





Photos by C. Scott Fields



Photos by C. Scott Fields



MISSING!

FROM THE GREATER OMAHA 2015 MAYOR'S BIKE RIDE



MAYOR JEAN STOTHERT

**OMAHA DESERVES MORE COMMITMENT
TO MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION
OPTIONS. IT'S TIME.**

**WE DON'T COAST, WE HOLD
ACCOUNTABLE.**

MGMT



**City of Omaha
Jean Stothert, Mayor**

August 5, 2015

Sarah Johnson
Omaha Bicycle Company
6015 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68104

Dear Sarah,

I would like to thank you for your service to the community as a member of the Benson Business Improvement District Board. The dedication and professionalism you have provided to the board have been a great benefit.

Pursuant to the Omaha City Council appointing documents, your term on the Omaha Personnel Board expired on July 11, 2015. This letter serves as formal notice that your term has expired. Subsequently, I have decided to make a new appointment to this position. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Stothert".

Jean Stothert
Mayor, City of Omaha

Office of the Mayor
1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300
Omaha, Nebraska 68183-0300
(402) 444-5000
FAX: (402) 444-6059

DAVE HEINEMAN



THOU SHALT KILL!

Offering These Brutal Methods

- Beheading
- Hanging
- **Firing Squad**
- Gas Chamber
- Electrocution
- Lethal Injection

Call Now!
402-471-2244
or
Write a letter
State Capitol
PO Box 94848
Lincoln, NE
68509-4848

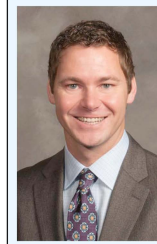
THE METHODIST CHURCH EXECUTIONER

FACTS ABOUT THE DEATH PENALTY

1. It costs three times as much to put somebody on death row than it does to give them a life sentence without the possibility of parole.
3. The mainstream of Christianity, from the Pope to Pat Robertson, has consistently sought to abolish the death penalty.
4. The death penalty is used disproportionately against the poor, minorities and members of racial, ethnic and religious communities.
4. About 75% of the United Nations have either abolished the death penalty or no longer practice it.
5. The bill to replace the death penalty with life in prison was only 3 votes shy of passing the Nebraska legislature this past May.

More Facts on deathpenaltyinfo.org

Charlie Janssen is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church



CHARLIE JANSSEN DISTRICT 15
Home Address: 1234 N. Bristolwood Dr., Fremont, NE 68025
Office Address: Room 1403, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68599, phone (402) 471-2625, email — cjanssen@leg.state.ne.gov
Elected to Nebraska Legislature: 2008; re-elected 2012
Committees: Revenue; Transportation and Telecommunications
Biography: Born Jan. 15, 1971, in Fremont; Graduate of Logan View High School, 1989; Wayne State College (BS), 1997; Military service: U.S. Navy (1989-93); Married Ellen Faus, Sept. 10, 2010. Three children: Charlie, Jr., Betsy Anne and Scarlett Charize. Chairman and CEO, RTG Medical. Former: U.S. Navy search and rescue swimmer. Member: St. Patrick's Catholic Church; board of directors, Fremont Area United Way; board of directors, Greater Fremont Development Council; senior vice-commander, VFW; Former member: Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce; Fremont Veterans Club (president); Fremont City Council, Republican.

Source: Nebraska Blue Book, 2013



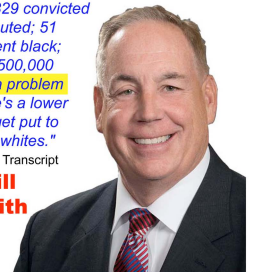
State Senator Bill Kintner said the following on May 13, 2013.

"You know, since 1976, 1,329 convicted murderers have been executed; 51 percent white and 33 percent black; and there have been over 500,000 murders. We do not have a problem with race. If anything, there's a lower percentage of blacks that get put to death proportionately than whites."

Source: Legislature Floor Debate Transcript

Unfortunately, Bill has a problem with

MATH!



Nebraska Mail Art Cooperative is devoted to political activism through the medium of anonymous mail art.

DEATH PENALTY DREAM TEAM

"This is right ...according to scriptures."
Lydia Brasch

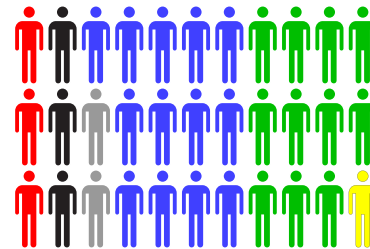
"...there's a lower percentage of blacks that get put to death proportionately than whites."
Bill Kintner

"He [Christ] did not criticize the death penalty given to him..."
Mike Groene

"...indefinitely postpone"
Beau McCoy

YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE ON THIS TEAM

NEBRASKA'S DEATH ROW NUMBERS SINCE 1973 33 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH



3 EXECUTED (9%) **13 COMMUTED SENTENCES (39%)**
3 DIED (Natural Causes) **11 CURRENTLY ON DEATH ROW (33%)**
2 COMMITTED SUICIDE **1 VACATED (Jeremy Sheets, 2001)**

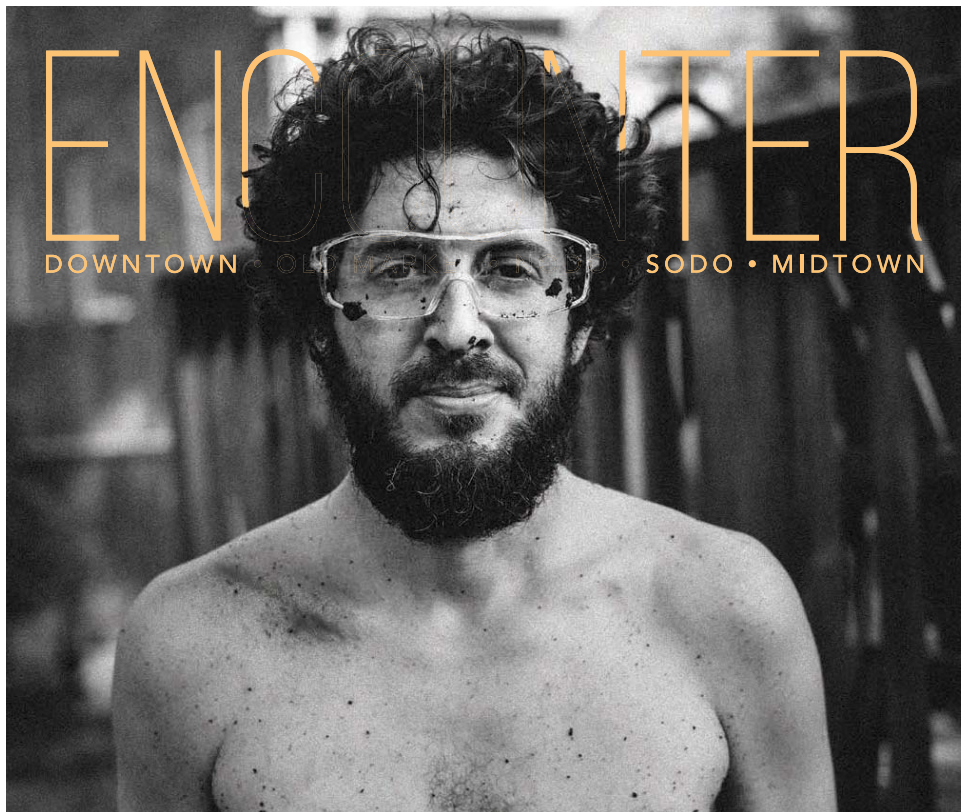
THOU SHALT NOT KILL!



VOTE YES ON LB268

Ernie Chambers as the Wizard, getting the state out of the killing business.





Blake initially utilized wood for his signposts but soon realized that the ubiquitous “we buy houses for cash” signs lining streets and cluttering medians were “like Omaha driftwood” begging to be repurposed.



“A lot of people have asked me, ‘Are you for the war or are you against it?’ My number one thing is to get people thinking and talking about these ongoing wars. I’m just reminding people that, whether they’re for or against the wars, these things are happening.”





Big Muddy Workshop, Inc.

December 5, 2016 • 



So do you think trail users are trying to tell us that we need zebra stripes on the 36th Street crossing on the South Omaha Trail? Thanks to whomever spent the time and chalk to make this point!



David Reinarz

Props to the Pink Panthers Whoever they are



(PLUNGERS FOR A SAFER AKSARBEN)

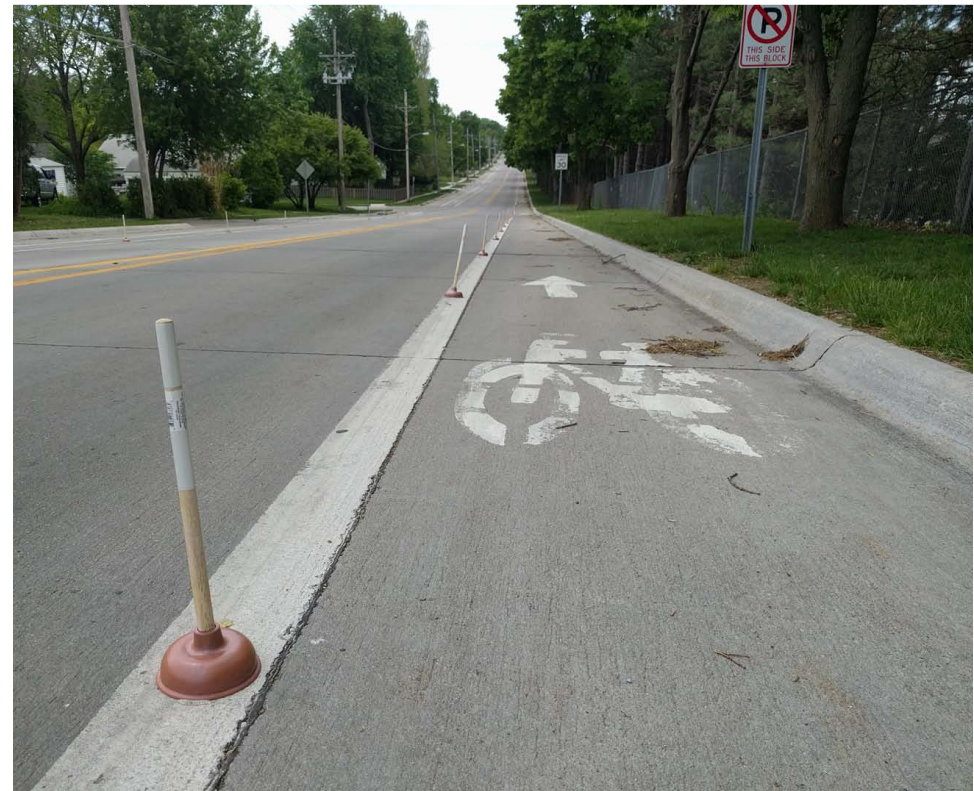




The intersection at 63rd and Shirley is the site of a May 2015 car crash that resulted in one fatality. The safety of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists who use this intersection remains a concern for many in the neighborhood. This bike lane is part of the 20-mile bike loop created in 2009 as Bike Omaha and funded through the Peter Kiewit Foundation and an anonymous donor.

At the March 16, 2017 meeting of the Aksarben Elmwood Neighborhood Association, the idea of taking out the bike infrastructure along this street was raised by an official from the City of Omaha Department of Public Works.

A similar installation erected in Wichita earlier this year sparked a community-wide conversation about bike safety.





WHAT ARE THEY?



Protected bike lanes put a barrier between drivers and bike riders. The barrier can be parked cars, plastic posts, or planters. They are popular in cities with high amounts of bike riders for everyday use.

GOOD FOR BUSINESS

9th Ave in New York City saw a **49%** increase in business after protected bike lanes were installed. Nearby streets only saw a 3% increase.

55% More bike traffic on Kinzie St in Chicago after a protected bike lane was installed.

A Portland study found bike riders will *go out of their way* to a street with good bike infrastructure. That's more business exposure.



Pedestrians and bike riders in Toronto **SPENT THE MOST MONEY** and visited stores more often.

Maybe because it costs less to walk or bike?



GOOD FOR SAFETY

89% fewer injuries among bike riders on streets with protected bike lanes.⁵

Bike- and pedestrian-friendly street design leads to less collisions, even when there are more people out!⁶

DRIVERS don't have to worry about unexpected bike maneuvers. **PEDESTRIANS** don't have to worry about bike riders on the sidewalks.



GOOD FOR LAWFULNESS



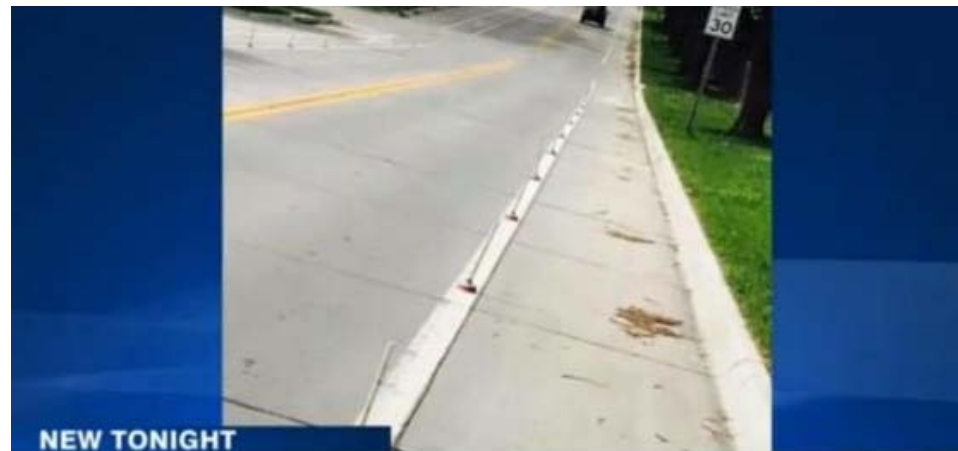
In Chicago, protected bike lanes have resulted in a **161%** increase in the number of bike riders obeying the stoplight.⁷

GOOD FOR EVERYONE

71% of Americans have expressed interest in riding a bike more often, but find it unsafe.⁸ *Are you one of them?*


LESS Each bike on the road is one less car in traffic, causes less pollution, less wear on the road (and therefore less taxpayer-funded maintenance), and creates a healthier population.

LIKE PROTECTED BIKE LANES?
TELL YOUR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS!



PLUNGERS PLACED ON BUSY ROAD





SIGNAL IS
SCHEDULED TO
BE REMOVED
IF YOU HAVE
QUESTIONS
CALL
CITY OF OMAHA
444-5160

* "IT'S NOT ABOUT
THE VOLUME OF
CALLS WE'RE GOING
TO GET, IT'S ABOUT
QUANTIFIABLE DATA."

CITY TRAFFIC
ENGINEER
MURTHY KOTI

Tuesday, July 25, 2017: The city installed signs at the signals at 51st and Farnam Streets, and 52nd and Chicago Streets stating that the signals will be removed and to call the City of Omaha with questions. For the next 45 days, the signals will flash yellow in all directions. After that, the lights will be bagged for another 45 days.

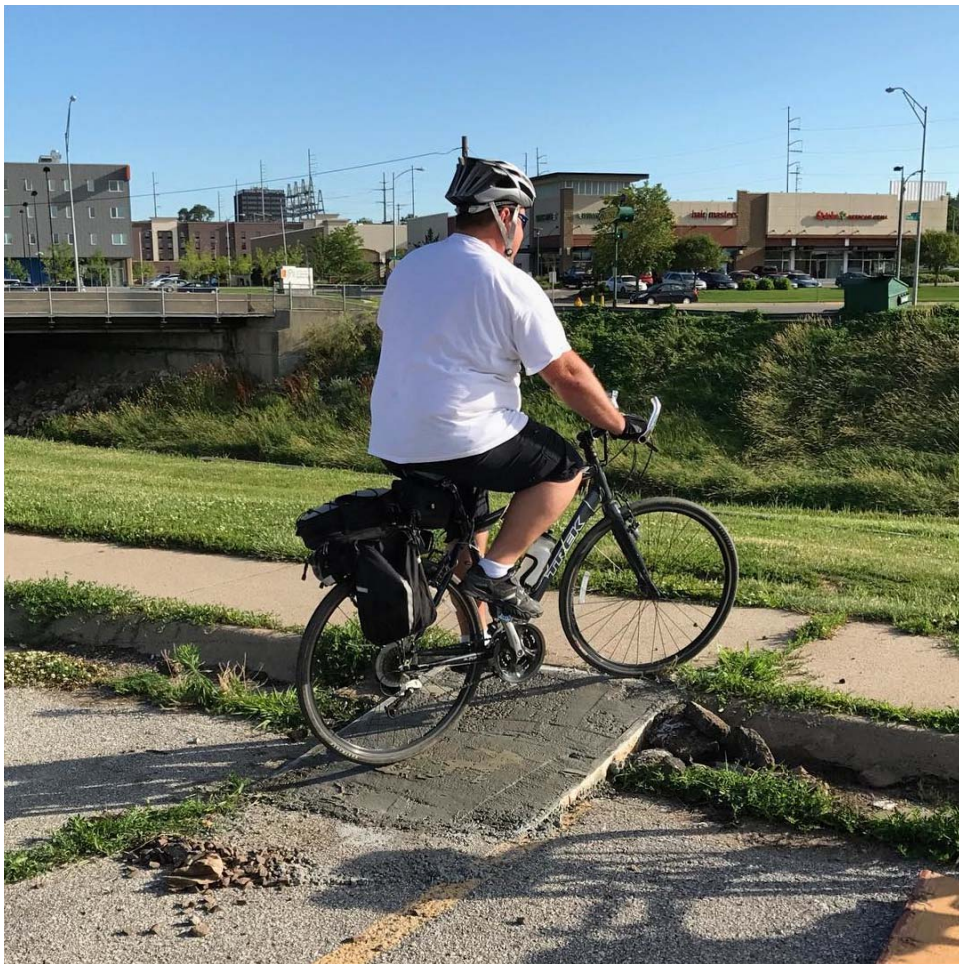
"The next three months, we are going to be evaluating these intersections, we are going to be doing studies to understand if this intersection can operate safely without a signal," said City Traffic Engineer Murthy Koti.

"It's not about the volume of calls we're going to get, it's about quantifiable data."

3 DAYS LATER!

Friday, July 28, 2017: Stothert smartly pressed the pause button, ordering restoration of the crosswalk signals at 51st and Farnam and 52nd and Chicago Streets until further study is done. That's a sensible decision.

Source: Omaha World Herald



Mirror and Ramp on Keystone Trail



Hole on Dodge Street near UNO



To Captain Marcia West Omaha Police Department -

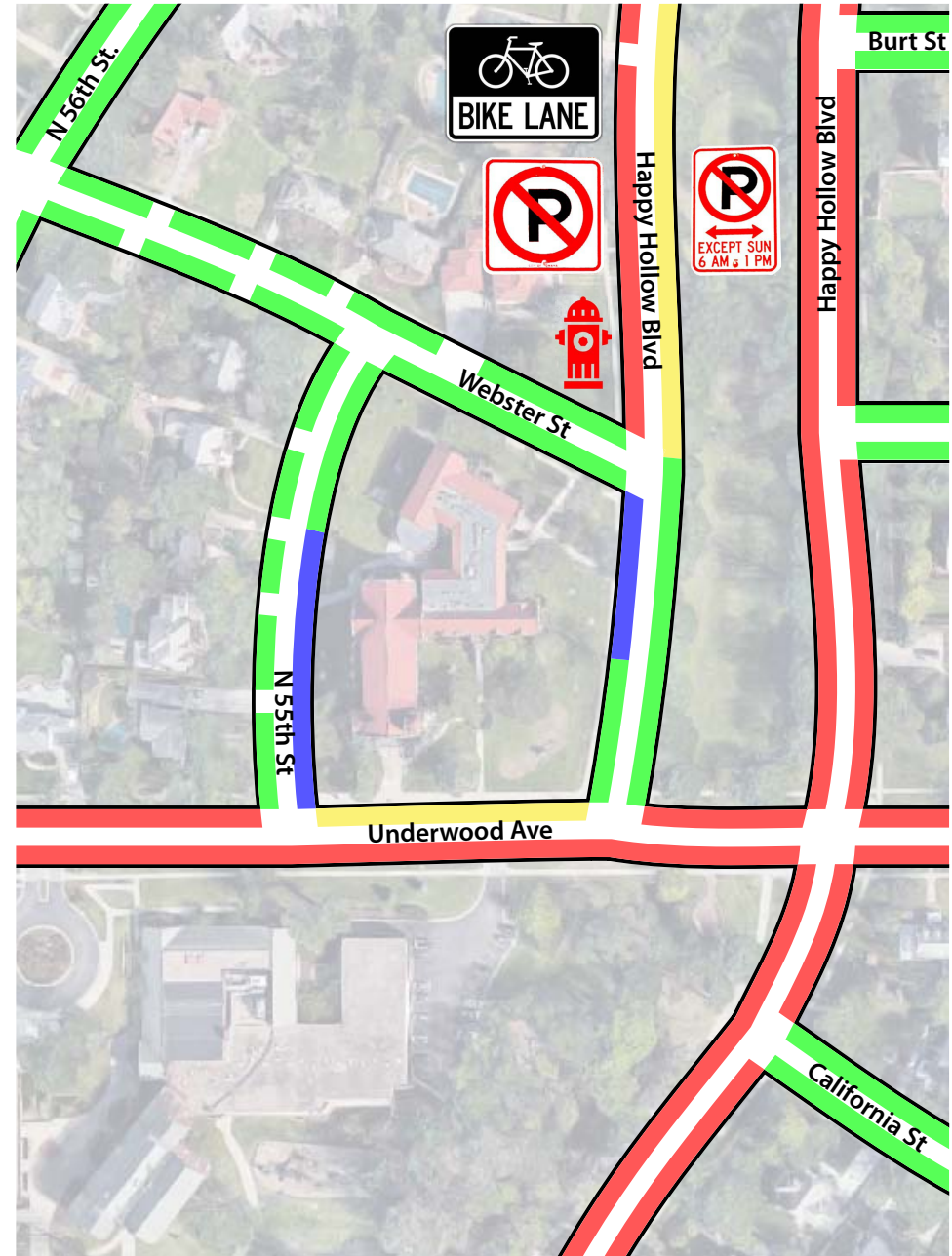
A group of cyclists have been clashing with the Dundee Presbyterian Church goes over parking their cars in the bike lane and in front of a fire hydrant on Happy Hollow Blvd every Sunday 8:30 to noon and Wednesday 5:30 to 8pm.

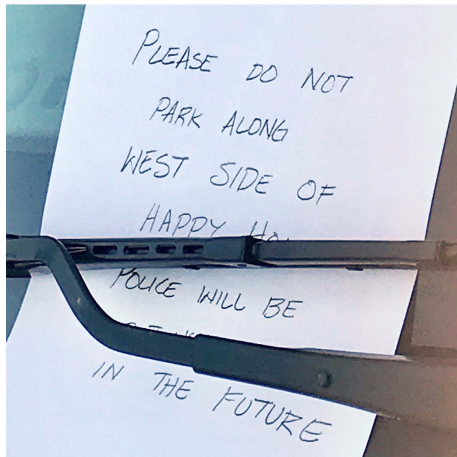
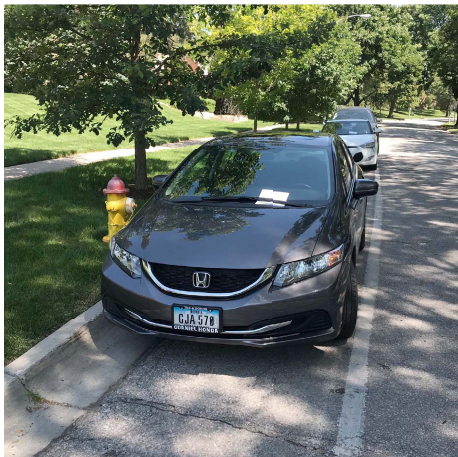


The church is keenly aware of the problem. They've made announcements during recent Sunday services, updated their website, and posted about it on their social media. City Councilmember Pete Festersen attends the church, and has spoken with the minister, but the illegal parking persists.



We called the non-emergency number and the phone operator said to call 911. So last Sunday, June 9 at 11AM, we called 911. The responding officer #2438 told us that OPD is not going ticket cars parked in the bike lane and in front of the fire hydrant because it was Sunday near the church.





Ordinance No. 42051

Motion Passed : November 26, 2019, 7-0

Amended Omaha Municipal Code Sections : 36-2, 36-156, and 36 -288

Sec. 36-2 (Definitions) : Bicycle Lane - A bicycle lane is a portion of the roadway that has been designated by striping, signage, and/or pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

Sec. 36-156 (n) : It shall be unlawful for the driver of a vehicle to stop, stand or park such vehicle within a marked bicycle lane.

Sec. 36-288 : Park in Bicycle Lane \$32.00

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER

Christopher Jerome

APPROVED BY:

Jim Stewart 11/26/19
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OMAHA DATE

PASSED NOV 26 2019 7-0

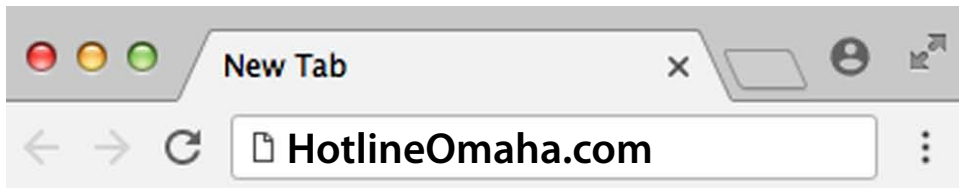
ATTEST:

Kimberly Hoeling 11/26/19
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF OMAHA DATE

DEPUTY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

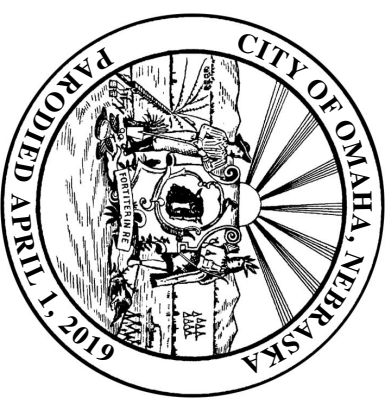
R. J. Zee 10/26/19
CITY ATTORNEY DATE



OMAHA CITY SPINNER



HotlineOmaha.com



City of Omaha
Mayor's Parody Department
www.HotlineOmaha.com
RELEASE DATE: APRIL 1, 2019

MAYOR'S HOTLINE OFFERS NEW SERVICE

A new handheld device to receive instant answers from the "city" is live today.

The City Spinner is now the preferred way that concerned citizens can receive feedback from the city of Omaha regarding problems including potholes, road damage, pavement issues, and during the winter, snow, ice, and potholes. To use: concentrate on the question at hand and spin the black indicator arrow. Wherever it stops: that's the answer. If the desired feedback to said query is not received, simply spin again.

For example, when it snows 3" and Dodge Street is impassible in sections, consult the City Spinner to determine that it's "not the City's problem since it's a state highway." The reporting

citizen receives instant feedback and doesn't tie up city resources with pesky follow up requests.

The popular Omaha Mobile App created an unmanageable amount of engagement and, since this is not an election year, the contract with City Sourced has not been renewed. Citizens can, however, log in to a mobile-based website, HotlineOmaha.com on their cell phone with either MySpace or Friendster accounts. Finally if you must, the Mayor's Hotline can be reached by phone at 402-555-4444 and someone will spin it for you.

"We are in the customer service business and this is good, responsive customer service," said Mayor Jean Stothert. "We just want as many resources available, easy-to-use, easy-to-navigate, that we possibly can have. And the important thing for this one is to provide updates and feedback to those who have filed the complaint."

Since January, HotlineOmaha.com has been tested by the concerned citizens of Omaha. More than 1,000 successful spins have been made during the test period of this cost saving tool that paves the way to a fiscally responsible future. City Spinner 2.0 is in the works, this one mounted on Plexiglas to provide the kind of transparency favored by the Mayor.

"This is an excellent example of using technology to provide services to our citizens," said Mayor Stothert. "Thanks to the team for their creative, cost-saving solutions that benefit taxpayers."

###

12 bikes or 1 car? City removes Benson bike corral despite cyclists' protests



Pete Festersen
@PeteFestersen

Replying to [@sj_abc](#) [@emfundertaker](#) and 17 others

Bike corral is staying. They have been told to stand down.



FOIA request shows no statistics behind the removal of the Benson bike corral



Senator Megan Hunt ✓
@NebraskaMegan

Attached is my letter to Mayor Stothert and the Omaha City Council urging them to replace the bike corral in Benson and continue working with community leaders to make Omaha more friendly for cyclists, pedestrians, and those who do not get around by car.



Bicycles painted white appear in three Omaha spots to protest loss of Benson bike corral.
Midlands



The ghosts of past bowl games hold lessons for the future of Husker football, Tom Shatel writes. *Sports*

Omaha World-Herald

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019 • SUNRISE EDITION • REAL. FAIR. ACCURATE.



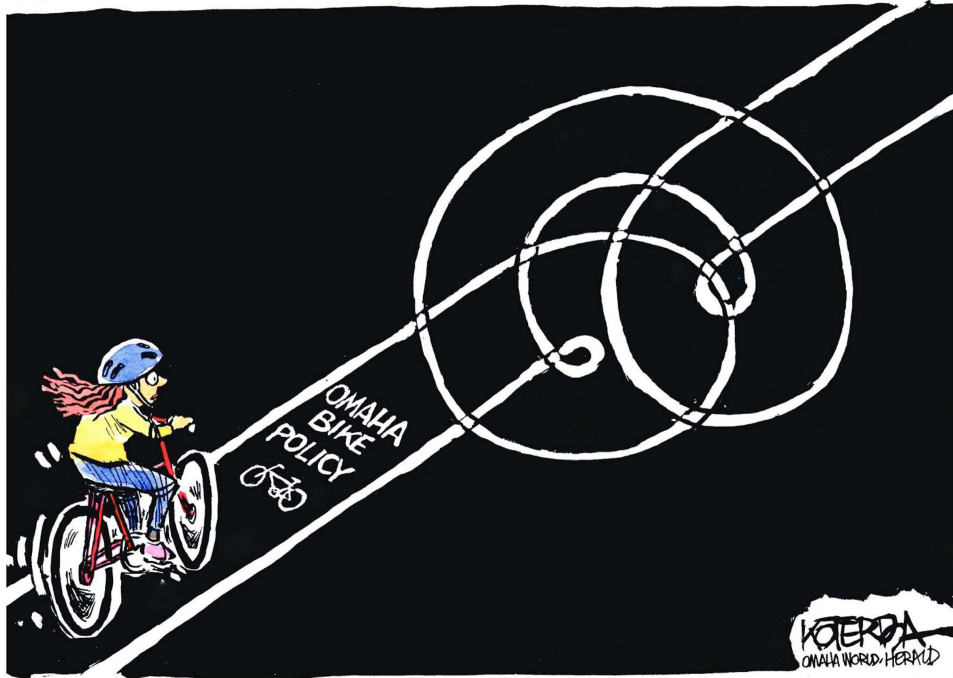
Signs with white bikes call for the return of spot for cyclists to park, meet up



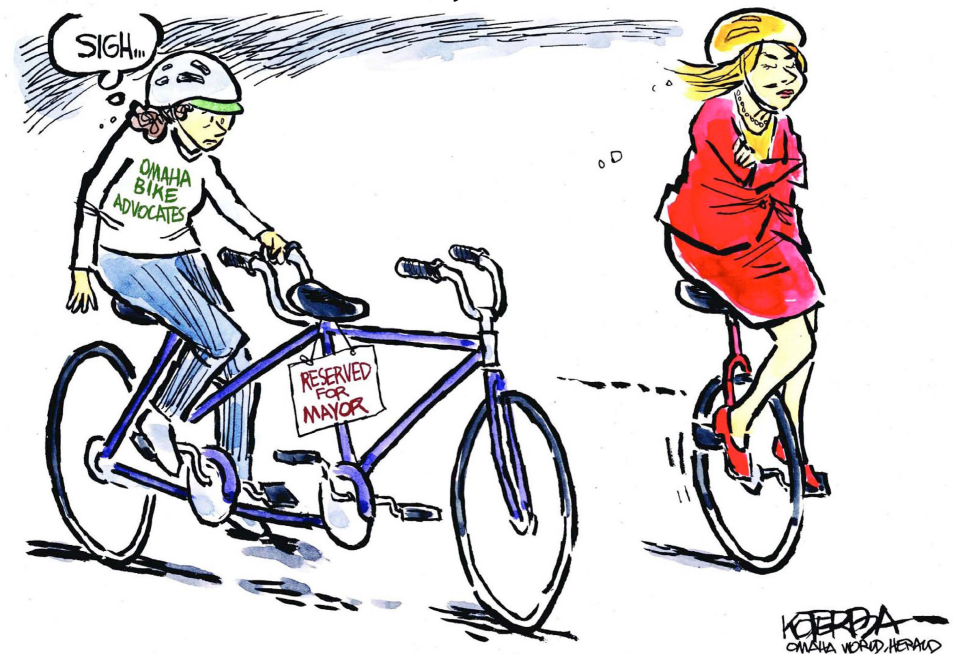
Ghostly bicycles pop up in Omaha to protest loss of Benson bike corral



December 27, 2019



January 12, 2020



JeffreyKoterba.com



Seeing Red Nebraska

@SeeingRedNE

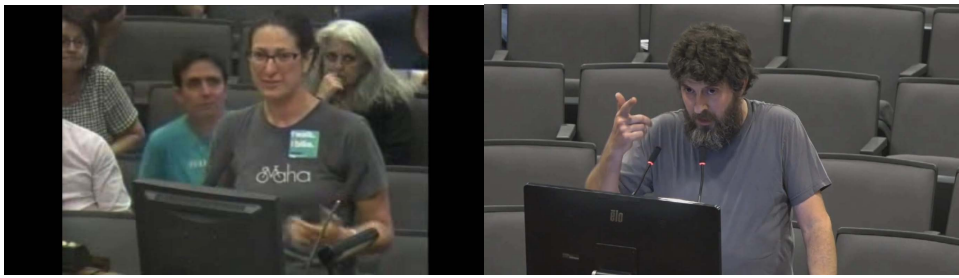
Spotted by a reader. Crappy Holidays! Actual bus bench (not Photoshopped) on North 72nd Street near Lewis and Clark Middle School.



Dennis Grady @Franz_Kafka1 · Dec 26, 2021

Replying to @SeeingRedNE

The Mayor needs to hire Fortenberry's lawyer ASAP. Oh wait, he might be too busy on another case right now.



Omaha City Council BINGO

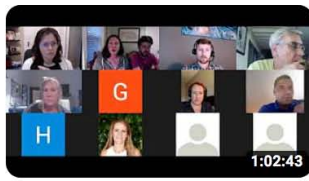
Public Works	Bob Stubbe	Transit Oriented Development	Open Meetings Act	Luis Jimenez
Todd Pfitzer	Out of Order	Potholes	I know my rights	Rock Band Reference
Live Stream Down	Tax Increment Financing	Larry Storer	In My District	Liquor License Approved
Jerram Joke	City Attorney	Parking	You're Off Topic	David Fanslau
The Weather	Affordable Housing	Recycling	Money for Police	Street Maintenance



"I realized that if we were actually going to get better folks into the decision making seats, the community needed to understand that these were important positions and talk about them year round, not just during an election cycle. It's cathartic mostly, sometimes referred to as 'Commiseration Club' and certainly feels more life affirming and productive than city council meetings. We study and learn together, hoping to widen the cracks in the political machine that is Omaha, Nebraska." **Sarah Johnson, Feb 2022.**



Omaha Council Club; May 20, 2021,
Episode 1



Omaha Council Club; May 27, 2021,
Episode 2



Omaha Council Club; June 3, 2021,
Episode 3



Omaha Council Club; Oct 28, 2021;
Episode 21



Omaha Council Club; Nov 4, 2021;
Episode 22



Omaha Council Club; Nov 11, 2021;
Episode 23



Omaha Council Club; June 10, 2021,
Episode 4



Omaha Council Club; June 17, 2021,
Episode 5



Omaha Council Club; June 24, 2021,
Episode 6



Omaha Council Club; Nov 18, 2021;
Episode 24



Omaha Council Club; Dec 2, 2021;
Episode 25



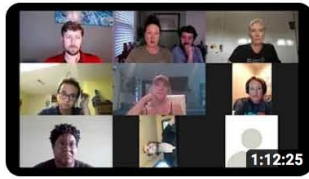
Omaha Council Club; Dec 9, 2021;
Episode 26



Omaha Council Club; July 1, 2021,
Episode 7



Omaha Council Club; July 8, 2021,
Episode 8



Omaha Council Club; July 15, 2021,
Episode 9



Omaha Council Club; Dec 16, 2021;
Episode 27



Omaha Council Club; Jan 6, 2022;
Episode 28



Omaha Council Club; Jan 13, 2022;
Episode 29



Omaha Council Club; July 22, 2021,
Episode 10



Omaha Council Club; August 5,
2021, Episode 11



Omaha Council Club; August 12,
2021, Episode 12



Omaha Council Club; Jan 27, 2022;
Episode 31



Omaha Council Club; Feb 10, 2022;
Episode 32



Omaha Council Club; March 3, 2022;
Episode 34



Omaha Council Club; Sept 9, 2021;
Episode 14



Omaha Council Club; Sept 16, 2021;
Episode 15



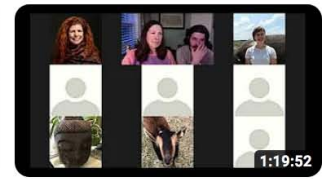
Omaha Council Club; Sept 23, 2021;
Episode 16



Omaha Council Club; March 10,
2022; Episode 35



Omaha Council Club; March 17,
2022; Episode 36



Omaha Council Club; March 31,
2022; Episode 38



Omaha Council Club; Sept 30, 2021;
Episode 17



Omaha Council Club; Oct 7, 2021;
Episode 18



Omaha Council Club; Oct 21, 2021;
Episode 20



Omaha Council Club; April 14, 2022;
Episode 40



Omaha Council Club; April 21, 2022;
Episode 41

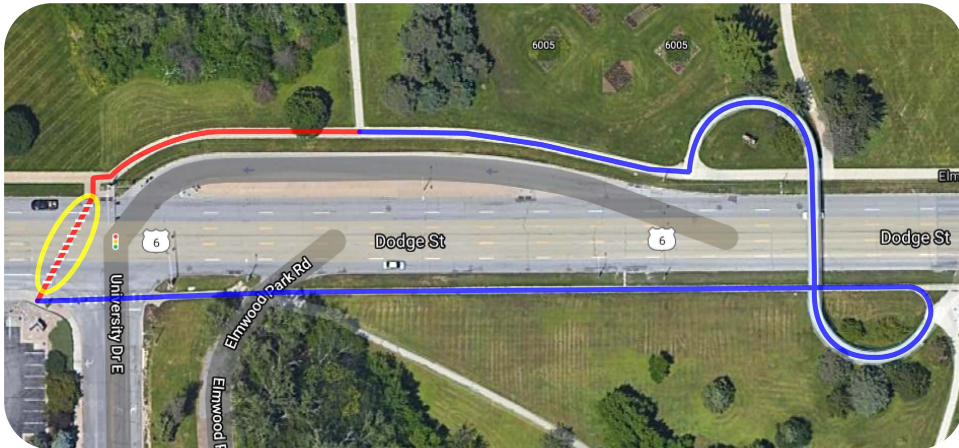


Omaha Council Club; May 5, 2022;
Episode 42

City removed crosswalks on Dodge St by UNO.



Omaha Public Works said, "just use the bridge." But the Pedestrian Bridge is too steep to meet ADA plus the alternate route is 322% longer.



Nov 19, 2021

WOO HOO! Our calls (and yours) seem to have been answered: Dodge St. has a crosswalk near UNO and Memorial Park again. We're grateful but curious as to why it wasn't done earlier with the rest of the construction & road markings.



Nov 24, 2021

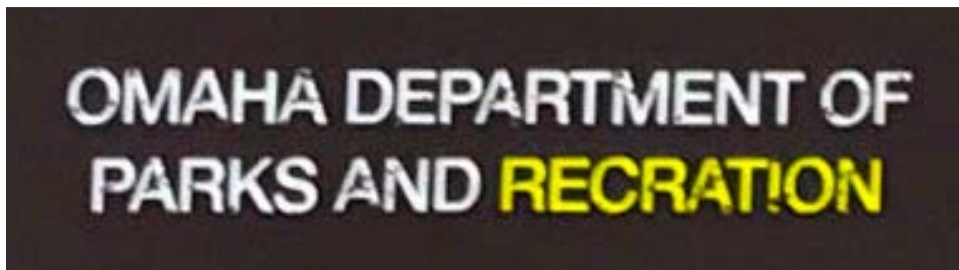


October 2020



Ash (not that Ash) @ashbzak

We need to get class 2 and scooters removed from that sign. They should welcome changing the sign considering their "recreation" typo on the bottom there.



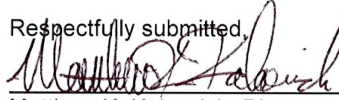


Resolution No. 2021-0648

Motion Passed : July 13, 2021, 7-0

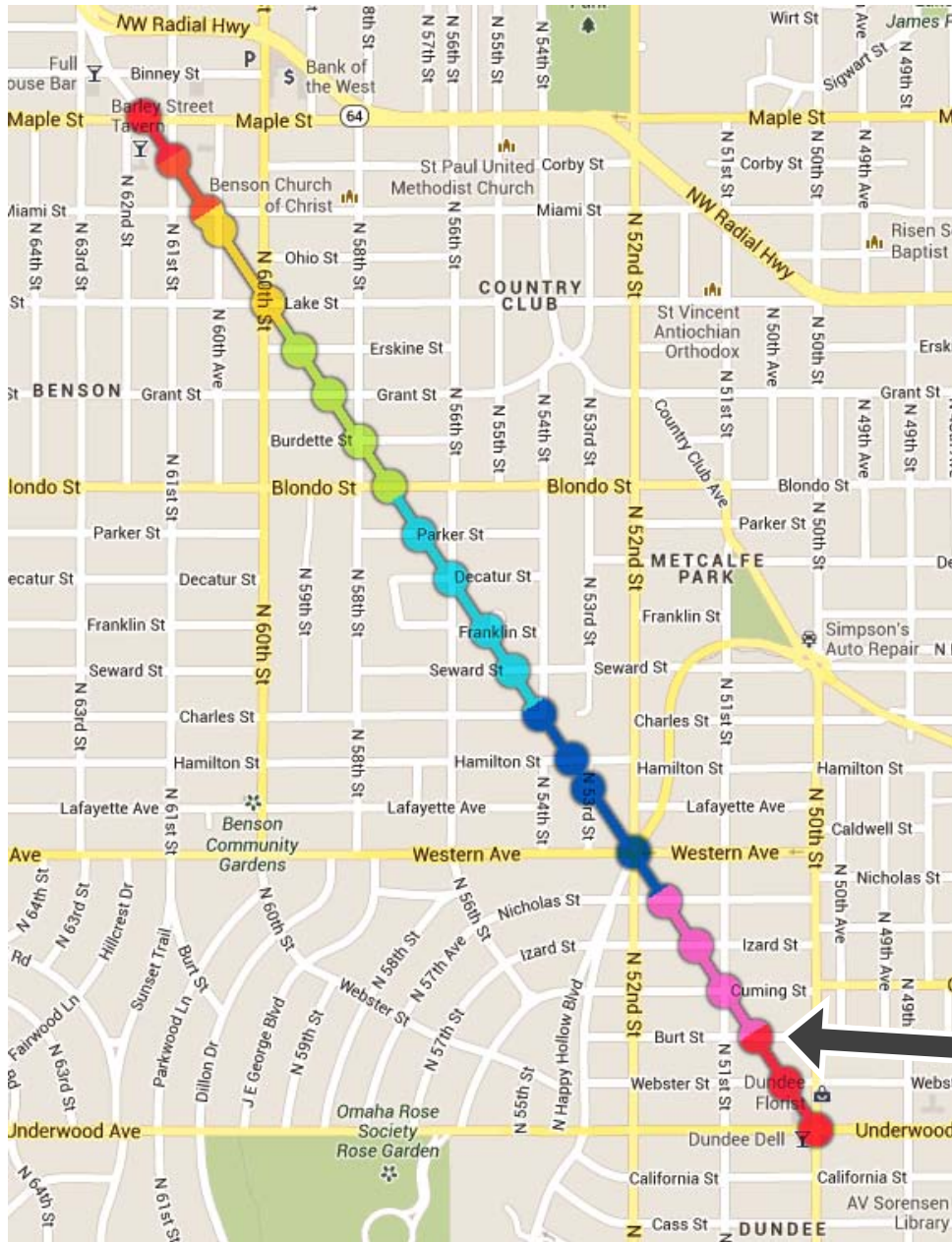
Amended Omaha Municipal Code Chapter 21

1a. PARK CLOSING : Multi-use (shared-use) paved trails will remain open 24-hours a day with the purpose of supporting those commuting or selecting a trail as their main mode of transportation.

17. MOTORIZED VEHICLES ON TRAILS : Trails are multiuse in nature with various acceptable shared activities and users, this includes the use of all E-Bikes and E-Scooters.

Respectfully submitted,	Referred to City Council for Consideration:		
			
Matthew K. Kalcevich, Director Parks, Recreation, and Public Property Department	Date 5/28/21	Mayor's Office	Date 6/2/2021

Rainbow Line (unfinished)



Benson to Dundee
8,729 feet / 1.7 miles

