



The Witherbee Buzz

Newsletter

Winter 2006

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association includes the area bounded by 33rd to 56th and Randolph to "O" Streets



This structure recently appeared within the Witherbee Neighborhood boundaries. It appears to be a tri-plex.

Zoning—Why should you care?

Do you know that the value of your home could severely plummet due to unattractive development next to you or on your street. You don't think it could happen next to you? Is your home and street protected from greedy developers? Do you know if your home is located in an area currently zoned in a category that allows construction of unattractive apartments? Join us at the next WNA meeting and find out how vulnerable you are and how easy things can change and you could be helpless to do anything about it.

A significant part of the Witherbee Neighborhood is in this situation. The investment you've made in your home may be at risk of a developer buying a lot or two next to you or near by and building an apartment that brings traffic, parties and downward pressure on property values. It has happened throughout Lincoln as well as within the Witherbee Neighborhood.

A primary role of the WNA is to protect and enhance the character of the neighborhood. Construction of out-of-

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Partnerships to Help with Home Fix Ups and First-time Homeowners in WNA

The topics of presentations and discussion planned for the WNA February and March meetings are related, but different. They each address important efforts to help protect and enhance the neighborhood. The February meeting will be about WNA seeking a change of zoning from the City Council to protect against further construction of unsightly apartments in our neighborhood (See zoning article to left.) The March meeting will be about creating a partnership involving homeowners, WNA, lenders, public agencies and non-profit organizations to help with home fix ups and assist first-time homeowners purchase properties in the neighborhood. Come, join us and see how you can benefit from these programs.

Participation by each of the parties listed above has been a win-win-win approach in other neighborhoods. Here's how everyone wins. Current property owners can get assistance with needed fix ups. First-time homeown-

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Have a complaint for the city?

Have you ever called in a complaint to the city or asked for a service? Trash, junk cars, weeds, barking dogs, pot-holes, trees need trimming, over grown alleys and much more. Ever wondered if it was taken care of or why it took so long to get something done?

Now the City of Lincoln, with encouragement of neighborhood leaders, developed an on-line system (at www.lincoln.ne.gov) for you to file a Complaint / Service Request. Through this system you can track your complaint and see what the status is and where it is stuck and maybe even why. You will also see when it is resolved and still stay anonymous if you choose to do so.

Come and Join us at our April 6th monthly meeting and see Terry Lowe from the City Information Service Division do a live demonstration of how this system works. You will learn the key features for successful reporting. This system is for non-emergency requests and includes all city departments. No more getting transferred to the wrong number. If you deal with the City at all you don't want to miss this meeting. The Information Services Department received a National League of Cities digital cities award for their innovative ideas. They deserve a big hand for this.