

CITY OF LA VISTA
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT
DECEMBER 7, 2010 AGENDA

Subject:	Type:	Submitted By:
MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT & COMMITMENT—CONTINUING MISSION OF NIZC (NE INNOVATION ZONE COMMISSION)	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	BRENDA S. GUNN CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SYNOPSIS

A resolution has been prepared to approve and authorize the City Administrator to sign a Memorandum of Support and Commitment (MOSC) to transfer the work of the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission (NIZC) to a new coalition group designated as the “I-80 Council.”

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval.

BACKGROUND

LB 546 approved by the Nebraska Legislature in May 2005 created the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission (NIZC) to advocate and recommend programs that encourage regional cooperation and foster community sustainability and economic development initiatives. The City of La Vista has participated in this process since its inception and I have served as the chairman since November 2007. LB 546 is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2010 and the NIZC has recommended that the work continue via an I-80 Council.

The I-80 Council will build upon the groundwork established by the Commission, working towards growth and development of the I-80 Corridor through a collaborative process. The work of the Council will function under the Lincoln and Omaha Chambers of Commerce and MAPA. It is envisioned that the Council will have among its responsibilities the various issues related to planning and design, promotion and marketing of the corridor region.

While La Vista is not included within the corridor’s boundary description (Hwy 50 is the eastern end), as leaders in the development of design guidelines La Vista has advocated the need for quality development within the corridor. Because of La Vista’s Southport development, the City has a vested interest in the successful development of other areas within the I-80 Corridor.

The attached MOSC does not bind or obligate the City to anything other than a commitment to participate for five (5) years. This is basically a show of support for the transition of the NIZC to the I-80 Council and continuing the work to ensure quality growth and development of the I-80 Corridor.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, NEBRASKA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT (MOSC) TO TRANSFER THE WORK OF THE NEBRASKA INNOVATION ZONE COMMISSION (NIZC) TO A NEW COALITION GROUP DESIGNATED AS THE "I-80 COUNCIL."

WHEREAS, the Nebraska legislature approved LB 546 in May 2005 which created the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission to advocate and recommend programs that encourage regional cooperation and foster community sustainability and economic development initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Vista has participated in the NIZC since its inception; and

WHEREAS, the NIZC is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Vista advocates quality growth and development in the I-80 Corridor and supports continuing the work of the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission through the transition to the I-80 Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska, hereby approve and authorize the City Administrator to sign a Memorandum of Support and Commitment (MOSC) to transfer the work of the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission (NIZC) to a new coalition group designated as the "I-80 Council".

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2010.

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Buethe, CMC
City Clerk

Memorandum of Support and Commitment

Regarding Continuing the Mission of the NIZC

This Memorandum of Support and Commitment (MOSC) is entered into upon the date of the final execution by all signatory parties, by and among the following Nebraska organizations, counties, and communities:

- The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
- The Omaha Chamber of Commerce
- The Metro Area Planning Agency (MAPA)
- The Nebraska counties of; Sarpy, Cass, Saunders, Washington, Douglas, and Lancaster (sometimes collectively referred to below as the "Counties")
- The following communities located within the designated boundaries of the Interstate 80 (I-80) corridor; Waverly, Greenwood, Ashland, Gretna, Papillion, and La Vista (sometimes collectively referred to below as the "Communities").
- The University of Nebraska
- The Metropolitan Community College
- The Southeast Community College

Whereas, the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission (NIZC or Commission), created by LB 546 with a scheduled sunset date of December 31, 2010, with the support of NIZC Commissioners, elected officials and community members, desires to transfer the work of the Commission to a new coalition group consisting of the Lincoln Chamber, the Omaha Chamber, and MAPA. This new coalition group will be designated the "I-80 Council". The I-80 Council will continue the groundwork established by the Commission, working towards growth and development through a collaborative process. The signatory parties to this MOSC envision the I-80 Council as having among its responsibilities the various issues surrounding planning and design, promotion, and marketing of the I-80 corridor region.

Whereas, the NIZC Studies (Studies-Phase I and Phase II - Model Design Standards) have involved major phases that have progressed into key recommendations for the Counties and Communities. Phase 1 examined regional issues, including the development of the 10 Guiding Principles for the Counties and the Communities. The Model Design Standards examined details within each segment and identified common existing patterns of standards that could be incorporated into basic guidelines that the Counties and Communities could adhere to when planning for interchange development, site development, community character, building setback lines, facilitating compatibility of design, improving visual appearance of highway facilities, and reducing the need for remedial measures and the resultant cost to taxpayers.

Whereas, among the Counties and the Communities and other stakeholders along the I-80 Corridor there is support for ensuring orderly development within the I-80 Corridor that will facilitate and permit safe and efficient use of land and resources.

Whereas, the signatory parties desire future continuity and existence of the I-80 Council for no less than five years.

Whereas, the signatory parties will use their best efforts and resources to inform and assist the I-80 Council in setting goals, formulating by-laws, participating in committee work, participating in group meetings and group communications, and scheduling of activities.

Whereas, local planning, incentives, marketing, zoning controls, land development regulations, subdivision regulations and other development approvals, utility locations, and permits can be effectively utilized to address future needs of the I-80 Corridor.

Whereas, the signatory parties fully understand this MOSC serves as a framework for cooperation among the parties, thereby creating an atmosphere of cooperation and a commitment to undertake appropriate participatory actions to further the mission of the I-80 Council.

Whereas, the signatory parties are not intending to, and do not by virtue of signing this MOSC, create any binding legal obligation or duty on the part of any signing party; but rather only express their intention to support the mission of the I-80 Council and intention to share information and cooperate regionally in the I-80 Corridor in the spirit of regional growth and development, for the good of all parties and for Nebraska taxpayers.

Now, therefore, the signatory parties hereby agree to recognize the mission of the I-80 Council as an important mission and agree to cooperate, to the extent it is possible for each party, with each other in supporting and furthering the I-80 Council. Through the collaboration forged by this MOSC, the parties agree to a commitment of no less than five years of actively cooperating and working together, regarding matters that have the potential to impact the I-80 Corridor region, mindful of and supportive of the findings of the NIZC Phase 1 & Phase II Studies.

This MOSC executed on the date shown adjacent to each of the parties' signatures.

Signatures of duly authorized representatives:

Entity Names:

City of Ashland, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Greenwood, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Gretna, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of La Vista, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Lincoln, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Omaha, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Papillion, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

City of Waverly, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Cass, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Douglas, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Lancaster, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Sarpy, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Saunders, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

County of Washington, Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____

Lincoln Chamber of Commerce _____ (date signed) _____

Metro Area Planning Agency _____ (date signed) _____

Metropolitan Community College _____ (date signed) _____

Omaha Chamber of Commerce _____ (date signed) _____

Southeast Community College _____ (date signed) _____

University of Nebraska _____ (date signed) _____