

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair
Brent Smoyer, Vice Chair
Deb Schorr
Jane Raybould
Roma Amundson

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Dan Nolte, County Clerk
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners Staff Meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site and provided to the media on November 13, 2013.

The Chair noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 8:36 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 7, 2013

MOTION: Schorr moved and Amundson seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes of November 7, 2013. Schorr, Raybould, Amundson and Hudkins voted aye. Smoyer was absent from voting. Motion carried 4-0.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Request from the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department for Funding from the Lancaster County Visitors Improvement Fund for Airport Entry Corridor (Exhibit A)
- B. Request for a Horseshoe Driveway (Exhibit B)

MOTION: Schorr moved and Raybould seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Raybould, Amundson, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Smoyer was absent from voting. Motion carried 4-0.

3 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER TRANSITION UPDATE -
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Ron Sorensen,
Community Mental Health Center Director

Ron Sorensen, Community Mental Health Center Director, said Lutheran Family Services (LFS) has named Pamela Osborne to serve as its Southeast Region Behavioral Health Administrator. Osborne will oversee and administer the delivery of core services (outpatient counseling, day treatment, community support and medication management) currently provided at CMHC. He said LFS has posted several positions on its website and has agreed to consider CMHC staff who are interested in applying.

Hudkins exited the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Sorensen said LFS is still working on licensing issues for the day treatment program but believes those can be resolved.

Hudkins returned to the meeting at 8:41 a.m.

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, said licensing for The Heather, psychiatric residential rehabilitation program, will also take some work. **NOTE:** CenterPointe, Inc. is taking over that program.

Smoyer entered the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. County Sheriff Grant Application to Nebraska Department of Labor for \$8,878.00, Nebraska Worker Training Program

MOTION: Smoyer moved and Amundson seconded to approve the grant application. Amundson, Smoyer, Schorr, Raybould and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) 119th Annual Conference, December 11-13, 2013 (Registration \$120.00 Per Person)

Hudkins, Schorr, Raybould and Amundson indicated plans to attend the conference. Smoyer was unsure at this time whether he will be able to attend.

B. County Engineer Interview Process

A list of interview questions was disseminated (Exhibit C). Board members agreed to pose questions to the applicants in the following order: Hudkins: Questions 1 and 8; Schorr: Questions 2 and 4; Raybould: Questions 6 and 7; and Smoyer: Questions 3 and 5. Amundson is unable to participate in the interviews but will receive a copy of the audio recording.

C. Payment of 2014 National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators (NAGDCA) Dues from Prudential Expense Government Account

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, said the cost to renew the membership is \$300. He added that information he has received through this organization on pension issues has been invaluable.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Smoyer seconded to authorize the payment of the dues. Smoyer, Amundson, Raybould, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Deposit of Invesco/AIM Settlement Proceeds into Prudential Expense Account (\$355.02)

Eagan said he and Doug Cyr, members of the Pension Review Committee (PRC), recommend that the proceeds be placed in the expense account and used for the benefit of all pension plan participants rather than trying to determine who had monies invested in the fund. **NOTE:** The fund was with Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS), which no longer administers the County's pension plan.

MOTION: Amundson moved and Raybould seconded to approve the deposit of Invesco/AIM settlement proceeds into the Prudential Expense Account. Amundson, Raybould, Schorr, Smoyer and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Visitors Improvement Fund Grant Requests from Nebraska High Schools Sports Hall of Fame Foundation (\$19,780) and Lincoln Children's Museum (\$200,000)

Eagan said the requests came during the \$10,000 Visitors Improvement Fund grant cycle, but are over that amount. He asked whether the Board wants the Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) to review the requests and make recommendation.

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, said Jeff Maul, Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) Executive Director, has asked him to prepare a report on the Visitors Promotion Fund, including the amounts that have been allocated.

MOTION: Smoyer moved and Raybould seconded to refer the grant requests from the Nebraska High Schools Sports Hall of Fame Foundation and Lincoln Children's Museum to the Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) for review and recommendation.

Eagan felt the process for larger grant requests needs to be refined.

ROLL CALL: Raybould, Amundson, Schorr, Smoyer and Hudkins voted aye.
Motion carried 5-0.

Smoyer was asked to relay to Maul that the Board would like the VPC to consider the Board's meeting schedule when scheduling their meetings so a County Board representative can attend.

- 4 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES** - Gordon Kissel and Joe Kohout, Kissel/ES Associates
 - A. LEGISLATIVE BILL (LB) 561 ISSUES**
 - B. PROPOSED STATE PRISON REFORM**
 - C. MEDICAID EXPANSION**

A. Legislative Bill (LB) 561 Issues

Joe Kohout, Kissel/ES Associates, said he has had numerous conversations with Senator Mello regarding LB 561 and said he believes there is recognition that there may not be sufficient funding in place. He felt there will be some kind of move at the Legislature regarding the funding issue but said it is unclear what that might be. Kohout also pointed out that the Legislature's Tax Modernization Committee hasn't completed its work. **NOTE:** One of the ideas the Committee is looking at is one-time aid to counties for their investment in LB 561, the juvenile justice bill that was passed in the 2013 Legislation Session, which will transfer youth offenders from the State Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to the county probation system.

Schorr asked whether the County should propose language to clarify who will be responsible for costs related to medical, transport and pre-disposition youth who have violated conditions of release and have been returned to detention. Kohout said if the County wants to propose changes it should start the process now to find a senator who will sponsor legislation.

Raybould said it is a "good sign" that LB 561 was brought up before the Tax Modernization Committee. Kohout said there was consistent messaging at the Committee's public hearings that the State has to stop the transfer of state responsibilities to counties. He said there have been conversations about a one-time, \$6,000,000 infusion of cash to ease implementation, in addition to \$6,000,000 that has been appropriated in the second year of the biennium for that program.

Sheli Schindler, Youth Services Center (YSC) Director, said Douglas County has a group that meets to discuss juvenile justice issues and suggested that Lancaster County form a similar group, different from the Steering Committee that is in place. She said they could look at clean-up language to address the pre-disposition youth and transport issues.

Schorr said Douglas County has indicated that the truancy component is more important to them. Schindler said LB 561 included the transfer of the truant population to Probation so in a sense, they go "hand-in-hand."

Kohout said the County should have any language it wants to propose ready no later than December 6th so it can be submitted to the bill drafters.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Smoyer seconded to authorize formation of a committee, as outlined. Schorr, Smoyer, Amundson, Raybould and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion also took place regarding whether to increase the State's per diem rate for housing youth in YSC to help recover costs. It is proposed that the State pay \$276 per day but Schindler has estimated the County would need to charge the State a per diem of \$583 to recoup even half of the expected loss in revenue. Kohout remarked that Corey Steel, Deputy Administrator for State Probation Administration, which is under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Nebraska, was asked at the County's Legislative Retreat in August how he saw this working and Steel assured the County it would be "seamless." He said that is the same assurance he and Gordon Kissel received privately in the rotunda during consideration of LB 561. Kohout said all the County is doing is asking what the Court needs to keep that promise.

Raybould felt the contract the County submits to the State should reflect the \$583 per diem rate. Eagan cautioned that it could "backfire" on the County because the present per diem includes medical. Schindler said another option would be to stay with the \$276 per diem and bill the State at the end of the year for the revenue lost for the home detention days. Schorr suggested quarterly billing instead.

Amundson said she believes the Douglas, Lancaster and Sarpy County Board should discuss the issue at the Tri-County Meeting on November 18th and try to come to agreement on an approach.

B. Proposed State Prison Reform

It was noted that Senator Ashford wants to revamp the State prison system, due to overcrowding, and is trying to put together legislation that would allow the State to utilize county jails.

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, appeared and said there could be sentencing reform, as well.

Kohout said he has heard the State is looking at one-time dollars for purposes of reimbursing counties and moving low status offenders out of state facilities into county facilities, on a temporary basis. Schorr asked whether the County would have to take them if there isn't sufficient funding attached. Thurber said yes, if it becomes a statutory requirement.

Amundson questioned whether the County jail is prepared to deal with that population, which could potentially be more dangerous.

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, said she understands the State is trying to solve the problem of overcrowding but felt more study of the issue is needed. Raybould concurred and suggested a process similar to the one for the Legislature's Tax Modernization Committee. Kohout said the Legislature is not in a position to study the issue and is not interested in building a new prison. He felt a proposal will be brought forward and said the County needs to be prepared and determine what the fiscal impact will be.

Hudkins said he visited with several senators on this issue and said there is a feeling that counties have the capacity in their facilities to take on the state prisoners. He added he believes the State should look at reimbursing counties for the full cost, on a per diem basis, noting that would be less expensive than building a new prison.

Kohout said the question will be whether the State Department of Corrections has funding available to enter into contracts with counties. He noted Saunders County has indicated it can house prisoners for \$40 to \$45 per day and said that could become the baseline figure.

Schorr felt the State will want to place the prisoners in Lancaster County's facility to eliminate transportation costs. She added that smaller counties aren't equipped to handle this population.

Raybould said she believes the State should explore more alternatives to incarceration, noting studies show they are more cost efficient and have better social outcomes.

Smoyer exited the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Gordon Kissel, Kissel/ES Associates, said Senator Chambers plans to introduce legislation to address counties' use of revenue from inmates' phone calls and asked Thurber to provide information to Senator Chambers on how Lancaster County uses those funds.

C. Medicaid Expansion

Amundson said she has had second thoughts about whether Medicaid expansion should be a priority for Lancaster County, based on issues related to the rollout of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Smoyer returned to the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Eagan said the County would clearly benefit from Medicaid expansion because it is paying for indigent individuals through General Assistance (GA) who would be covered. He recommended that Amundson talk to Senator Campbell about why she supports Medicaid expansion.

Smoyer cautioned that switching positions could damage the County's credibility with state senators. Kohout concurred, noting two of the Commissioners have lobbied legislators to support the expansion explaining there would be a \$2,800,000 savings to the County. He said a change in position could destroy the County's entire legislative agenda.

Other Legislative Issues

Kohout said it looks like legislation to eliminate responsibility of counties to pay HHS rent will move in the coming legislative session. **NOTE:** Lancaster County has designated that issue as one of its legislative priorities.

Andy Stebbing, County Treasurer, appeared and expressed concern regarding LB 207, which changed motor vehicle registration provisions. He said the new provisions will cost the County \$50,000, as well as efficiencies, and suggested the need for an opt out option. Kohout said the best way to address it would be to request an exemption for Douglas and Lancaster Counties, based on their classification in state statutes.

Raybould noted the Board has discussed requesting language to allow counties to move to a biennial budget. Smoyer said Senator Murante, who serves on the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, has drafted a bill to handle it and has indicated he would be willing to carry it.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Request from the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department for Funding from the Lancaster County Visitors Improvement Fund for Airport Entry Corridor (Exhibit A)

Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Coordinator, Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department, appeared and gave an overview of the request for \$10,000 from the Visitors Improvement Fund for the Airport Entry Corridor (Exhibit D). She said the request is part of the overall strategy to increase the area's economic development potential. Fleck-Tooze said the corridor between the Lincoln Airport and downtown, particularly on Cornhusker Highway, is not illustrative of the growth of the community or the image Lincoln would like to portray to visitors and said the City has committed funding for paving improvements along the corridor and would like to pair those with streetscape improvements to improve the visual appeal. She said the City recognizes that the request is made outside the normal application period for Visitors Improvement Fund grants and asked if the Board would be willing to ask the Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) to consider the request at their meeting on November 18th.

Eagan said his concern is whether the request is an allowable expense for the Visitors Improvement Fund, i.e, a tie to tourism.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Raybould seconded to request: 1) The Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) review the request for a \$10,000 grant from the Lancaster County Visitors Improvement Fund for the Airport Entry Corridor; and 2) A legal opinion on use of the funds. Schorr, Smoyer, Amundson, Raybould and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Hudkins asked that the markers that are placed along the corridor be angled to discourage a pigeon problem.

B. Request for a Horseshoe Driveway (Exhibit B)

Board consensus was to schedule discussion with the homeowner and County Engineering on the November 21st Staff Meeting agenda.

DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. District Energy Corporation (DEC) - Hudkins/Schorr

Schorr said the DEC approved the 2014 budget, received a system update and discussed the interest that has been expressed by several entities for expansion of service.

D. Public Building Commission (PBC) - Hudkins/Raybould

Hudkins said the PBC discussed plans to reuse the former Lancaster County Adult Detention Facility and the need for additional parking near the government complex.

E. Air Pollution Control Advisory Board - Hudkins

Hudkins reported that citations were issued in two cases involving dust emissions on North 70th Street.

F. Board of Health - Amundson

Amundson said they discussed a number of issues, including binge drinking and tobacco-free youth initiatives.

5 NEW JUVENILE COURT ATTORNEY (LEGISLATIVE BILL (LB) 561)

- Joe Kelly, County Attorney; Alicia Henderson, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Sara Hoyle, Juvenile Justice Coordinator

Joe Kelly, County Attorney, requested authorization to hire a new full-time juvenile court attorney to provide better coverage within Lancaster County's four juvenile courts. He said the need for an additional attorney is partially due to the expanded role of the County Attorney resulting from legislation such as Legislative Bill (LB) 561 (Changed provisions and transferred responsibilities regarding the juvenile justice system). Kelly noted the County is expanding the truancy diversion projects/courts and said the new attorney will absorb the services currently provided by Kristy Bauer, Attorney at Law. **NOTE:** The County has contracted with Bauer for professional legal services to screen and review juvenile law violations and truancy violations for eligibility, and possible referral to, juvenile diversion intensive diversion or Child Guidance, and to provide assistance with School Multi Agency Response Team meeting and truancy intervention programs.

Alicia Henderson, Chief Deputy County Attorney, said the Legislature has changed the truancy laws and the schools must now notify the County Attorney's Office if a child that has been absent from school for 20 or more days. A truancy intervention court has been established at Park Middle School and there is interest in expanding that program to Culler Middle School, Goodrich Middle School, Lincoln High School, North Star High School, schools that have greater issues with attendance.

Raybould asked how the new attorney will be funded. Sara Hoyle, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, said funding for the first two years, will be covered by Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) funds, which are specifically for hiring prosecutors and court activities, and LB 561 monies.

MOTION: Raybould moved and Amundson seconded to direct the County Attorney's Office to prepare a resolution for action at a regular County Board of Commissioners Meeting for the hiring of an additional attorney. Amundson, Raybould, Smoyer, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

6 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS - Doug McDaniel, Personnel Director; Richard Grabow, Deputy County Attorney; Nicole Gross and Amy Sadler, Compensation Technicians

MOTION: Smoyer moved and Amundson seconded to enter Executive Session at 10:48 a.m. for the purpose of protecting the public interest with regards to labor negotiations.

The Chair restated the motion for the record.

ROLL CALL: Raybould, Amundson, Schorr, Smoyer and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION: Smoyer moved and Amundson seconded to exit Executive Session at 11:20 a.m. Raybould, Amundson, Schorr, Smoyer and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

7 ACTION ITEMS

- A. County Sheriff Grant Application to Nebraska Department of Labor for \$8,878.00, Nebraska Worker Training Program

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

8 CONSENT ITEMS

There were no consent items.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) 119th Annual Conference, December 11-13, 2013 (Registration \$120.00 Per Person)
- B. County Engineer Interview Process
- C. Payment of 2014 National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators (NAGDCA) Dues from Prudential Expense Government Account

- D. Deposit of Invesco/AIM Settlement Proceeds into Prudential Expense Account (\$355.02)
- E. Visitors Improvement Fund Grant Requests from Nebraska High Schools Sports Hall of Fame Foundation (\$19,780) and Lincoln Children's Museum (\$200,000)

Items A-E were moved forward on the agenda.

10 PENDING

There were no pending items.

11 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

- A. District Energy Corporation (DEC) - Hudkins/Schorr

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

- B. Public Building Commission (PBC) Chair Meeting with Mayor - Hudkins

Meeting was cancelled.

- C. Meeting with Mayor - Hudkins/Smoyer

Meeting was cancelled.

- D. Public Building Commission (PBC) - Hudkins/Raybould
- E. Air Pollution Control Advisory Board - Hudkins
- F. Board of Health - Amundson

Items D-F were moved forward on the agenda.

- G. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) - Raybould

Meeting will be held later in the day.

- H. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Hudkins

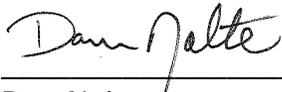
Meeting will be held later in the day.

12 EMERGENCY ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS

There were no emergency items or other business.

13 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Smoyer moved and Amundson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. Schorr, Smoyer, Amundson, Raybould and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.



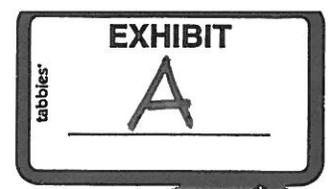
Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk





Parks and Recreation Department
Lynn Johnson, Director
2740 "A" Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

402-441-7847
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"Making Lincoln a Better Place to Live"



LINCOLN
The Community of Opportunity

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER

lincoln.ne.gov

November 13, 2013

Lancaster County Commissioners
County-City Building
555 South 10th Street, Room 110
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

**RE: Funding Request for Airport Entry Corridor
Lancaster County Visitors Improvement Fund**

Dear Commissioners:

Per discussion with Commissioners Hudkins and Schorr, this letter is to request that the County Board consider allocating \$10,000 of Visitor Improvement Fund revenues to the Airport Entry Corridor. The Airport Entryway Corridor is one component of a larger overall airport strategy to increase the area's economic development potential, enhance Lincoln's image to visitors and employers, and improve the area's infrastructure. It includes streetscape improvements beginning at the Airport on West Adams Street, continuing along NW 12th Street and Cornhusker Highway to approximately 14th Street, and along I-180 from Cornhusker Highway into Downtown.

Entryway corridor improvements demonstrate to those arriving at our airport that Lincoln is a first rate city. Having a positive first impression can be an important factor in business location decisions and tourism. The corridor plan will integrate Lincoln's branding campaign and will enhance Lincoln's identity for national visitors. It will also complement the effort being made to develop the airport's economic potential. The streetscape will include irrigated trees, shrubs and stylized prairie plantings to direct views and contribute to the visual appeal of the corridor. West Adams, Cornhusker Highway and the Downtown entry from I-180 will also include a sequence of unique, illuminated district markers and a series of banners to introduce rhythm and interest and reflect the community's new branding effort. These elements will provide a distinctive identity to let people know they have arrived in the City of Lincoln.

The streetscape improvements are estimated to cost \$2 million, and are planned to be completed with assistance from private contributions. Our goal is to complete the project next year in coordination with street pavement repairs already planned for West Adams and Cornhusker Highway. Identifying Visitors Improvement Funds for the Airport Entry Corridor represents an opportunity to leverage private funds and support a public-private partnership to carry this project forward.

While this is a request for \$10,000, we understand that it is out of the normal grant cycle for the Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC). In order to assist in supporting private fundraising efforts, we would like to request that the Commission forward this funding request to the VPC for its consideration at the November 18 meeting. Please note that we can be available to present this request to the VPC at their meeting if needed.

We believe that the County's partnership and financial participation in the project will greatly strengthen efforts to seek private donations for this project. Completion of the Airport Entry Corridor streetscape project is essential for making a good first impression to those who visit our community to ensure that we continue to impress those who visit us, and to encourage them and others to visit our community in the future.

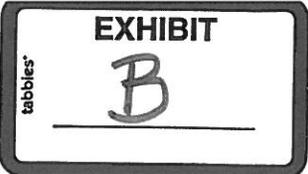
Nicole Fleck-Tooze plans to be available at your staff meeting tomorrow to discuss the project. Please feel free to call me or Nicole at any time if you have questions or need additional information. I can be reached at 441-8265 or ljohnson@lincoln.ne.gov. You can contact Nicole at 441-6363 or ntooze@lincoln.ne.gov.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Lynn Johnson
Lincoln Parks and Recreation Director

Cc: Jeff Maul – Executive Director, Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau



Kerry P. Eagan

From: Bo Jones [bo@tru-built.net]
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 3:00 PM
To: Kerry P. Eagan; Aaron Schepers; kari schepers
Subject: Schepers residence

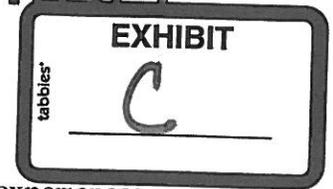
Kerry,

We are working on the permit process for a new home we will be building on an acreage West of Roca. The parcel ID is 08-25-201-008-000. I have spoke with Ken Schroeder, County Surveyor, regarding the access permits and he has approved 2 separate drive entrances onto the property but the "cannot be connected" rule is in effect for this lot. The property directly North of the lot we will be building on has a horseshoe drive similar to the one that we are proposing. What can we do to file an appeal to have that restriction lifted so we can have the drives connected on the property?

Thank you for your assistance,

Bo Jones
Tru-Built Construction
402.610.0523

DRAFT



County Engineer Interview Questions
May 7, 2013

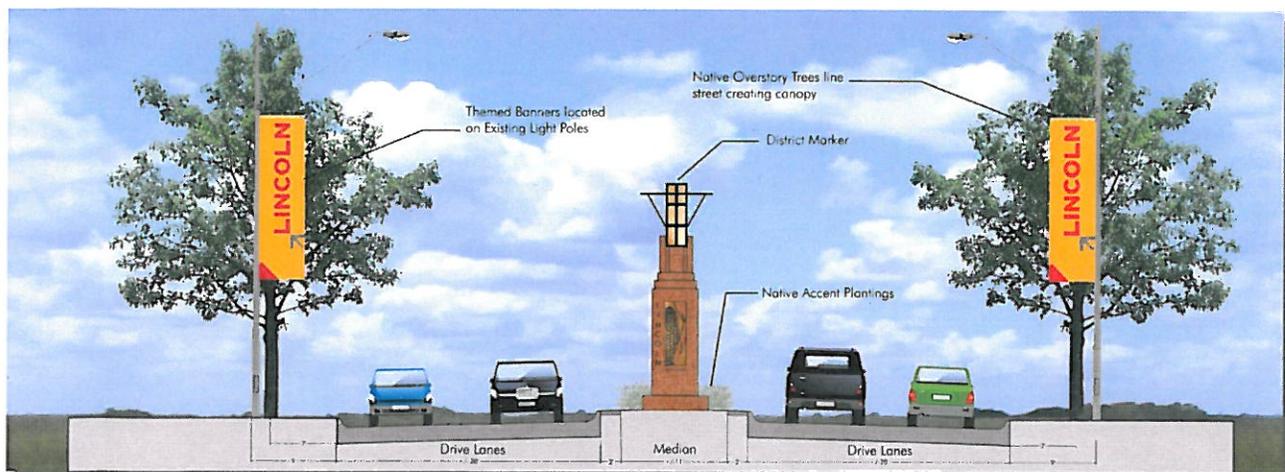
1. Please tell us about yourself, including your educational and professional experiences. Why are you applying for this position at this point in your career?
2. The County Engineer is an elected county position with numerous duties set forth in Nebraska state statutes. In your opinion, what are the primary responsibilities of this office?
3. Describe your management style. Please give specific examples of how you have applied your management style in several different challenging situations.
4. Do you have experience in the following areas:
 - a. Managing employees under a government merit system
 - b. Working with the County Purchasing Act, or preparing requests for proposals in a competitive bidding process
 - c. Maintaining and administering a geographic information systems (GIS) data base
 - d. Governmental budget preparation and monitoring
 - e. Designing, constructing and maintaining roads and bridges
 - f. Subdivision of land
 - g. Acquisition of land by either contract or eminent domain
 - h. Nebraska State Department of Roads and federal aid projects
5. In this position you will often be called upon to deal with angry, difficult, or demanding persons. Describe your approach in dealing with these types of personalities, and describe a specific situation where you have applied your approach and what was the outcome.
6. Major road and bridge construction projects can be disruptive, inconvenient and frustrating to the traveling public. An effective public communications plan can help mitigate the impact of these projects. Please describe how you would develop and implement such a plan?
7. Base on your knowledge of how the Lancaster County Engineering Office is now being operated, is there anything you would change immediately if appointed to this position? What changes to the office would you like to see in the next three to five years?
8. In the last several years property tax revenues have been reduced sharply. If called upon to produce a budget based on 97% of the previous budget year, what priorities would guide you in meeting this challenge.

Airport Entryway Corridor Overview

October 2013

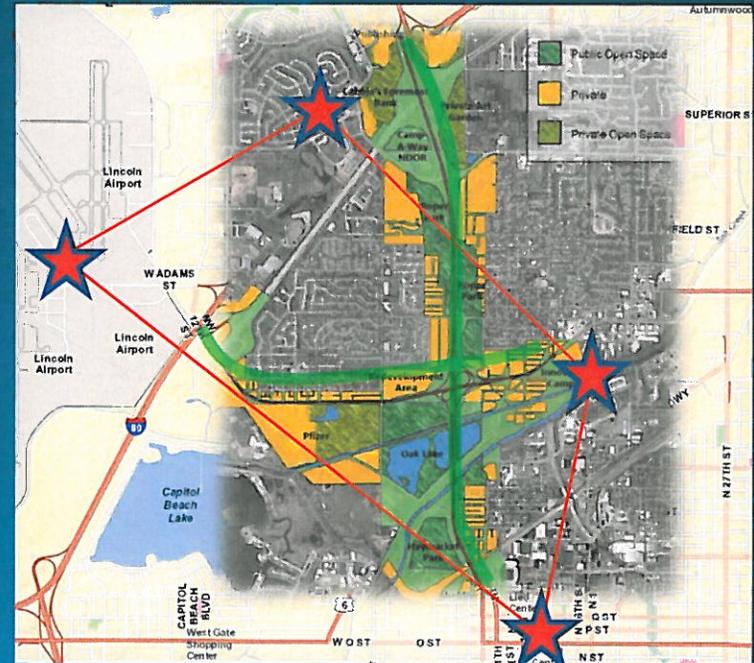
The Airport Entryway Corridor is one component of a larger overall airport strategy to increase the area's economic development potential, enhance Lincoln's image to visitors and employers, and improve the area's infrastructure. Entryway corridor improvements demonstrate to those arriving at our airport that Lincoln is a first rate city. Having a positive first impression can be an important factor in business location decisions and tourism. The corridor plan will integrate Lincoln's branding campaign and will enhance Lincoln's identity for national visitors. It will also complement the effort being made to develop the airport's economic potential. Streetscape improvements will be coordinated with street pavement repairs that will be made as part of a pavement management program to avoid conflict and make improvements in an efficient and effective way. Streetscape improvements will include:

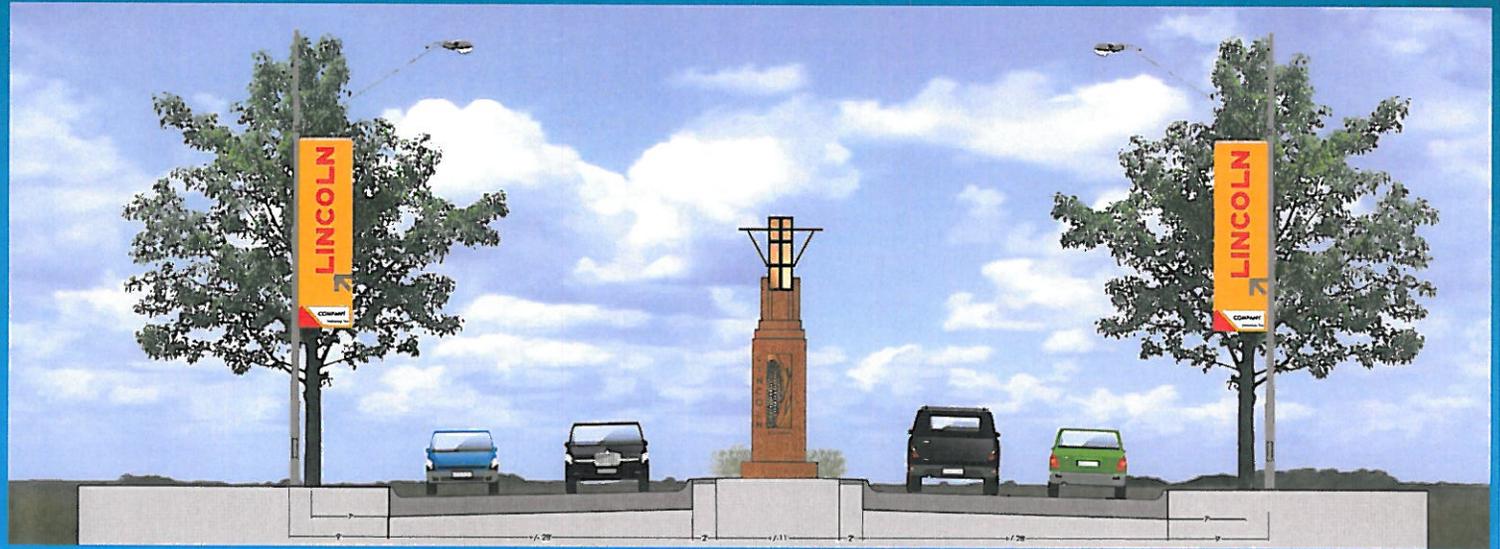
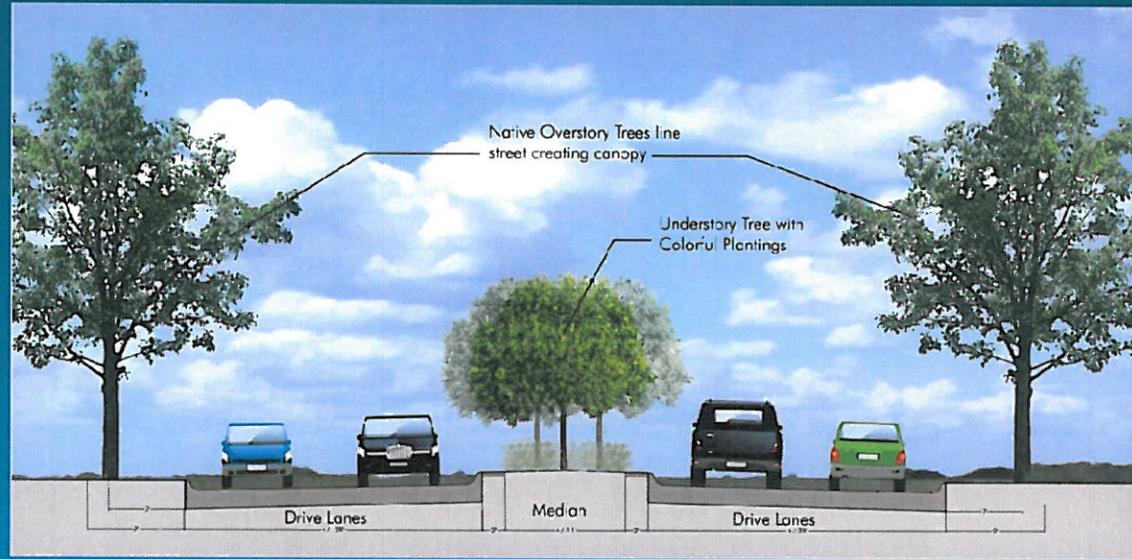
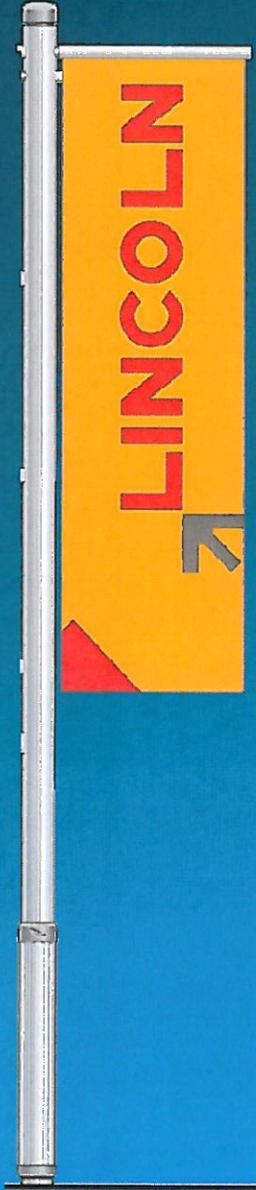
1. Landscaping, including irrigated street trees, evergreen trees, flowering shrubs, and stylized prairie plantings to direct views, provide shade and contribute to the overall visual appeal of the corridor.
2. A unique, illuminated district marker that repeats along the medians of West Adams and Cornhusker Highway. The marker will be constructed of corten steel with custom fabricated lights and a cultural iconic image that is illuminated at night.
3. A series of banners that introduce rhythm, interest, and a distinctive identity to let people know they have arrived in the City of Lincoln. Banners will reflect the new branding campaign and may also include iconic images of Lincoln the Man.
4. Stylized prairie plantings and grouping of trees to frame views along I-180, with street trees and banners along the corridor as I-180 enters Lincoln at 9th Street.
5. Prominent opportunities for public art.

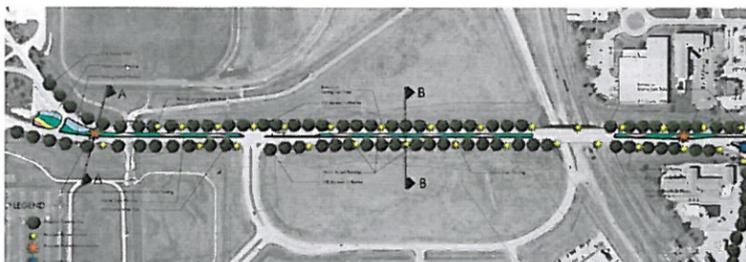


First impressions

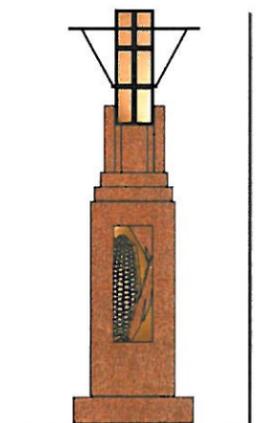
- Entry to City
- Business travelers
- Gateway to Nebraska
Technology Park, Innovation
Campus, Downtown
- Economic opportunities







- Airport Entryway Corridor Enhancements:**
- Remove and replace damaged curbs along Cornhusker Highway.
 - Incorporate Street Trees to direct views, provide shade and contribute to the overall "greening" of the corridor.
 - Introduce on-street lighting District Marker into medians.
 - Introduce banners depicting the City of Lincoln's logo and imagery along Cornhusker Highway from NW 12th Street to the Cornhusker and Lincoln Memorial.
 - Create visual interest and screening of I-180 over-charge through landscaping with evergreen trees and colorfully flowering shrubs.
 - Make visual connection and cohesion between East Cornhusker Highway and West Cornhusker Highway.
 - Provide prominent locations for potential Public Art.
 - Enhance bridge with Art Resting Component at 9th Street.
 - Introduce banners depicting iconic images of Lincoln the Commonly and Lincoln the Man.
 - Create entry feature at the 9th Street Entrance.



District Markers
To enhance the corridor experience, district markers are of varied for visual interest. Constructed of corn steel, these custom fabricated light fixtures combine a lower cut panel with a cultural iconic image which is illuminated at night. The marker is capped off with a light fixture similar to those found downtown.

City of Lincoln AIRPORT ENTRYWAY CORRIDOR PLAN

Design Intent
The entryway corridors identified by the Lincoln/Douglas County 2040 Comprehensive Plan focuses on the "enhancement of major arteries" to Lincoln including the section from the I-180 corridor from Fletcher Avenue to downtown Lincoln and the Lincoln Municipal Airport entry corridor along Cornhusker Highway from NW 12th Street to West Adams.

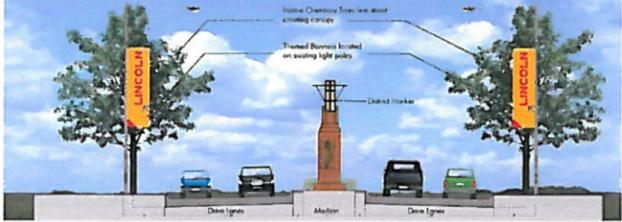
The human element of the region offers many different perspectives and cultures. However, the Native American and its spirit counterparts shared a common value, the importance of the land. The fertile soil not only supported the native prairie and a diversity of plants and animals but were deemed to be well suited for cultivation of grain, essentially an important symbolic and economic mode mark of the region.

The design intent and aesthetic proposed for the corridor is not a literal interpretation of the native prairie or agricultural landscape, but rather a blend of the important components of both of these. Using built materials and natural elements to unify the space aesthetically representing what was, what is and what will be well part of our people's heritage and our growing community.

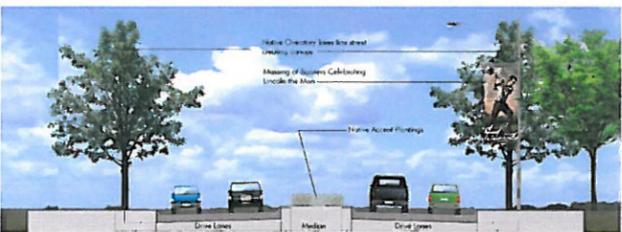
Plant Materials
The plant materials suggested for the corridor include native and non-native species, a series of prominent flowering trees low to the corridor offering a smattering of color, texture, form and shade. Summer color is highlighted by the yellow flowers of the Golden Rain Tree. A spectrum of fall color includes the purples of the Viburnum, the scarlet of the Red Oak and the golden yellow of the Kentucky Coffeetree.

The medians are highlighted by the use of dependable perennials including Sedum, Goldenrod and Coreopsis. New cultivars of favorite native grasses include Blue Heron Bluestem known for its blue green foliage and Blood Amaranth Blue Grass whose long like seed heads are a prominent feature of the prairie grasses. Working within the tight distance parameters of materials will remain under 24" and provide a colorful display from spring through fall.

Segment A: West Adams Street from the Airport to NW 12th Street



Section A-A: West Adams to Cornhusker Highway

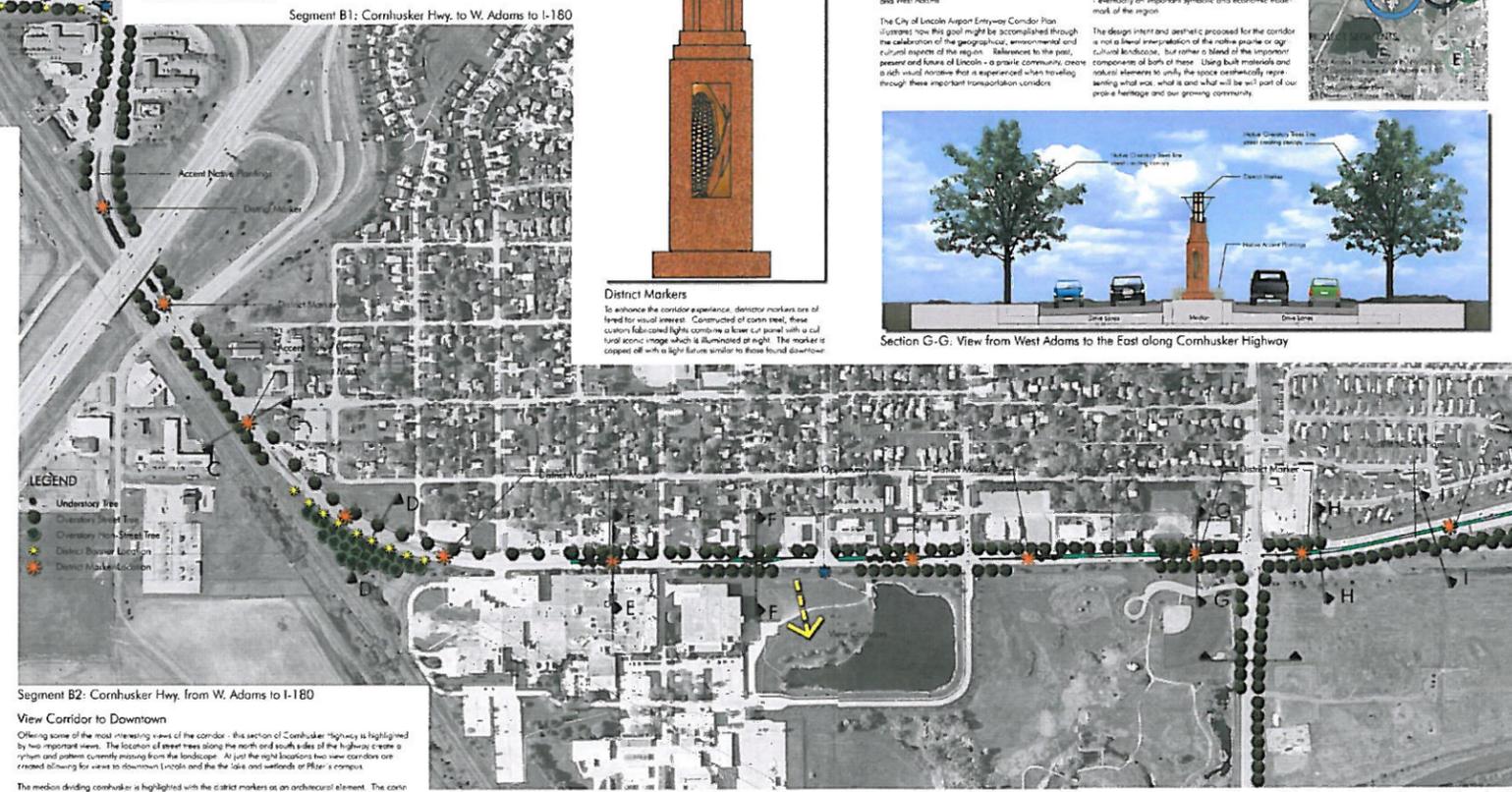


Section D-D: Cornhusker Highway from W Adams to I-180

Banner Concepts
West Cornhusker is a celebration of the city of Lincoln but from a different perspective. The banners along this portion of the corridor illustrate "Lincoln's the start". A series of iconic images inspired by the Road Service stamp collection on historical currency, such as the penny are matted to create the central corridor experience and momentum of heading toward Lincoln the City while creating an interesting visual connector to the 16th President of the United States.

The location of these banners along West Cornhusker helps to enhance a section that offers some visual challenges. Limiting factors including property and railroad lines paired with undesirable views offer a physical and visual challenge. The integration of free standing banner poles paired with the existing light poles allows the perfect opportunity to create continuity and consistent illustrating the connection historical and cultural significance. The series of banners create a long continuous canvas with movement. Raising above ground.

The banners not only provide a visual distraction from any undesirable views but continue an unimpeded enhancement along the transportation corridor and ultimately making a visual and contextual connection to the entrance to downtown Lincoln at 9th Street.



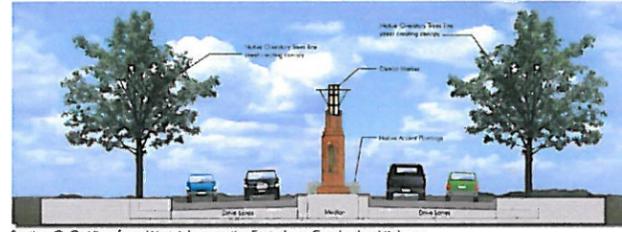
Segment B2: Cornhusker Hwy. from W Adams to I-180

View Corridor to Downtown
Offering some of the most interesting views of the corridor - this section of Cornhusker Highway is highlighted by two important views. The location of trees along the north and south sides of the highway create a return and pattern currently missing from the landscape. At just the right locations two new corridors are created allowing for views to downtown Lincoln and the lake and wetlands of Pleistocene.

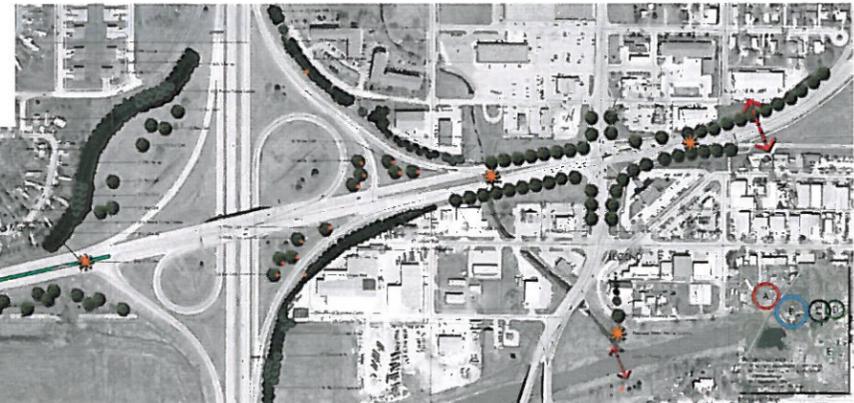
The median dividing cornhusker is highlighted with the district markers as an architectural element. The corn steel laser cut panels include images of important cultural references including corn making a relationship to the named highway. Large masses of colorful perennials and native grasses enhance the median creating profiles of color and movement reflecting the regional character of the native prairie.



General Section: View from West Adams to the East



Section G-G: View from West Adams to the East along Cornhusker Highway

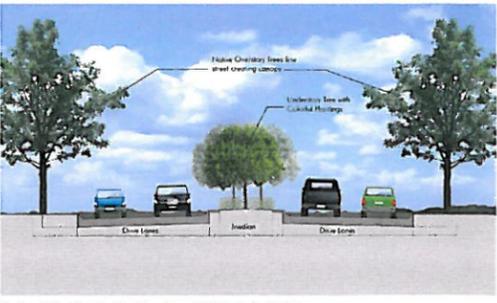


Segment C: I-180 Interchange

Segment D: East Cornhusker Hwy.



Segment E: Downtown Entrance - 9th Street



Section F-F: Cornhusker Hwy. from W Adams to I-180