but Rachel was not sure how much COVID would impact the new, proposed regulations.

### Winter Operations, Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU)

See Attachment 1

Tim Byrne, Manager, Maintenance Operations & Fleet Services: 402-441-7701; [tbyrne@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:tbyrne@lincoln.ne.gov).

Tim Byrne shared information about current operations. (Visit [snow.lincoln.ne.gov](https://www.lincoln.ne.gov) for additional information.) The city is divided into three Snow Sub-districts, each with its own supervisor. Streets are categorized into four types: snow routes, other arterials, bus routes, and school routes. These categories, together, comprise 1,183 lane-miles to be cleared of snow. This number has grown by 21% over the past 20 years. There are another 1,684 lane-miles of residential streets that may need to be cleared, depending on the storm.

The equipment used to keep Lincoln's roads clear of ice and snow includes City-owned equipment (17 liquid units, 23 material spreaders, and 62 plows) and contracted equipment (39 plows). There are also 35 service contractors who provide wheel loaders, dump trucks, and sidewalk clearing.

Total average annual snowfall has historically been 23-24 inches. However, over the last four years, it has ranged from as little as 7.5 inches to as much as 55.5 inches.

Recent advances that improve winter road care and safety include:

- **Liquid brine**, which reduces salt usage by about 30%
- The **Road Weather Information System** provides improved information about the condition of the roadways (temperature, dew point, etc.)
- The **Maintenance Decision Support System** allows the city to customize treatment based on surface & weather conditions
- **Automatic Vehicle Location** allows monitoring of where vehicles are located.

Question: Has there been a second location developed for brine production? It was in the works until a major snow season two years ago ate up the budget for the second location.

Answer: It is still in the works. All program improvements come from savings in the snow operation, not from external / extra funding.

During the 2020-21 snow season, there are some new equipment and methods being tried:

- There are **seven new pavement sensors**, bringing the number of pavement sensors in use to thirteen. Four of them have been placed on key bridges. Using infrared sensors & wireless reporting, the new sensors read the pavement conditions.
- A couple of programs are being tested for residential streets:
  - **Residential plowing contractors** – not part of the normal equipment & contractors -- will be hired for that purpose only. They will be able to start clearing residential streets sooner. Depending on the road conditions, these special contractors may even come through the neighborhoods multiple times.
  - To decrease confusion, **parking bans to coincide with the year**. In 2020 (an even numbered year) parking will only be banned and the snow cleared from the even address number sides of the streets. In odd numbered years (2021, for example), parking and snow removal will be on the odd address number side of the street.

In the 2021-22 snow season, new **Super Combo Snow Trucks** will be deployed. These trucks have advanced sensors to monitor road conditions and are able to deliver either brine or material without re-tooling. The trucks will be delivered in late summer of 2021.

To stay up to date on snow removal happenings in Lincoln, visit [www.snow.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.snow.lincoln.ne.gov). Resources available there include: status updates, email alerts, RSS feeds, route maps & plans, parking bans, and “snow fighting” maps. You can also report snow problems.

This year’s **Snowplow Santa Tour** will be on Saturday, December 19, 10:00 am – 2:30 pm. For further information, search the city website for “Snowplow Santa.” You’ll see route information & a way to track Santa’s snowplow.

## Miscellaneous

Question: Richard Piersol asked about transitional housing regulations. Legislation concerning transitional housing will be introduced at the State Legislature in early 2021. The current moratorium will end in mid-January. What is the City doing about transitional living operators who may wish to start a facility after the moratorium expires?

Answer: Jon Carlson explained that the State may change their licensing regulations for operating them, but transitional living (previously called Alternatives to Imprisonment) has been a permitted use within our local zoning code for the last fifteen years.

## Next Meeting / Agenda

To be determined.

## Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Paul Johnson*

**Attachment 1**

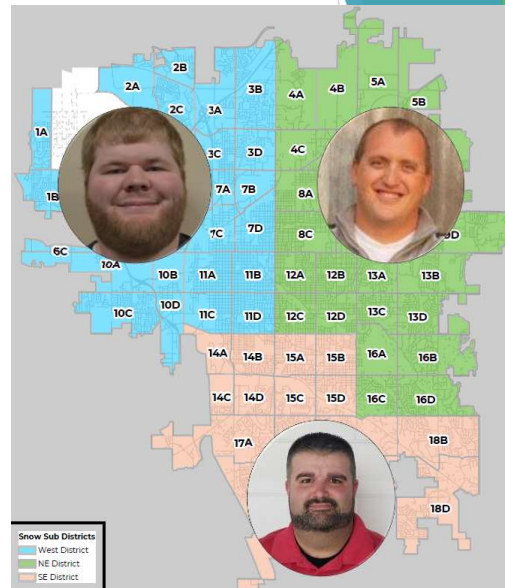
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## Our Leadership Team

- ▶ Travis Laughlin, West Dist. Supervisor
- ▶ Clay Engelman, NE Dist. Supervisor
- ▶ Ben Glantz, SE Dist. Supervisor
  
- ▶ Bill Fleisher, Superintendent of Fleet Services
  
- ▶ Sara Slama, Transportation Administration

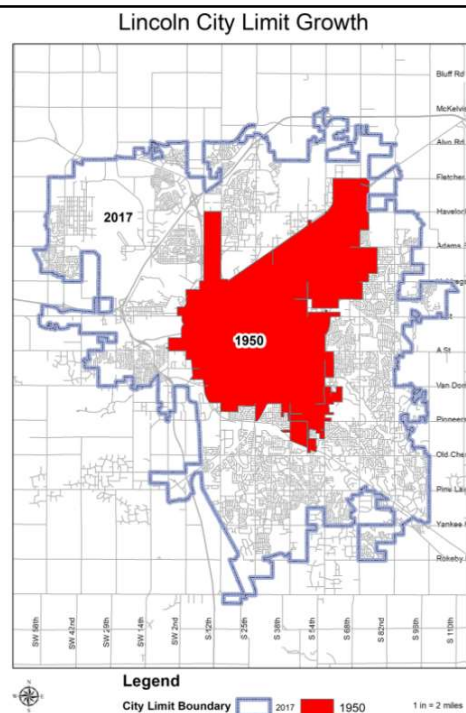


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## Continued Growth!

### Service Area

- ▶ Emergency Snow Routes, Other Arterials, Bus & School Routes
  - ▶ 1,183 lane-miles in 2020
    - ▶ 1,099 in 2010
    - ▶ 931 in 2000
    - ▶ 21% growth over the past 20 years
  
- ▶ Residential Streets
  - ▶ 1,684 lane-miles



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## By The Numbers

### City Resources

- ▶ Liquid Units = 17
- ▶ Material Spreaders = 23
- ▶ Plows = 62



### Contractual Support

- ▶ Plows = 39
- ▶ Service Contracts = 35
  - ▶ Wheel Loaders
  - ▶ Dump Trucks
  - ▶ Sidewalk Clearing

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## Ever Changing Weather

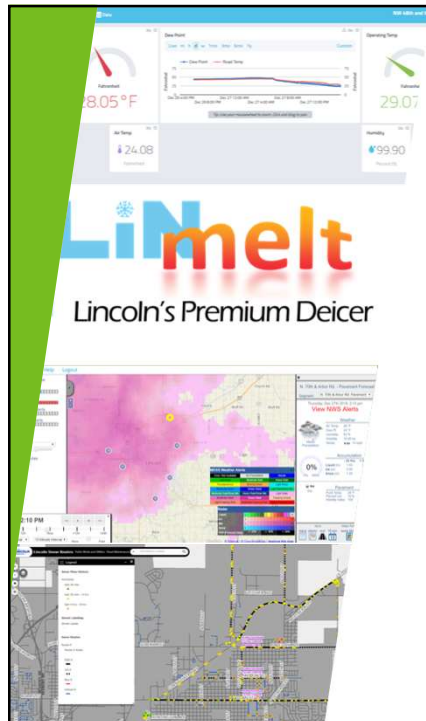
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Total Labor Hours Invested	6,071	11,980	31,418	12,448
Total Miles Driven	641,543	1,077,043	2,002,735	1,160,588
Tons of Salt Applied	4,635	7,627	10,047	7,507
Gallons of Brine Applied	380,638	324,362	575,273	441,207
Number of Weather Events	9	15	19	21
Number of Residential Plowing Events	0	0	5	1
Snowfall Total in Inches (NWS Airport)	* 7.5"	21.4"	* 55.5"	17.6"
Snowfall Total in Inches (CoCoRaHS)	6.7"	12.9"	39.2"	15.1"

\* 2016/17 was the 2nd Least Seasonal Snowfall since 1900 (7.2" in 1967/68).

\* 2018/19 was the 2nd Greatest Seasonal Snowfall since 1900 (59.4" in 1914/15).

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## Recent Advancements

- ▶ Liquid Brine
- ▶ Road Weather Information System (RWIS)
- ▶ Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS)
- ▶ Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)

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## What's New This Year?

- ▶ Increased weather sampling
  - ▶ 7 new pavement sensors
  - ▶ 13 sensors in total
  - ▶ 4 sited on key bridges
- ▶ Test programs for residential streets
  - ▶ Dedicated residential plowing contractors
  - ▶ Parking bans to coincide with the year

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## Coming Next Season

- ▶ Super Combo Snow Trucks
  - ▶ Advanced sensors monitor road conditions and transmit weather data to MDSS
  - ▶ Delivery of brine and material treatments without re-tooling
  - ▶ Right tool at the right time
  - ▶ Deliver late summer '21

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## Stay Informed

- ▶ [www.snow.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.snow.lincoln.ne.gov)
- ▶ Status updates, email alerts and RSS feed
- ▶ Route maps & plans
- ▶ Parking bans
- ▶ FAQ's
- ▶ Report a problem
- ▶ Snow Fighting map

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## Snowplow Santa Tour!!

- Saturday, December 19 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- For Route Information and to Track Santa's Snowplow
- Visit [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov) (search: Snowplow Santa)

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[snow.lincoln.ne.gov](http://snow.lincoln.ne.gov)  
#RespectThePlow

Tim Byrne  
Manager, Maintenance Operations  
402.441.7701  
[tbyrne@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:tbyrne@lincoln.ne.gov)



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