

Witherbee Neighborhood Association

Fred Freytag - President
530 So 38th
Lincoln, NE 68510



March 6, 2006

Public Works Department, Urban Development, Planning Department, Parks Department,
City of Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: "O" Street Widening Project at 46th Street

On behalf of the Witherbee Neighborhood Association (WNA), I am writing this letter to express the Association's concern with planned development in the area immediately south of 46th & O Streets.

It came to our attention that the City of Lincoln has changed the plan for the re-design of the "M-street extension", the one-way street on the west side of the park/green space at 46th & O Street, without an opportunity for public input.

WNA, at its monthly meeting on March 2, 2006, voted to contact the City of Lincoln to express our concern based on the following facts:

- The proposed change in street configuration was not made public during numerous meetings and presentations that the City has held regarding the widening of O Street between 44th and 52nd Streets. This change only became public at the Open House held by the City on February 21, 2006, at the Villager Motel.
- The area affected by this street configuration change is one of the few remaining green spaces in this part of the city, and is located in the heart of our neighborhood. This green space is of great importance to our neighborhood for the health and well-being benefits it offers our residents.
- WNA objects to the taking of any park land in central Lincoln to include any part of the space at 46th & O Street.
- It has been the desire of WNA to preserve any and all existing park and green spaces located within the neighborhood boundaries, and to a larger extent, all such spaces located within the city limits.
- Conflicting information coming from the different City Departments involved in the project has kept the residents from knowing with certainty what exactly the City intends to do at this location.

For the above reasons, WNA respectfully requests that plans for the 'M-street extension' and '46th & O green space' re-design be temporarily suspended until the issue is clarified to WNA's satisfaction. WNA requests that an informational meeting be held to explain the plans, and to allow citizens to ask questions regarding the project.

WNA will appreciate your serious consideration of this request and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fred Freytag". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.

Fred Freytag
President

Cc: (Mayor and council reps)