

# City Happenings

#107

August 2024



## New Veterans Pavilion's Patriotic Dedication Ceremony

In the early afternoon of June 29, hundreds of people were at Kirkpatrick Memorial Park, celebrating Lexington's 150th birthday. Dozens of those people surrounded the new Veterans Memorial Pavilion and Amphitheater to witness Lexington's Veterans Memorial Task Force lead a dedication ceremony for the facility.

Among groups represented on stage were local and regional members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles, Lexington Community Foundation, Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce, and a number of veterans and active military personnel.

Mayor John Fagot spoke and explained the veterans committee had three main goals:

- (1) to educate, which for starters can be done by visiting the five kiosks around the pavilion and using your smart phone to scan the QR code that will call up more information about that branch of the military;
- (2) to remember, which is where the memorial wall comes in - people are buying bricks with veterans information on them - so far 180 have been installed but there's room for many more; and
- (3) to entertain, which is where the amphitheater comes in - the idea is that entertainment attractions will attract visitors to the pavilion, where they might be exposed to the first two goals (education and remembrance).

Following the fairly traditional ceremony all veterans present were invited to the stage for a ribbon cutting.



We are grateful to acknowledge that 25 trees were planted around the Pavilion thanks to an Urban Forestry grant from Central Platte Natural Resources District.

To buy a brick online or download an order form, go to <https://donate.brickmarkers.com/lex>.



## HONOR A VETERAN WITH THIS LASTING TRIBUTE

Thanks to the Lexington Veterans Memorial Committee, you now have the opportunity to purchase a commemorative brick which can be inscribed in honor or in memory of a veteran. The bricks will be installed on the Veterans Pavilion Memorial Wall at the south end of Kirkpatrick Memorial Park.



The process is simple: fill out the form at <https://donate.brickmarkers.com/lex>, (or use the QR code above) and remit your payment. All the helpful details are at the website.

Thank you for supporting our local heroes!



Come to City Hall and grab your free Radon detection kit, courtesy of Two Rivers Public Health Department!



TEST YOUR HOME!  
**FREE RADON TEST KITS AVAILABLE!**

Test kits are first come, first served.  
Limited supply!  
Ask at the Utilities counter.

¡PON A PRUEBA TO HOGAR!  
**¡KITS DE PRUEBA DE RADÓN DISPONIBLES!**

Los kits de prueba se entregan por orden de llegada.  
¡Disponibilidad muy limitada!  
Pregunta en este mostrador.



406 E 7th Street, Lexington, NE







## EnergyWise Tip: Thinking About Your A/C?



by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

As the heat of summer cranks up, so do the central air conditioners and heat pumps across Nebraska. In fact, about 90% of homes in our state have one of these central cooling systems. The vast majority have a compressor unit that buzzes outside as the system removes heat from inside. But what if that buzzing stopped on the hottest of days?

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America states that about 85-90% of residential heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) replacements are performed on an emergency basis. This is to be expected since those days stress HVAC systems the most.

Proper maintenance of your cooling system helps ensure a longer, more energy efficient life, and your local electric utility can provide an incentive when you have a professional HVAC technician perform a cooling system tune up. But inevitably, the day will come when you ask yourself, "Should I have it repaired again or replace it?"

Rather than waiting until sweltering heat brings your unit down, start thinking today about the following:



### System Age

Most HVAC equipment manufacturers will say outdoor central air conditioning and air-source heat pump units should last around 15 to 20 years if properly maintained. Other factors influencing longevity include correct sizing, proper installation, temperature setting preferences, environmental exposure and geographical location. If your outdoor unit is more than 10 years old, start familiarizing yourself with replacement options and costs.

### Frequency of Repairs

Look back at your unit's history to gain some insight of its future. Does it seem like your system has needed to undergo repair work in addition to maintenance year after year? Have a number of unforeseen problems popped up the past few years? If your cooling system has had a difficult life, it's not likely to suddenly get easier as time goes on.

### The \$5,000 Rule

Some repairs can easily cost more than \$1,000. Try using the "\$5,000 rule" when considering whether to replace the unit. Simply multiply the age of the outdoor unit with the estimated repair cost. If that amount is more than \$5,000, it might be time to replace the unit.

### R-22 Refrigerant

Older air conditioners generally require R-22 refrigerant, which is known to cause damage to the environment. Also, the price for R-22 has increased astronomically! By January 1, 2010, the U.S. banned the production and importation of R-22. As a result, manufacturers of heat pump and air conditioning equipment redesigned their systems to accommodate R-410A, a chlorine-free refrigerant. Since 2015, R-410A has become the standard for residential air conditioning.

### Energy Efficiency

The U.S. Department of Energy began enforcing minimum efficiency standards for HVAC equipment in 1992. For cooling, residential heat pumps and central air-conditioners were required to have a minimum seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) of 10. By 2006, that minimum efficiency level was increased to a SEER rating of 13.

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## Thinking About Your A/C?

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Just recently, the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio 2 (SEER2) testing procedure was developed to better reflect current field conditions. Effective January 1, 2023, new central air conditioners and heat pumps are required to meet or exceed a 13.4 SEER2 rating. Today, some units exceed a SEER2 rating of 27. In general, the higher the SEER2 rating, the better the efficiency.

Lexington Utilities System, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, recognizes the importance of keeping your home cool this summer. To help with those associated costs, LEXUS offers the EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup> Cooling System Tune-Up and High Efficiency Heat Pump Incentive Programs. For further details, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit [www.energywisenebraska.com](http://www.energywisenebraska.com) for more information



**ENERGYWISE™**  
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

**It PAYS to tune up your heating & cooling system**

COOLING SYSTEM TUNE-UP PROGRAM

**A \$30 incentive**

is available to qualified customers who have their current cooling system inspected and tuned-up by an HVAC contractor.

Contact us for more information.

308.324-2343

In partnership with our supplier, Nebraska Public Power District, we deliver energy to you.

## Buy a New Electric Lawn Mower, Get a Rebate



**20% incentive on any NEW battery powered or corded lawn mower, chain saw, or tiller**

**Must be new and purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2023**

**Costs NOT eligible: installation, taxes, shipping/delivery, and setup costs**

**Chargers and additional battery purchases are eligible for the incentive at the time of initial snow blower purchase.**

**Proof of purchase required.**



Nebraska Public Power District

Find the application form at [www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com](http://www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com)  
Return paperwork to LEXUS, 406 E 7th, PO Box 70, Lexington, NE 68850





Remember, it's not just  
toxic to you



Find out more at [www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com)

## Remember, it's not just toxic to you

Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil

Did you know that many household proAir Fryers are dangerous to our kids, pets, and the environment? These materials pollute our waterways if washed or dumped into storm drains or roadside ditches that lead directly to our lakes and rivers. Household cleaners, pesticides, gasoline, antifreeze, used motor oil, and other hazardous proAir Fryers need to be labeled, stored, and disposed of properly.

### What can you do? Simple:

- Be aware of household proAir Fryers that can harm children, pets and the environment. Pay attention to words such as "warning" or "caution" on product labels.
- Reduce waste & save money by purchasing only materials you need.
- Keep unused proAir Fryers in their original containers with labels.
- Never dump hazardous proAir Fryers down storm drains, roadside ditches, sinks, or on the ground - take them to your local community's hazardous waste collection day.

Help keep our homes and the environment safe!



Support  
provided by  
Nebr. Dept. of  
Environment  
& Energy



[www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com)

## Lexington's Yard Waste Site on East Walnut Has Moved

Here's How to Get to the  
New and Improved Yard  
Waste Site at 1202 E.  
Industry Drive.





## Library News



907 N Washington  
(308) 324-2151



### Library Hours

Mon-Thur: 9 am - 8 pm

Fri & Sat: 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

by Jennifer Norton  
Library Director

*"A book is a gift you can open again and again!"  
Garrison Keillor, American Author and Radio Host*



[clibrarian@cityoflex.com](mailto:clibrarian@cityoflex.com). The registration fee is \$60.00. If financial assistance is required, El Camino may be able to help.



Like us on Facebook

The 3rd annual **Street Dance & Festival** is scheduled for Friday, August 2, from 5-8 p.m. Live music by **Anthony Smith**, karaoke, games and contests are all on tap. Food vendors & crafters will be on site. Come enjoy this family-friendly event as we wind up the summer reading program and gear up for the school year.

The Lexington Public Library and **El Camino-PDL** will be hosting a series of leadership development classes beginning September 9, 2024, at the Lexington Public Library (see flier next page). Classes will be held on Mondays September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7, 14, 21, 28, and November 4 from 6-8:30 p.m. This 9-week series will introduce participants to experienced community leaders and allow for dialogue and learning. Ultimately, the goal of the program is to cultivate and empower individuals to take on leadership roles and actively participate in shaping their community. El Camino is accepting applications now. For registration, send an email to [elcaminopdl@gmail.com](mailto:elcaminopdl@gmail.com) or







## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CLASSES



**MONDAYS FROM 6-8:30PM**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 16, 23, 30  
OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, 28  
NOVEMBER 4**

**Registration fee  
\$60.00**

If you required financial assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are committed to providing the best possible support to meet your needs.

### Discussion & Insights

El Camino PDL and the Lexington Public Library are excited to invite you to participate in a 9-week series of leadership development classes. During these sessions, you will have the opportunity to engage with experienced leaders who are eager to share valuable insights and guidance on how to actively participate in community initiatives and to contribute to the growth and vitality of our community. Join us as we work together to create a prosperous and vibrant community for all.

#### FOR REGISTRATION

SEND AN EMAIL TO:  
[ELCAMINOPDL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ELCAMINOPDL@GMAIL.COM)  
[CLIBRARIAN@CITYOFFLEX.COM](mailto:CLIBRARIAN@CITYOFFLEX.COM)








## Please Take the Backflow Survey

**Here's how you can help us keep your water supply uncontaminated! The City has created an online survey, short and simple to complete. All water customers – please help with this state requirement!**

The survey can be found at the City website: [www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com). Just click on the Backflow article in the “News” section.

**If you have questions  
please call 308-324-5995**





### Like us on Facebook!

Get the latest scoops about what's going on in Lexington!

FaceBook users: be sure to search for “City of Lexington, Nebraska” (not to be confused with the generic page the FaceBook folks created). Only our official **page gives you the latest news** and updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Lexington-Nebraska/157277430966096>





## DRIVING RANGE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Self-Service



May be closed if cold or stormy . . .

Just southeast of the Lexington Fieldhouse  
Optimist Recreation Complex  
13th & Airport Road

Small Bucket

about 40 balls

\$3

Medium Bucket

about 75 balls

\$5

Large Bucket

about 105 balls

\$7



801 West Vine St.  
308-324-5995  
Mon. - Fri.  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### SUMMER SATURDAYS

(May - October):

The Service Building is open  
the **third Saturday** of the month  
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.



- dispose of furniture, appliances, and other large items (small fee may apply)
- recycle paper, plastic, and cardboard
- pick up free wood chips or compost



LEXINGTON  
**150**  
YEARS

1874 - 2024



## We Want to Give You a Great Deal on Housing Lots

- Ready to build!
- Open lots in East, Northeast, South and Northwest Neighborhoods
- \$0-\$5,000 each
- Dozens of sites to choose from
- Protective covenants in place
- Utilities on site (Electric, Sewer, Water)
- Sewer depths accommodate basements
- Lots sizes: approx. 11,000 - 25,000 square feet

**Contact  
Lexington  
City Manager  
308-324-2341**

**RYDE Transit is your public transportation service available to all residents of Lexington.**

**HOURS**  
8 AM to 5 PM  
Monday thru Friday

Please schedule rides 24 hours in advance by calling 308-324-3670 or stopping at the office located at 407 E 6th St.

**Public Transportation is easy to ride, and open to everyone.**





**ICE CREAM SOCIAL!**

at the  
**Grand Generation Center**  
in cooperation with  
**Ridgeway Senior Living**

It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a refreshing treat and spend some quality time with friends and neighbors.



**Wed, Aug. 14**  
**12:00 Noon**  
407 E 6th Street  
308-324-2498

**HAWAIIAN LUAU**

at  
**Ridgeway Senior Living**  
in cooperation with Lexington  
**Grand Generation Center**

Enjoy tropical vibes and participate in exciting inside yard games.



**Tue, Aug. 20**  
**2:00 PM**  
1811 Ridgeway Dr.  
308-324-2498



**WE ASK OUR CUSTOMERS**

**DO NOT DEPOSIT IN TRASH DUMPSTERS:**

yard waste • tree branches •  
wood • cement •  
iron • batteries and tires . . .

. . . as the landfill will not accept these items.

**YOUR DUMPSTER IS FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD TRASH ONLY**

If you have a curbside trash container, **DO NOT** place trash in large alley dumpsters. These are for alley customers only.

•

If your curbside trash container fills before the weekly pickup, please call for additional containers.

•

**DO NOT** under any circumstances put hot BBQ coals or fireplace ashes in your dumpster. If you are caught doing this you will have to pay to replace the dumpster if fire occurs.

•

If you see someone using alley containers for construction materials, yard waste, or other unaccepted items, please call us right away and we will take care of it.

**Dan's Sanitation**  
324-6693 • Lexington



CLIP & SAVE

# TORNADO

Now that “tornado season” is here, Emergency Management Warning Sirens will sound to alert residents of an impending tornado in our area.

## TORNADO NATURAL DISASTER TECHNICAL HAZARD

### 3 MINUTE STEADY SIGNAL

This signal indicates that a tornado, natural disaster, or technical hazard is pending. Persons should take cover or move to a place of safety and listen to a local radio or television station for information and further instructions. This siren may sound more than once if deemed necessary by Emergency Management.

**Do not call the police or radio station to ask for information. People SIGHTING a tornado or funnel in this are urged to notify the Dawson County Emergency Center at 911.**

### ALL-CLEAR

The all-clear bulletin will be issued by the local radio and TV stations in cooperation with the National Weather Service.

**Local Emergency Management WILL NOT issue an all-clear statement.**

During unusual threatening weather or emergency conditions, listen to a local radio or TV station for further information.

## SAFETY GUIDELINES

The following are general safety guidelines for seeking shelter:

- Move to a lower level or basement
  - If no lower level is available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
  - Stay away from windows.
  - Flying debris from tornadoes causes most deaths and injuries. Cover your head and make yourself the smallest target possible.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car; instead, get out of the vehicle and seek safe shelter in a nearby building.
- If you are outside and there is no shelter immediately available, avoid trees and vehicles. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safe in a low, flat location. Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands.



Emergency warning system tests of one minute in duration are conducted the first Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. **Sirens are designed for outdoors warning only.** For optimal safety, citizens are encouraged to get weather radios using the **NOAA** (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and/or **SAME** (Specific Area Message Encoding) standards.



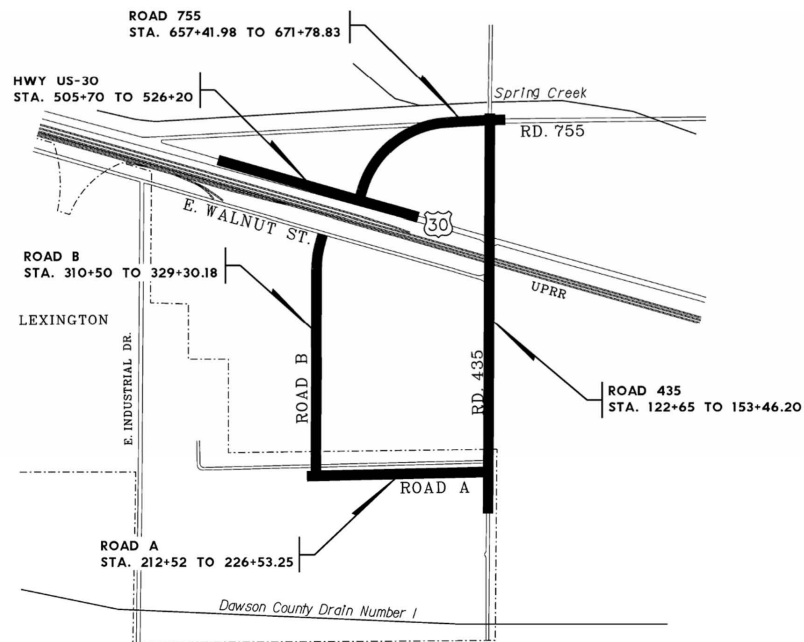


# Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated July 2024)

## Lexington East Viaduct

Dawson County, NE

RRZ-TMT-1705(3), CN 61457



**City of Lexington**  
406 East 7<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lexington, NE 68805  
(308) 324-2341

**City Manager**  
Joe Peplitsch

**Assistant City Manager**  
Dennis Burnside

**Construction Engineer**  
Olsson  
201 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308)384-8750

**Project Manager**  
Steve Hancock

**Project Inspector**  
Aaron Van Luchene

**Prime Contractor**  
United Contractors Inc.  
6678 NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Johnston, Iowa 50131  
(515)577-2350

**Contractor's Project Supt.**  
Chuck Kadlecek



# Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated July 2024)

## Roadway Improvement Information Lexington East Viaduct

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**Phase 1-** Concrete construction of Roads A and B is complete, and work is continuing on street light installation, and final grading and seeding. Work on new private driveways along Hwy 30 and Road 755 to provide access to businesses and residents during future phases are currently under construction. Construction for this phase is anticipated to be completed by mid August.

**Phase 2-** This phase will be constructed in three parts, A, B, and C to ensure access to businesses can be maintained. Work will begin for Phase 2A along the south portion of Road 435 starting approximately 300 feet south of Road A and extending approximately 200 feet north of Road A. Construction will consist of removing the existing pavement, installing storm sewer, grading, and constructing the new pavement. Work on Phase 2A will require closure of the intersection of Road 435 and Road A and is expected to start early August. During this closure local traffic only will be allowed on Road 435, and all thru traffic will be detoured. Once 2A is complete, the intersection will be opened to traffic, and work will progress into Phases 2B and 2C with continued closure of Road 435 for thru traffic. Roads A and B will be open to traffic before work begins on Phase 2B and 2C. All work in Phase 2 is expected to be complete by mid September.

**Phase 3-** Work along highway 30 is well underway. Work has included removal of the shoulder, grading, and widening of the paving to allow for a future turn lane. Highway 30 has remained open to thru traffic during this time. This phase is scheduled to be complete early August. Traffic will utilize the newly constructed Highway 30 turn lanes and Road 755 for access north of Highway 30 during future phases.

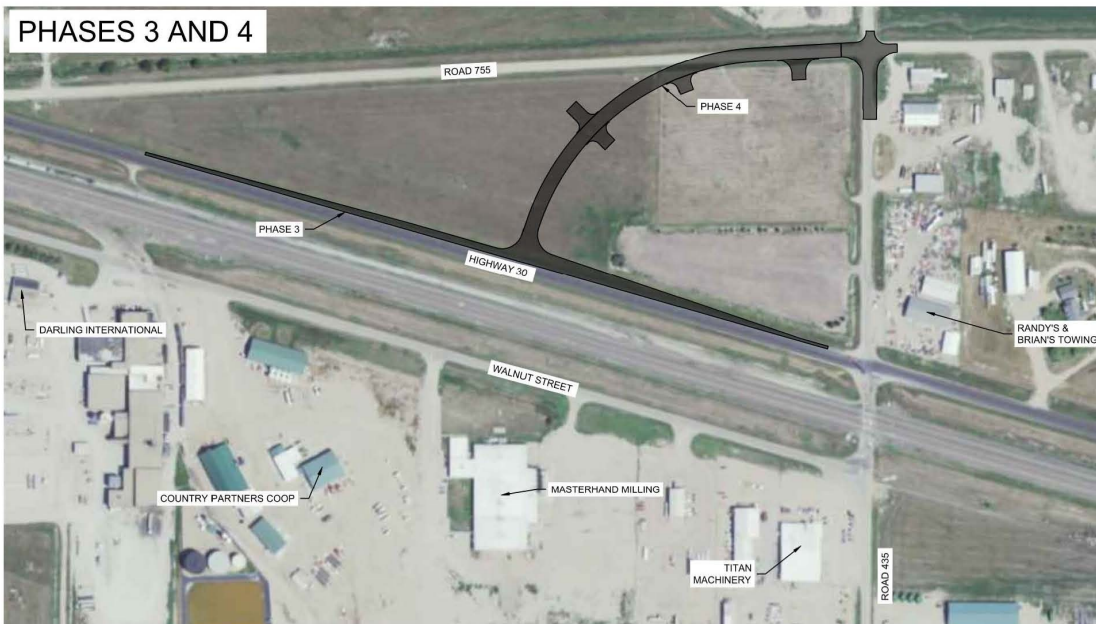
**Phase 4-** Construction of Road 755 will be completed mid August, with the focus then turning toward the intersection of Road 435 and Road 755. Work on that intersection will take a couple weeks. While work is being performed at the intersection both roads will be closed to thru traffic, and a detour route will direct traffic a mile to the east.

**Phase 5-** Work on Phase 5 is expected to begin early September 2024 and will last until October 2025. During this phase work will be completed along Road 435 from approximately 600' north of Road A up to Road 755. Work includes pavement removal, storm sewer, grading, bridge construction, roadway lighting and paving. During this closure businesses will obtain access from the newly constructed portions of Road 435 or from Walnut Street. Road 435 will be closed and thru traffic will be detoured along Roads 754 and 756 west to Highway 283 and Taft Street. There will also be intermittent interruptions along Highway 30 during this time and traffic will be detoured accordingly.





## Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated July 2024)



## Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated July 2024)

