



The Lindsborg City View

THE CITY OF LINDSBORG

Volume 15, Issue 1

August 2010



SUNFLOWER Meadows

Sunflower Meadows is a 31 acre parcel of land located between Highway 81 Overpass and Emerald Lake. Purchased by the City in 2007 and formally annexed in January of 2008, the area adjoins an equal-sized tract owned by Bethany Home. A preliminary land plan calls for 78 residential lots, a neighborhood park, and provisions for an extension of the Vällkommen Trail.

What prompted this City-led initiative?

Finding available housing in any part of the country today can be difficult with tight credit markers and a lack of new construction. Anyone who has recently looked for a home in Lindsborg has faced a daunting challenge because there are not many move-in ready homes available. And if the desire is to build, not many building lots are for sale. Of the 920 acres of existing subdivisions, only 17 acres are vacant, and most of these lots are priced beyond the reach of moderate income families. This presents a challenge not only for potential buyers, but also to realtors who depend on real estate sales. It is a problem

for the City of Lindsborg as well, since maintaining and growing the population is key to the future stability of the community.

For years, population levels in Lindsborg have been linked to the availability of land suitable for building. Back in the mid '70's, several

"Often, the greatest Challenge facing an organization is recognizing and acting on opportunity rather than solving a problem."

-Peter Ginter

acres of new subdivisions were created by local investors. The amount of developable land increase over 20%. Houses were built and sold and the population slowly but steadily grew. Not surprisingly, it grew around 20% from 1970 to 2000. In the last decade, available ground has increased less than 4% and the total population has not changed much.

In 2005, the Comprehensive Community Plan went through an extensive rewrite. No fewer than seven distinct methods were used to forecast the future population of the city. The trend line selected as the most realistic predicted a population of 3600 in 2015. Given current density levels (people per acre, slightly under 4 these days), that population level would require an additional 80 acres of development to support the growth. This is an interesting coincidence, because the Sunflower Meadows partnership with Bethany Home grew the city by 63 acres. This new ground, coupled with existing acreage, adds up exactly to the amount needed to support the predicted growth.

Challenges lie ahead. In today's housing climate, how can the City attract a developer to build and market the area? How soon will Bethany Home launch its expansion into assisted living? And what effect will the credit crunch have on would-be buyers? These are just some of the challenges that must be met to ensure the growth of our community.

View Sunflower Meadows Graphic Map on Page 2...

Highlights

- SUNFLOWER MEADOWS
- ET ZONING
- CVB NEWS
- CITY REPORT
- PUBLIC INFORMATION
- OPPORTUNITIES & UPDATES
- CALENDAR INFORMATION

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"Find a purpose in life so big it will Challenge every capacity to be at your best."

-David O. McKay





The Lindsborg City View Citizen Boards & Commissions

The Lindsborg City View concludes its coverage of Mayor appointed and Council confirmed Citizen Boards & Commissions. Featured in this issue are group dynamics and information on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Individuals who are interested in being a part of the Citizen Boards & Commissions are encouraged to fill out an Expression of Interest Form available at City Hall, 101 S. Main, or online at www.lindsborgcity.org. For more information contact City Hall at 227-3355.

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Board of ZONING Appeals

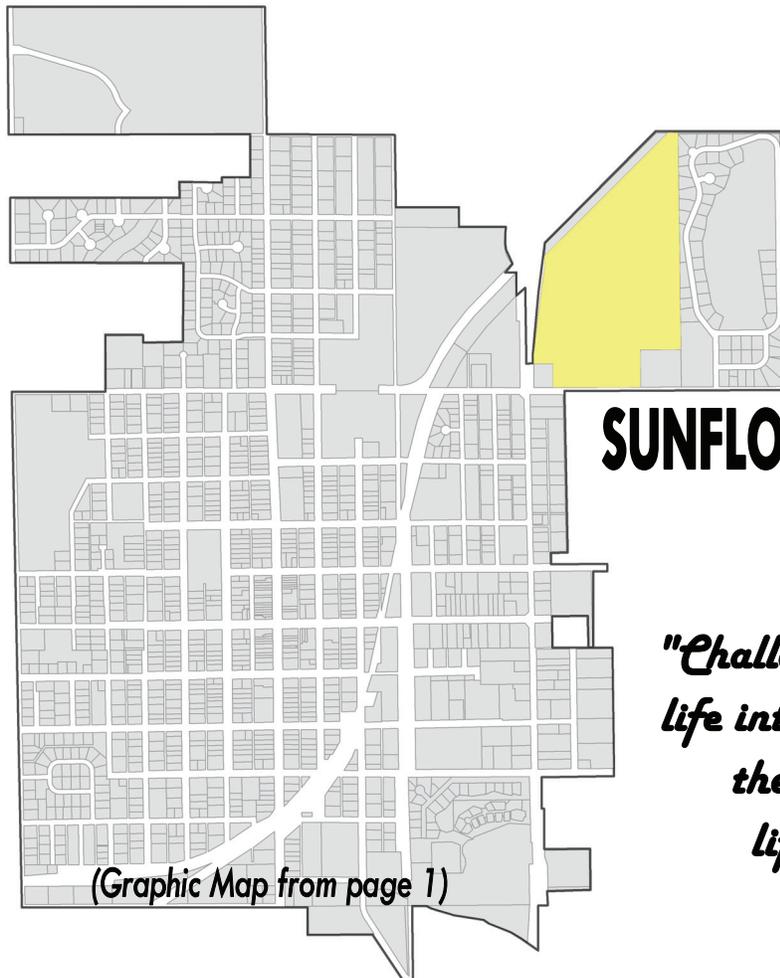
The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) consists of at least three (3) but not more than seven (7) members of the community, one of which must serve as a member of Planning & Zoning. Appointed by the Mayor, and confirmed by City Council, the BZA is authorized to hold hearings and decide on appeals to the Zoning Ordinance. Most actions relate to a variance request. The Board must find that the granting of such variance will not merely serve as a convenience to the applicant, but will alleviate some demonstrable or unusual hardship or difficulty. Members serve three (3) year terms.

BZA members and term dates:

Jay Jensen	4/30/11
Norman Dauer	4/30/12
Ken Peterson	4/30/12
Terry Nation	4/30/13
Ken Swisher	4/30/13



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SUNFLOWER Meadows

"Challenges are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful."

-Joshua J. Marine



(Graphic Map from page 1)

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CITY POLICIES Online

City Policies and guidelines are available on the City's website. Citizens may access policy documents on the homepage under Government at www.lindsborgcity.org.

Policy subject headings include: **Building, General Improvement, Government, Health Safety, Streets** and **Utilities**. For additional information contact City Hall at 227-3355.

- ◆ Building
- ◆ General Improvement
- ◆ Government
- ◆ Health Safety
- ◆ Streets
- ◆ Utilities

Extraterritorial ZONING

Extraterritorial Zoning (ETZ) is the extension of zoning and subdivision regulations into a defined rural area surrounding a community. State statute limits the area to within three miles from the city boundary. The main purpose is to ensure that zoning decisions affecting the immediate area are handled by local residents, not county officials who might live miles away.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has been studying this initiative for over a year, and plans to implement steps to adopt ETZ by the end of this year. The State has specific procedures for the establishment of ETZ, as shown in the following timeline:

Define proposed area and determine specific zoning districts	July-August
Presentation at a local public hearing	September
City Council approval and determination to proceed	October
Initial contact and formal request to McPherson County Officials	October
Presentation at County hearing	November
Approval by County Planning Commission and County Commission	November-December
Formal effective date of Extraterritorial Zoning	December 31, 2010



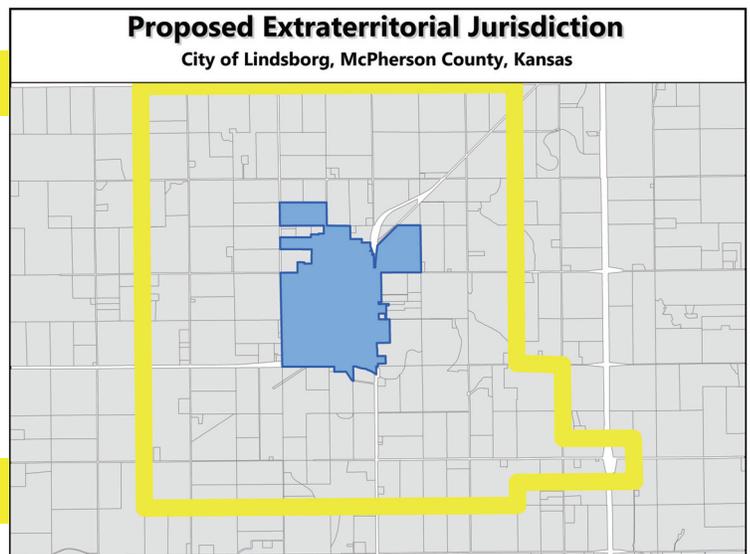
Extraterritorial Zoning:

- Accommodates reasonable development opportunities in rural areas
- Preserves farmland and farming
- Does not affect ability of land owners to continue to use and enjoy current land use
- Has no effect of valuation or property tax classification
- Land use and development decisions are made by local officials

*"It's not the will to win,
but the will to prepare to win
that makes the difference."*

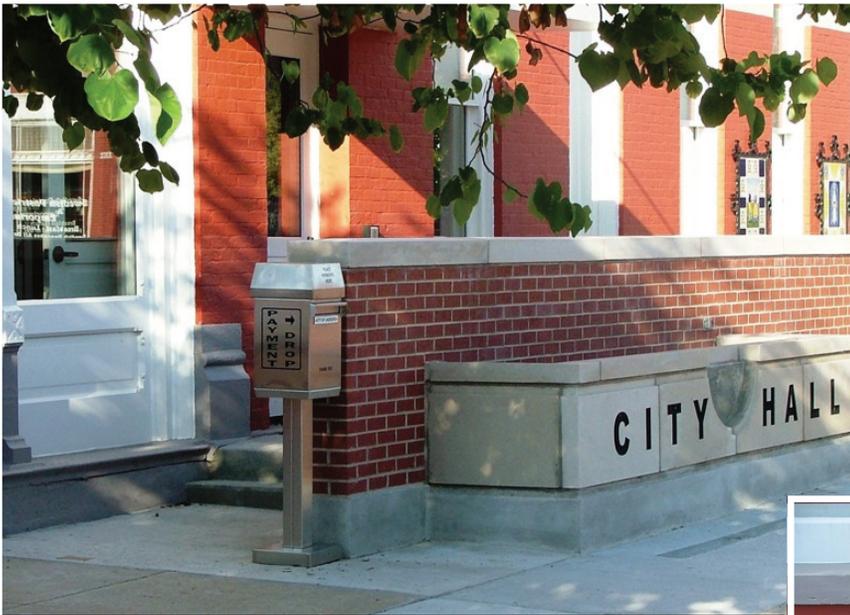
-Paul "Bear" Bryant

www.lindsborgcity.org





The Lindsborg City View



CITY HALL Payment Drop Box

The after hours drop box is still available for the convenience of community residents. It is located on the north side of City Hall at the east end of the brick entrance wall. When using the drop box, please be sure to press the slot opening with additional effort as it fits firmly to the box.

Thank you,
City Staff

Reminder!

CITY OFFICES CLOSED



Labor Day - September 6

Veteran's Day - November 11

Thanksgiving - November 25 & 26

"We must overcome the notion that we must be regular...it robs you of the chance to be extraordinary and leads you to the mediocre."

-Uta Hagen



CITY HALL
101 South Main
(785) 227-3355

Community Happenings

August 28

King Midas Street Dance



October 2

La Strada del'Arte



www.lindsborgcity.org

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CVB Traveler CHALLENGE

On record, 2009 was the worst year for U.S travel since the 9 / 11 economic slump that put the brakes on business and leisure travel. The U.S. travel and tourism industry eliminated 4.6 percent of American jobs as the industry generated \$100 billion less than 2008. The U.S. Travel Association estimated an average household tax increase of \$950 if not for revenues generated by travel and tourism. Roger Dow, President and C.E.O. of U.S. Travel Association affirmed, "The leisure or business traveler staying at the nearby hotel, eating at a local restaurant, shopping or visiting a local attraction is keeping your local economy vibrant and putting money in your pocket." These facts are troubling as tourism and travel affect a large portion of our community.

Good news is offered by the U.S. Commerce Department predicting growth in 2010 for U.S. travel. Although visitor volume is expected to increase five percent, traveler challenges must be identified and addressed. Tour companies face a precarious position when lodging for single occupancy more than doubles the cost of a bus tour. Even if the guest agrees to double up and split the cost of the room, it still will increase the price to where most visitors would rather indulge in a day long spending spree.

Lindsborg is faced with challenges as well, some of which include consistent and limited hours of business, shopping opportunities on Sundays and dining options in the evenings and on Mondays. An additional obstacle is the preference of Tour Planners to book tours in a single lodging facility.

The CVB's goal is marketing Lindsborg as a destination setting, not only for festivals, but for overnight stays and weekend excursions. Part of our focus is reaching potential visitors from greater distances through print and online advertising. A more aggressive approach is used in contacting and attracting organizations and tour planners close to and within surrounding areas. It is a known fact that people are traveling shorter, drivable distances rather than flying. Being centrally located and sited on a scenic byway adds to Lindsborg's appeal. The unique recognition of the Dala Horse *Ja!* trademark furthers marketing and publicizing Lindsborg as a place to see and to be.

The economy presents a number of challenges for travelers and prospective visit sites. On the other hand, based on a survey commissioned by the American Express Company, people who plan to vacation this summer will spend more money and stay longer than last year. We are working diligently on pursuing our share of travelers. An optimistic atmosphere with exceptional hospitality and customer service entices new and returning guests to the community. Accept the challenge...we have!

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"If you have a positive attitude and constantly strive to give your best effort, eventually you will overcome your immediate problems and find you are ready for greater Challenges."

-Pat Riley



Lindsborg...

Summer **A Destination For All Seasons** *Summer*

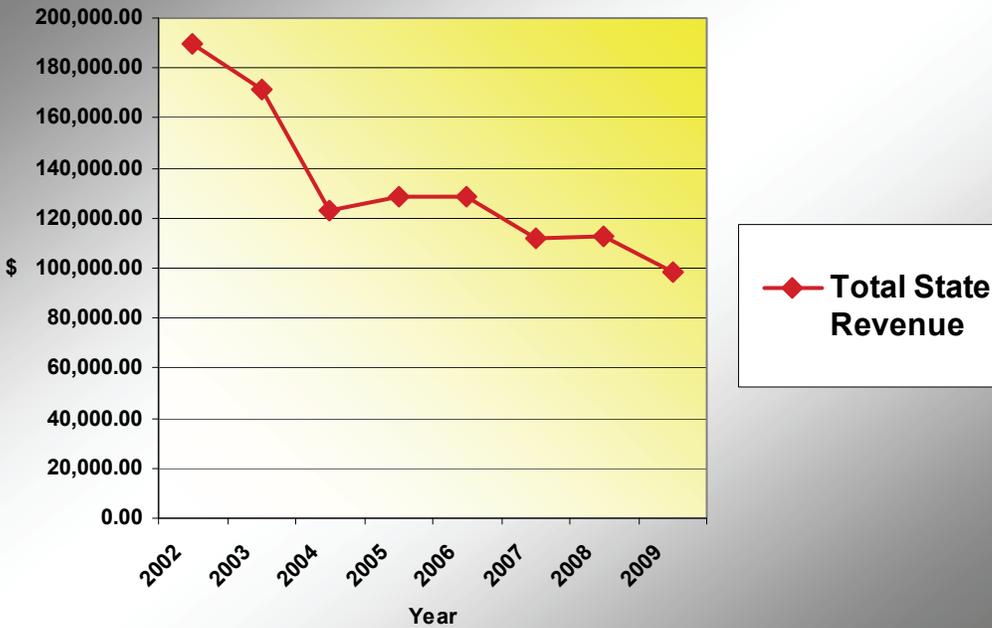
www.lindsborgcity.org

Lindsborg Visitors Center
(785) 227-TOUR 8687
(888) 227-2227



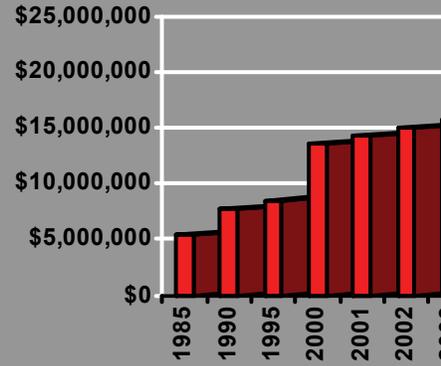


Total State Revenue



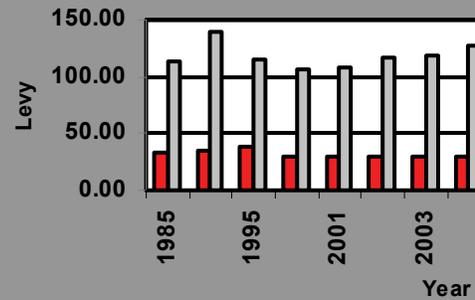
The decline in State of Kansas revenue to the City of Lindsborg equals 4.9 mills of property tax.

Assessed



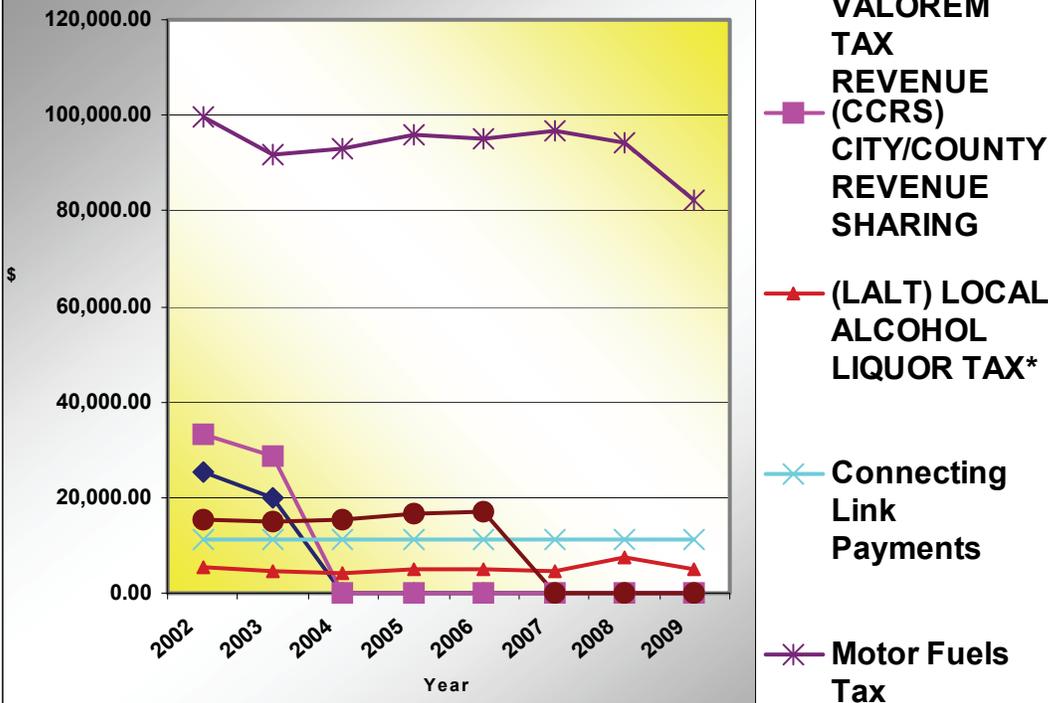
New construction fueled growth in a... Since then valuations...

Historic Tax



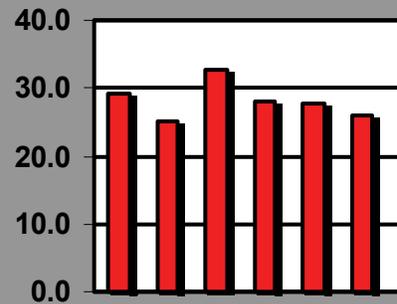
City Mill levy compared to the total... 2010 was 37.520 mills and f...

STATE of KANSAS REVENUE by FUND



Breakdown by fund of the decline in State of Kansas Revenue.

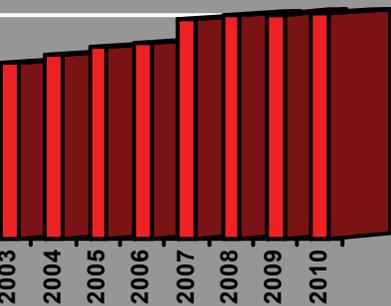
City Tax (as percent



Historically the City of Lindsborg... 30% of the total mill lev...

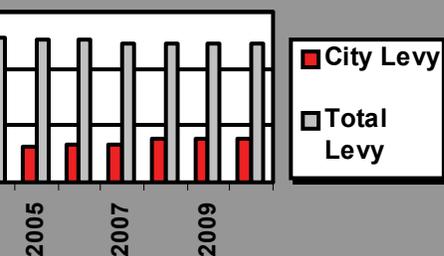


Valuations



Assessed valuations through 2007. Valuations have leveled off.

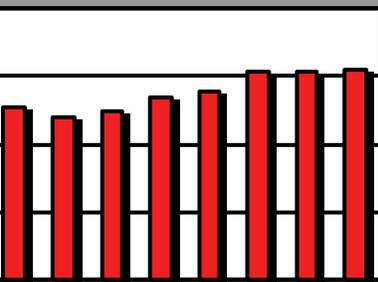
Levy Rates



City mill levy. Lindsborg's mill levy in 2011 will be 34.520 mills.

Mill Rates

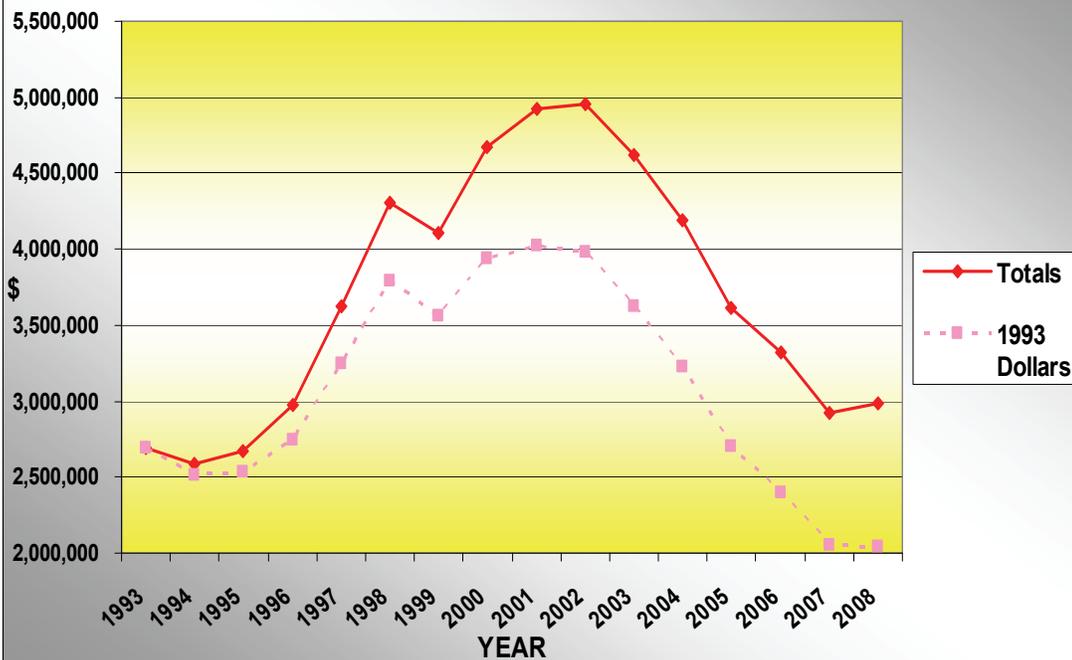
(of total mill levy)



Mill levy has averaged around 100 mills assessed each year.

TOTAL UNENCUMBERED YEAR END CASH BALANCE

Expressed in Current & 1993 Dollars



Year End total unencumbered cash balances in 2008 dollars and adjusted to 1993 dollars.

CITY Resources

Over Time CITY Resources

Over Time CITY Resources

Over Time

"Anything unattempted remains impossible."

-Unknown Author



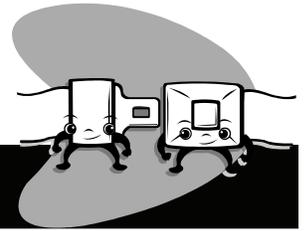
"Never, never, never, never give up."

-Winston Churchill



The Lindsborg City View

It's The LAW



The Lindsborg Police Department is reminding citizens that several new traffic laws are in effect and that the new primary seatbelt law has been in place since June 10th.

SEATBELT

As of July 1, 2010, drivers and passengers can be cited for seatbelt violations. Enforcement officers may conduct a traffic stop if drivers or front seat passengers are not wearing their seatbelts. In addition, adult rear seat passengers are also required to buckle up. The child restraint law and safety belt laws for those under the age of 18 are unchanged.

Citations can and will be issued for violating this law. First year citations are \$5 for each offense with an increase to \$10 beginning June 30, 2011. There are no court fees associated with this violation.

LICENSE PLATE VISIBILITY

New law in effect July 1, 2010 that prohibits a license plate from being covered in whole, or in part, by any clear or opaque substance including other plastic-like materials that affects the license plate's visibility or reflectivity.

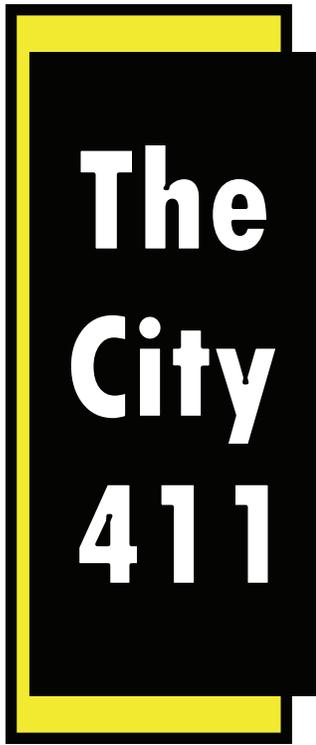
TEXT BAN

Another new edict in Kansas legislation prohibits a driver from using a wireless device to write, send, or read a written communication while operating a motor vehicle on a public road or highway. This includes text messages, instant messages and e-mails.

Text Ban Exemptions:

- ◆ Law enforcement officers or emergency services personnel using a device as part of their scope and duties of such employment.
- ◆ A vehicle stopped off of the regular traveled portion of the roadway.
- ◆ As required to read, select or enter a number or a name to place a phone call.
- ◆ To read emergency, traffic or weather alerts.
- ◆ Receiving a message related to the operation or navigation of the vehicle.
- ◆ Reporting current or ongoing illegal activity to law enforcement.
- ◆ Preventing imminent injury to a person or property.
- ◆ Information between for-hire operators and their dispatcher using a device permanently affixed to the vehicle.

Warnings will be given for violation of the Text Ban law through December 31, 2010. Citations can and will be issued beginning January 1, 2011.



"In every difficult situation is potential value. Believe this, then begin looking for it."

-Norman Vincent Peale

STATEWIDE BAN On Smoking



The Kansas Legislature passed a statewide ban on smoking that targeting "enclosed" public accessible areas. Smoking is prohibited in public vehicles, places of employment and interiors of most buildings. In addition, the ban covers outdoor areas within 10 feet of an exterior door, air intake vent or open window. A few exemptions include gaming floors of a casino or gaming facility, tobacco shops, some class A or B licensed businesses prior to January 1, 2009 and private clubs where minors are not allowed. Patios or other areas permanently open to the elements and weather are not considered an "enclosed" portion of a building. This law also bans vending machine sales of tobacco products in an area accessible to minors. Smokers and responsible parties that allow the smoking can be charged.

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The MOSQUITO Challenge

Trying to control the mosquito population is a constant challenge. In years past, mosquitoes were “fogged” with a mixture of diesel fuel and Malathion. Currently the city uses an EPA approved product called Biomist, an “unrestricted use” pesticide that when applied in small dosages as in mosquito spraying, does not present any serious health hazard. It is however good practice to avoid direct exposure during specified spraying times. Eighty-five (85) % of adult mosquitoes are active during the evening hours, so that is when spraying occurs. The usual scheduled timeline is Thursday evening between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and midnight when the winds are under 10 mph and no rain is expected. If spraying is not done on Thursday, it is rescheduled for the next available weekday when conditions are met. City employees must attend continuing education classes annually to maintain Certified Pesticide Applicator status in order to use the Biomist spray. Standing water in the slough and ditches are also treated with a product called Vectobac, a naturally occurring biological ingredient that is non-toxic and considered a mild irritant.

In addition to the city plan, mosquito-proofing your home and property is one of the most effective ways to help reduce the mosquito population. If they can't breed, they can't survive in great numbers. Here are several tips you can use to win the backyard battle with these pests.

- ⇒ Empty standing water in ponds, ditches, flower pots, plant saucers, puddles, buckets, garden equipment and cans.
- ⇒ Check for items that might hold water including barbecues, toys, pool covers, tarps, plastic sheeting, boats and trash.
- ⇒ Drain or fill temporary pools with dirt.
- ⇒ Make sure gutters drain properly.
- ⇒ Replace your outdoor lights with yellow “bug” lights.
- ⇒ Consider buying a mosquito trap to lure flying insects away from you and your family when outdoors.
- ⇒ Use mosquito repellent spray or products when enjoying the outdoors.

The City of Lindsborg encourages citizens to take part in the mosquito challenge. Let's enjoy the outdoors and keep our community a comfortable place to Be, to Play, to Live, to Stay!

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one."

-Mark Twain

STREETS Maintenance Schedule

SECOND STREET at SWENSSON

The intersection at Second and Swensson will be closed occasionally for repairs beginning July 6, 2010 allowing single lane traffic majority of the time. Estimated completion timeline is three weeks (weather permitting).

PINE STREET at SWENSSON

Pine Street (south of Swensson Street) will be closed to through traffic on or near August 2, 2010. Concrete paving will replace 130 feet of asphalt. Estimated completion timeline is three weeks (weather permitting).

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Asphalt patchwork will begin throughout the City once the scheduled projects are completed.



www.lindsborgcity.org



WWTP UGRADE Update

The City 411

New belt filter press is designed to remove water from the biosolids and prepare it for further drying on the drying pad.



New biosolids drying and storage pad for the drying and volume reduction of the biosolids.

The outer and inner walls on the Biosolids Digestion Basin are complete and installation of piping and hardware has begun.



Most of the work is complete on the BNR Basin and concrete work is being done on the flow control box that ties the BNR and Aeration Basins together. Coatings have been applied to the anaerobic cells and mechanical systems will be installed.

P&R Youth Programs



Cross Country Clinic - Free program for boys and girls (grades 1-6). Focus on stretching and running form. Registration deadline August 20th.

Volleyball - Girls and Boys (grades 4-6). Instructional program that combines skill development and actual game play. Registration deadline August 19th. Fee: residents \$25, non-residents \$30.

Flag Football - Boys and Girls (grades 1-6). Teams divided into three age groups. Saturday morning games. Registration deadline August 19th. Fee: residents \$25, non-residents \$30.

Instructional Basketball - Boys and Girls (grades K-2). Participants meet one hour on Saturday mornings for activities and games focusing on basic basketball skills. Registration deadline September 16th. Fee: residents \$25, non-residents \$30.

Basketball - League divisions (grades 3-4 boys / girls, grades 5-6 boys / girls). Registration deadline September 16th. Fee: residents \$25, non-residents \$30.

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Lindsborg GOLF Course Tee Markers

The Lindsborg Golf Course and staff express their appreciation to Mark Lysell and patrons of the Ol' Stuga Golf Tournament for their generous gift of eleven (11) new Tee Markers. Ol' Stuga tourney proceeds from 2010 and 2011 were designated towards the purchase of the unique markers located on the front nine and hole #3 and #4 of the back nine. The LGC has benefited every year from the tournament's contributions and primary goals of quality and course development. Thank you Ol' Stuga and friends for your support!

Check out the new improvements and enjoy a round at the LGC...where you want to Play!

"Accept Challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory."

-George S. Patton



**Open Daily
Memberships
Ten Play Card
Five Play Card
Gift Certificates
Golf Merchandise**



Reminder!

Lindsborg RECYCLING Center

The Recycling Center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the convenience of Lindsborg residents. City staff is reminding the community to please be mindful of following the Recycling Center rules. All cardboard boxes must be broken down and all recyclable materials separated and placed in their designated bins. Do your part in keeping unsightly piles and potential hazardous problems from occurring at the site. McPherson Area Solid Waste Utility compliments Lindsborg as having their discarded materials as 100% recyclable. Let's continue to live up to these standards and use the Recycling Center as intended. Thank you!

"We aim above the mark to hit the mark."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



RECYCLING Center OPEN 24/7

www.lindsborgcity.org



THE CITY OF LINDSBORG

101 S Main Street
PO Box 70
Lindsborg, Kansas 67456-0070

Pre-sort
US Postage Paid
Lindsborg, KS
Permit No. 1

Residential Patron
Lindsborg, KS 67456



The Lindsborg City View Upcoming Events & Contact Information

Calendar of Events 2010

City Contact Information

Phone: 785-227-3355
Fax: 785-227-4128
Web: www.lindsborgcity.org
Email: lindsborg@lindsborgcity.org

Emergency Contact Information

Police, Fire and Ambulance: 911
Police, Fire, Ambulance: 785-227-2988
(non-emergency)
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:
785-227-3428
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:
785-227-3469 (after hours, weekends and holidays)

- **City Council Meetings** 
(September 7 – Tuesday), October 4, November 1
- **Recycling Center (OPEN 24/7)** 
- **King Midas Street Dance (August 28)** 
- **Labor Day (September 6) City Offices Closed** 
- **La Strada del'Arte (October 2)** 
- **Happy Halloween (October 31)** 
- **Veteran's Day (November 11) City Offices Closed** 
- **Thanksgiving Day (November 25) City Offices Closed 25, 26** 
- **City View Newsletter-Vol. 16 (mid-November)**

Mayor & City Council Contact Information

Judy Neuschafer ~ Mayor
jneuschafer@lindsborgcity.org

Ken Branch ~ Ward 1
kbranch@lindsborgcity.org

David Higbee ~ Ward 1
dhigbee@lindsborgcity.org

Becky Anderson ~ Ward 2
banderson@lindsborgcity.org

Betty Nelson ~ Ward 2
bnelson@lindsborgcity.org

Russ Hefner ~ Ward 3
rhefner@lindsborgcity.org

Rick Martin ~ Ward 3
rmartin@lindsborgcity.org

Brad Howe ~ Ward 4
bhowe@lindsborgcity.org

Lloyd Rohr ~ Ward 4
lrohr@lindsborgcity.org

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