

City Happenings

#108

October 2024



Lexington Racquet Center Grand Opening



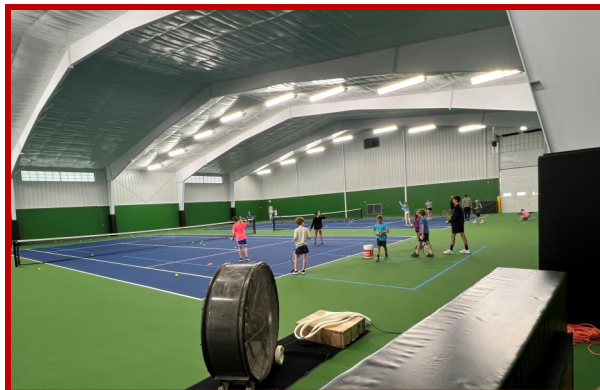
The Lexington Racquet Center, 1110 Park Street, is open and operating, and hosting tennis and pickleball activities.

To celebrate the facility, the City of Lexington is hosting a Grand Opening Ceremony on Monday, October 7, starting at 5:30 p.m. Find the official invitation on page two of this edition of *City Happenings*.



The community is grateful to the many donors who helped make this project a reality, including the Lexington Community Foundation which assisted in fund-raising efforts.

A large boost to the project came in the form of a \$600,000 Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) grant through the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED).



The CCCFF is having a 25-year anniversary this year, and NDED plans to make this project one of the showcase projects as they celebrate the Fund's birthday.



GRAND OPENING CEREMONY LEXINGTON RACQUET CENTER

 **OCTOBER 7, 2024 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**
CEREMONY BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

 **1110 PARK ST., LEXINGTON, NE 68850**

Join us for the Grand Opening of the Lexington Racquet Center. Explore and celebrate the new facility!

- **OPEN COURT PLAY FOR BOTH PICKLEBALL AND TENNIS IS WELCOME, SO BRING YOUR GEAR AND JOIN THE FUN!**
- **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC- ALL SKILL LEVELS AND AGES INVITED**
- **HEAR FROM CITY OF LEXINGTON CITY MANAGER, JOE PEPPLITSCH, AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, JAKE SAULSBURY, ALONG WITH RACQUET SPORT PARTICIPANTS AS WE HEAD INTO OUR FIRST SEASON IN THE NEW RACQUET CENTER!**



SHOPPING LOCAL
ISN'T JUST A
TREND, IT'S A
WAY OF LIFE.

SHIFT10

— keep it local —

SHIFT10 is a national movement to encourage shoppers to shift 10% of their spending to local businesses in communities across the United States.

SHIFT10 Day is October 10 (10/10)





Library News

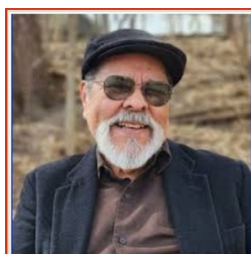


907 N Washington
(308) 324-2151



by Jennifer Norton
Library Director

"One glance at a book and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for 1,000 years. To read is to voyage through time." - Carl Sagan, author, scientist and college professor



Ben Salazar will present **'Latinos: Searching for the**

Good Life in Nebraska' at the Lexington Public Library on Thursday, October 3, at 7 p.m. Salazar uses his experiences as a Latino who was born and raised in Nebraska, as well as other experiences to educate others about Latino issues in the state.



View a special screening of the documentary **Banned Together: The Fight Against Censorship** at the Lexington Public Library on Thursday, October 10, at 7 p.m. The screening is free

and open to the public. Learn about the rise in attempts to ban books in school and public libraries and how three teenagers stood up for their right to READ!



On October 15 at 12 noon, the library will host **Stacey Cahill** for a

lunch and learn program. Stacey is a counselor, massage therapist, activist and author. Her book, **Traffic Stop: Human Division**, will be the topic of her talk. Lunch will be provided. Space is limited so please call the library to reserve your spot: 308-324-2151.

The 3rd annual **Family Fun Fall Festival** is slated for Thursday, October 17, at the library. Co-sponsored by **Keep Lexington Beautiful** and the **Lexington Public**

Library, this family-friendly event is open to everyone. Join us for a free chili meal, bake sale, silent auction, face painting, hay rack rides and much more. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Kick off the fall season with some FUN at the library.



(continues on next page)



Like us on Facebook



Library News

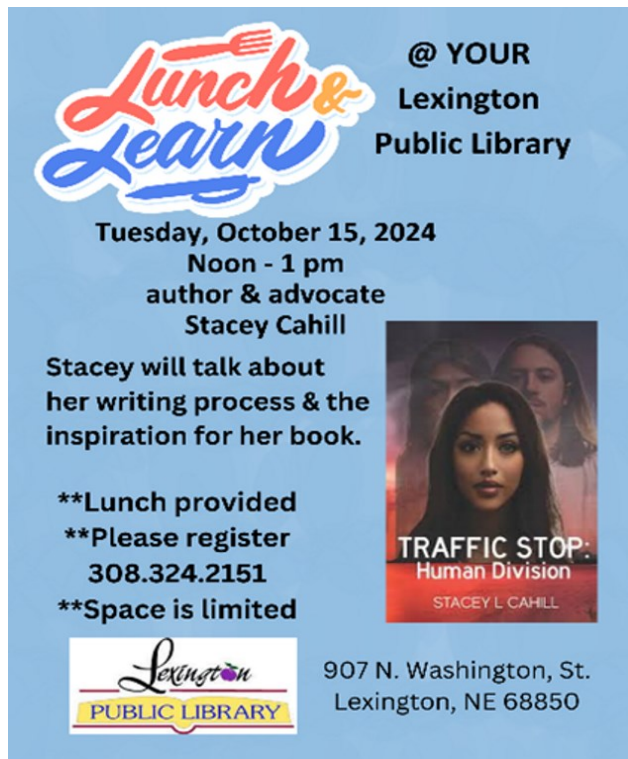
(continued from previous page)

Adult Board Game Night will be held Thursday, October 24, from 6-8 p.m. Open to adults 18 yrs and up. This event is a great way to enjoy some games, conversations, laughter, and snacks. Bring a favorite game from home to share or enjoy some games provided by the library.



Nebraska State Poet **Matt Mason** will present poetry and inspiration to middle school students at the Lexington Middle School Auditorium on Thursday, October 24, at 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the **Friends**

of the Library this program is open to the public, but space is limited.



**@ YOUR
Lexington
Public Library**

**Tuesday, October 15, 2024
Noon - 1 pm
author & advocate
Stacey Cahill**


**Stacey will talk about
her writing process & the
inspiration for her book.**

****Lunch provided
**Please register
308.324.2151
Space is limited



**TRAFFIC STOP:
Human Division
STACEY L. CAHILL**

**907 N. Washington, St.
Lexington, NE 68850**



NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF LEXINGTON

Dear Community of Lexington,

On behalf of the City of Lexington, I would like to extend our appreciation for the past support and sponsorship of the Trail of Lights project. Various levels of involvement have been instrumental in making this event special to our community.

However, after careful consideration and evaluation of our park resources and staffing, we have made the difficult decision to suspend the Trail of Lights park project. The City of Lexington will use existing lights at the Veterans Pavilion to allow for a drive-through holiday light experience.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the businesses and private donors who have generously supported the Trail of Lights project. Your contributions made a significant impact, and we are grateful for your support.

Thank you for your understanding as we reassess our initiatives and explore new opportunities to enhance our community. We look forward to continuing to work together to support and celebrate Lexington.

Warm regards,

Jake Saulsbury
Lexington Parks and Recreation Director



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!



A fond farewell to Ann Luther.

Our Director of Parks and Recreation is retiring after 40 years of service to the City of Lexington.

We'll miss you, Ann!



After four decades of dedicated service, Lexington native Ann Luther is set to retire from her role as the city's community activities director. In honor of her retirement, a celebration was held at the Grand Generation Center on September 4.

Ann is a native of Lexington and a graduate of Lexington High School and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

At the City she started as a shop clerk, and worked her way up to overseeing the Grand Generation Center, later adding management of Parks and Recreation.

She told the Lexington Clipper-Herald, "I've really enjoyed my jobs with the City of Lexington and, hopefully I've done the best that I could with what I had."





EnergyWise Tip: All-In-One Washer/Dryers



by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

The U.S. Energy Information Administration's 2020 Residential Energy Consumption Survey indicates that homes in our part of the Midwest consume nearly 9% of their electricity completing laundry. In addition to providing energy savings, all-in-one washer/dryers might provide solutions to other modern life challenges, such as appliance space or electrical circuit limitations. They may even help those who don't enjoy transferring wet, heavy clothes from the washer to the dryer!

All-in-ones are hardly new. Bendix Home Appliances introduced the first combination washer/dryer in 1953. These single front-loading machines wash and dry clothes in a single, sealed drum. Washing and drying can either be done in tandem or individually. But it wasn't until the start of the 21st Century that heat pump technology was added to make these units highly energy efficient compared to separate washer and dryer pairs.



Washer/dryer combos wash clothes no differently than traditional washers. But those that use heat pump technology for drying provide energy savings of at least 28% for ENERGY STAR®-certified models. Since this technology evaporates the water out of clothes, then condenses that vapor before sending it down the drain, most do not require venting to outside the home.

In 2020, General Electric conducted a survey and found the average consumer leaves clothes in the washer 130 minutes after the final cycle before transferring them to the dryer. Since washer dryer combinations automatically switch between the two processes, clothes won't linger between cycles because someone forgot to transfer them.

Combination units require much less space than traditional washer/dryer pairs, not only by being a single unit, but also by containing drums 1.6 to 4.8 cubic feet in size. By comparison, traditional dryers may have drums sizing from 7 to 9 cubic feet. Apartment dwellers often appreciate having that extra space for something else.

Some units connect to a standard 110-volt outlet. Though standard clothes washers require the same, an additional 220-volt outlet must be available for traditional electric dryers. Not to mention, traditional electric dryers may have a different plug configuration than an existing 220-volt outlet accepts.

All-in-one washer dryers are easy to find on-line or at appliance and other big box stores. However, do they really make doing laundry easier? Because some of their benefits may also be drawbacks, that may be a wash (haha).

(continues on next page)



EnergyWise Tip: All-In-One Washer/Dryers

(continued from previous page)

In one test comparing a manufacturer's all-in-one heat pump washer/dryer against one of their traditional washer and dryer pairs, the all-in-one machine only consumed half as much energy. While washing took about the same time to complete, the all-in-one washer/dryer took 3½ hours to dry the 12-pound laundry load. The traditional dryer dried the same size load in less than an hour. Sequencing laundry loads can also be more time consuming. Since washer dryer combinations require users to first wash, then dry loads, they cannot simultaneously start washing the next load until the first is finished with the drying cycle. This can create unending wash days in larger households especially considering combination units often have smaller drums.

Another consideration is how washer/dryer combinations use heat pump technology to operate. While drying, they exhaust cool air as part of the process. This can have an effect similar to an air conditioner. While often appreciated in the summer months, that can be a different story in the winter. A final note to think about: combination units generally cost more to purchase (\$1,000 to \$3,500), although all-in-one units with heat pump technology may qualify for some tax rebates.

Lexington Utilities System, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, proudly provides the power you need to keep up with the laundry. For other ways you can run your home or business efficiently, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit www.energywisenebraska.com for more ideas.



**3RD ANNUAL
FAMILY FUN
FALL FESTIVAL**

**OCTOBER 17, 2024
5:30PM**

- *HAY RIDES *FACE PAINTING
- *PUMPKIN PAINTING *GAMES
- *INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS
- *BAKE SALE
- *SILENT AUCTION
- *FREE CHILI MEAL & DRINK

LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
907 N. WASHINGTON ST.
(308)324-2151

Keep Lexington Beautiful
It's your town!
Keep America's Beautiful Affiliate

Lexington PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Nebraska State Poet,
Matt Mason**

Thursday,
October 21, 2021
1:30 pm
Lexington Middle
School Auditorium

Matt will inspire the audience to experience, love and write poetry in this program for all ages.

Open to the Public but space is limited

Lexington Middle School
1100 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850

For more information:
308.324.2151

FRIENDS OF HUMANITIES NEBRASKA

Lexington PUBLIC LIBRARY

LEXINGTON community foundation



Remember, you're not just walking the dog



Clean up after your pet

Did you know . . .

. . . that pet waste has bacteria that makes our lakes and rivers unsafe for swimming and other recreational activities?

Most of us pick up after our pets to be a good neighbor and keep our yards clean. But there's another important reason to clean up after our pets.

Pet waste contains bacteria that is harmful to our water. Leaving it on the sidewalk or in the yards means that harmful bacteria can get washed into storm drains and roadside ditches that flow directly into our lakes and rivers untreated.

So what can you do? Simple:

Whether you are in your yard or on a walk, dispose of your pet's waste promptly in the trash or toilet to prevent it from entering storm drains and roadside ditches.

Pick up after your pet - and help keep our water clean!



Support provided by
Nebr. Dept. of
Environment
& Energy



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.



Lexington Gets Free Trees

The City of Lexington has taken delivery of eight free trees, planted them around the new Patriot Park near 20th Street and Airport Road. This is the 13th consecutive year and a total of 121 trees the City has received through the Free Fall Trees program, an offering from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum.

A tree can represent a significant investment of time and money, and anyone who plants a tree hopes it will take root and grow. To help ensure their success, the City's Parks staff and members of the Lexington Tree Board used the new trees to give Lexington residents a free tree-planting demonstration on October 1. Lexington High School teacher Keith Nielsen brought two students, Hunter and Zach Lorenz, who not only watched the demonstration, but got some hands-on practice planting a couple of the trees.

In addition to simply planting more trees, the Free Fall Trees program goals include increasing appreciation and awareness of the value of community forests in Nebraska. Special emphasis is placed on species diversity and higher impact projects,



especially street tree planting and projects in neighborhoods of highest need.

Free Fall Trees is supported by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum's Trees for Nebraska Towns Initiative, funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, the USDA Forest Service's Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act funding received by the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, and the USDA Forest Service Landscape Scale Restoration funding received by the Nebraska Forest Service.



Lexington Tree Board members are Dave Stenberg, Marty Smith, Tom Nelson, and Kevin Zelaya.

Left: Tree Board member Dave Stenberg shows how to prepare the tree's roots for planting.

Above, Left to right: Tree Board member Dave Stenberg, Zach Lorenz, Parks Foreman Ryan Johnson, Hunter Lorenz, Teacher Keith Nielsen, Parks Worker Aaron Deal, and Parks Worker Nathaniel Allan





What Not To Flush

(or put down the drain)

Could clog your drains or sewers!



- ▶ paper, plastic or cardboard
- ▶ feminine hygiene products
- ▶ wipes (baby or personal)
- ▶ prophylactic items
- ▶ cloth or string
- ▶ grease, oil, wax or fats
- ▶ diapers
- ▶ wrappers
- ▶ bottles
- ▶ cat litter
- ▶ medicines



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>



NOVEMBER

November is National American Indian Heritage Month. The City of Lexington joins the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment of the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in paying tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of American Indians.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

In 1990 President George H. W. Bush declared the month of **November** as **Native American Heritage Month**.




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

SUMMER SATURDAYS (May - October):

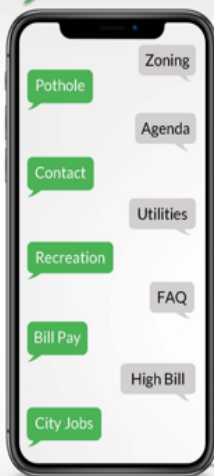
**The Service Building is open
the **third Saturday** of the month
8 a.m. - 12 p.m**

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




Find city information with a simple text message! 

Text To Find Answers




Connect Via Text
Introducing a new way to skip a phone call and use your mobile phone's text messaging service to quickly find information on the go.

24 Hour Automated Assistance
Smart texting technology searches keywords to provide assistance anytime, day or night.

Get Started
Text **Hi** or any of the other featured keywords to:
(308)320-5200

View terms and privacy policy info at: lexington.com/out-to-serve-conditions
Msg & Data rates apply. Msg frequency varies. Text STOP at any time to opt-out. Text HELP for contact info.

Powered by 



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
---	--	--



LEXINGTON
150
YEARS

1874 - 2024

Don't wait in line...
Pay Online

Pay your utility bill using your computer, smart phone or tablet!
Go to www.cityoflex.com to sign up and pay.

Safe, Secure & Free!

- ★ Convenient: 24/7/365
- ★ Save time, postage and fuel
- ★ Pay by credit or debit card
- ★ View updated billing and consumption history
- ★ Account balances are automatically updated



Optimized for mobile devices

LET'S GO SHOP SMALL

NOV 30, 2024
SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Shop Small Saturday is always the Saturday after Thanksgiving, a day to emphasize shopping at small, local businesses!



PUMPKIN PAINTING


The **Grand Generation Center** is hosting a Pumpkin Painting and Decorating event to kick off the holiday season!

Join us at 2:00 PM on Thursday, Oct. 24, at the Grand Generation Center, 407 E 6th Street.


No pre-registration required.



407 E 6th Street
Lexington, NE
308-324-2498



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



It is the policy of the City of Lexington to support equal housing opportunity as a fundamental guiding principle. All residents, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, family status, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, receipt of public assistance, or being a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, may enjoy fair, equal and affordable access to housing opportunities.

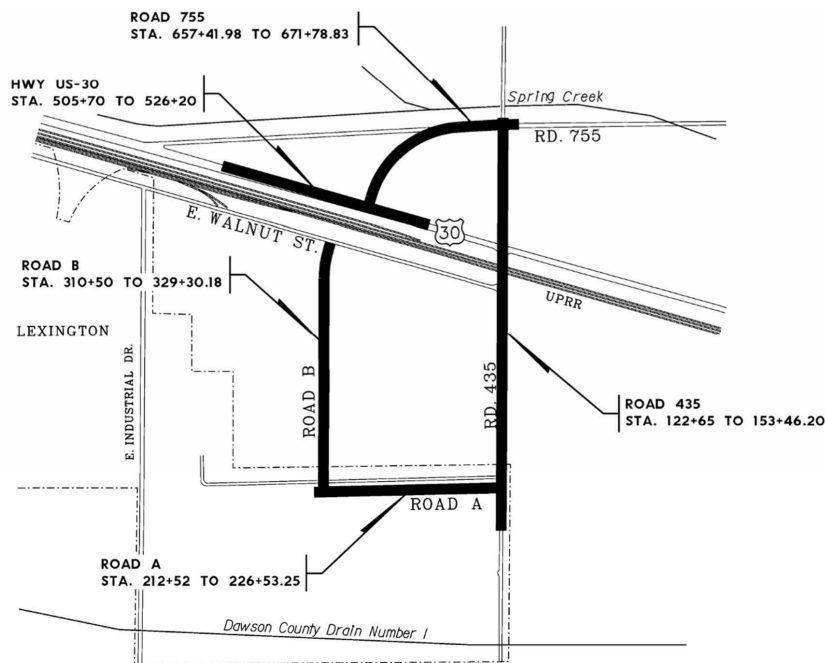


Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated October 2024)

Lexington East Viaduct

Dawson County, NE

RRZ-TMT-1705(3), CN 61457



City of Lexington
406 East 7th St.
Lexington, NE 68805
(308) 324-2341

City Manager
Joe Peplitsch

Assistant City Manager
Dennis Burnside

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

Project Manager
Steve Hancock

Project Inspector
Aaron Van Luchene

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

Contractor's Project Supt.
Chuck Kadlecck



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

Roadway Improvement Information

Lexington East Viaduct

Updated September 27, 2024

Phase 1- Concrete construction of Roads A and B is complete. Work on new private driveways along Hwy 30 and Road 755 to provide access to businesses and residents during future phases is also complete. See completed areas highlighted in green in the attached exhibit.

Phase 2- This phase will be constructed in three parts, A, B, and C to ensure access to businesses can be maintained. Work has begun 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 be complete mid October. 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. Work on phases 2B and 2C is expected to begin mid October and will be completed by mid November.

Phase 3- Work along highway 30 is complete and will be open to traffic the first part of October. See completed areas highlighted in green in attached exhibit.

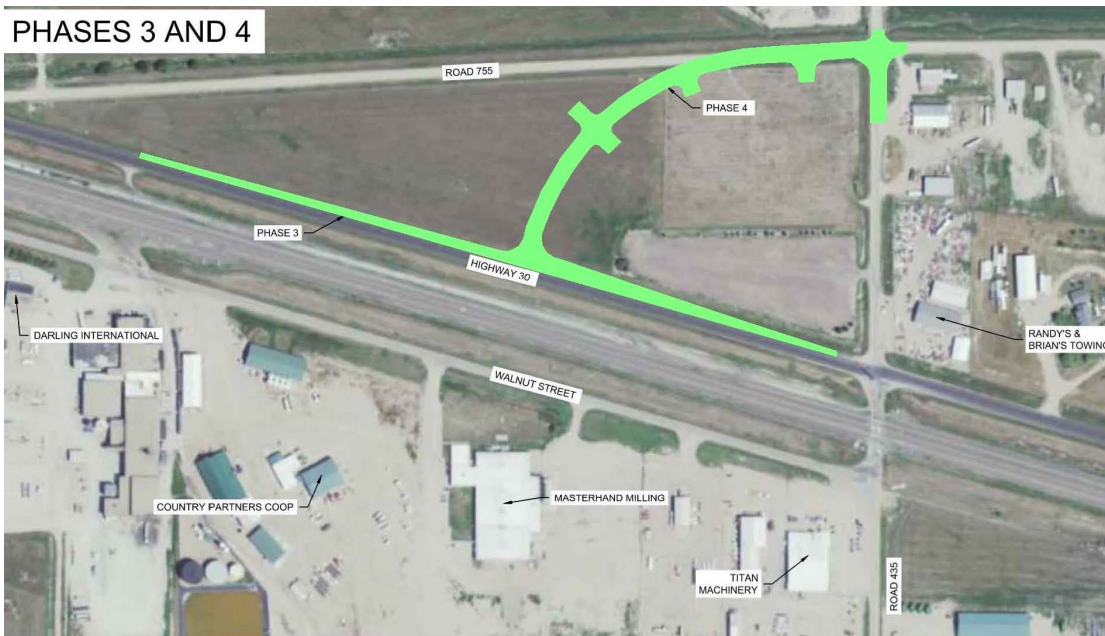
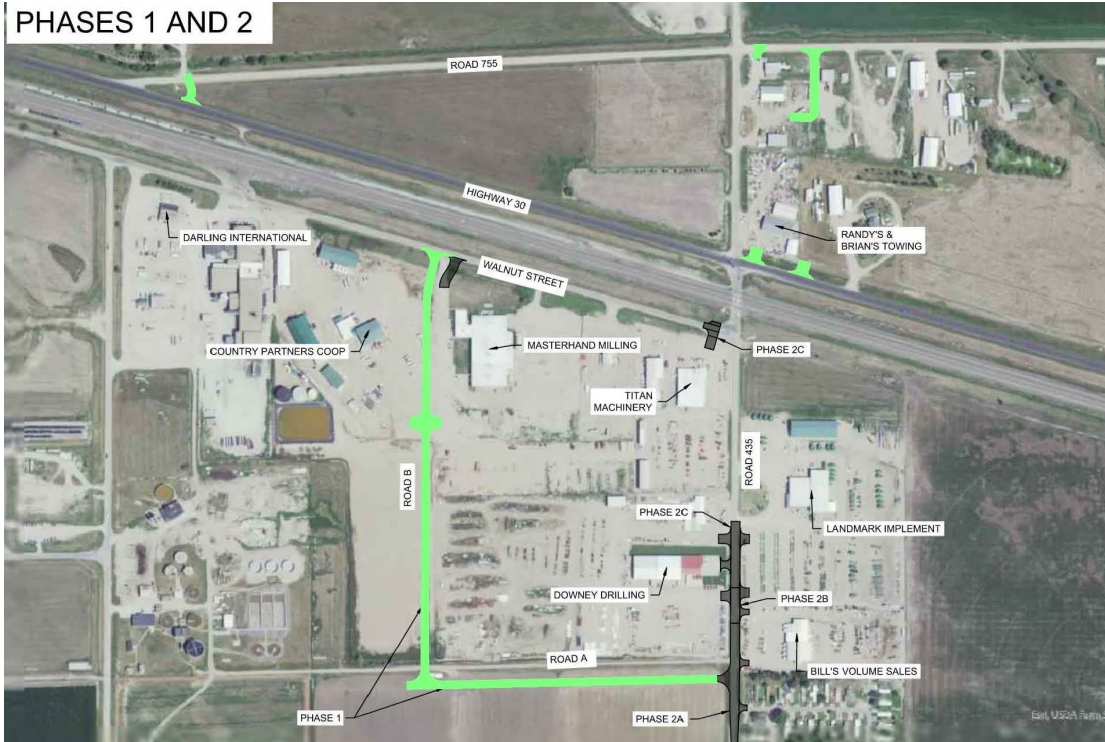
Phase 4- Construction of Road 755 is complete and will be open to traffic the first part of October. See completed areas highlighted in green in attached exhibit.

Phase 5- Work on Phase 5 is expected to begin early October 2024 and will last until October 2025. The portion of this work which is north of Highway 30 will begin first. Road 435 will be closed between Highway 30 and Road 755. During this time, traffic will use the new Road 755 connection to Highway 30. New accesses to businesses have been constructed. Work includes pavement removal, storm sewer, grading, bridge construction, roadway lighting and paving. Beginning mid November Road 435 will also be closed from Highway 30 south approximately 1,000 feet. 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.



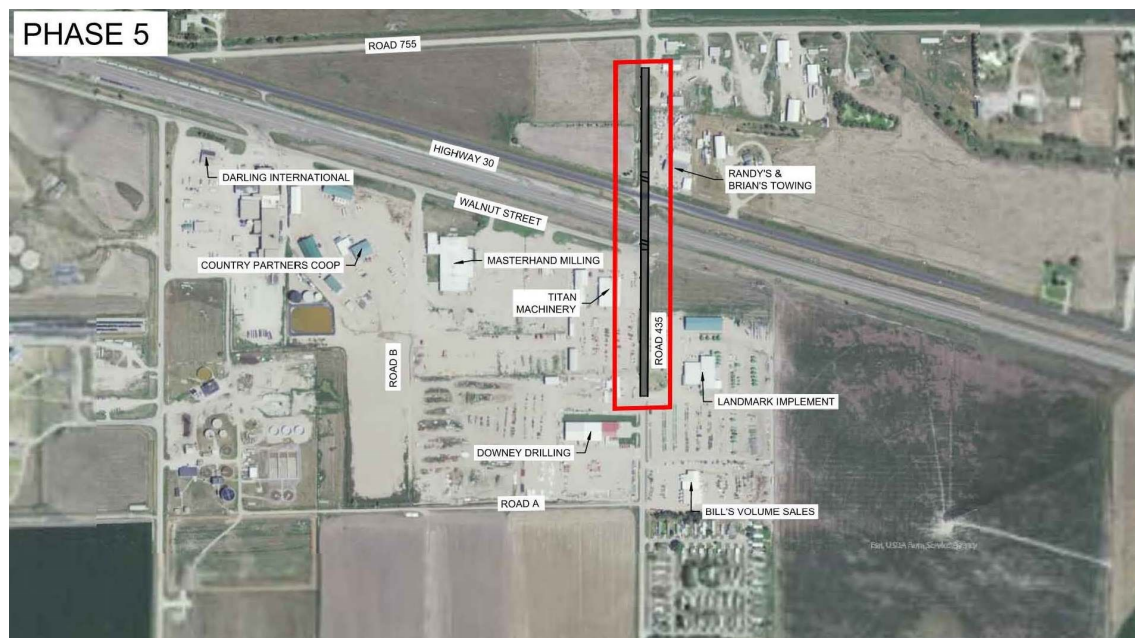
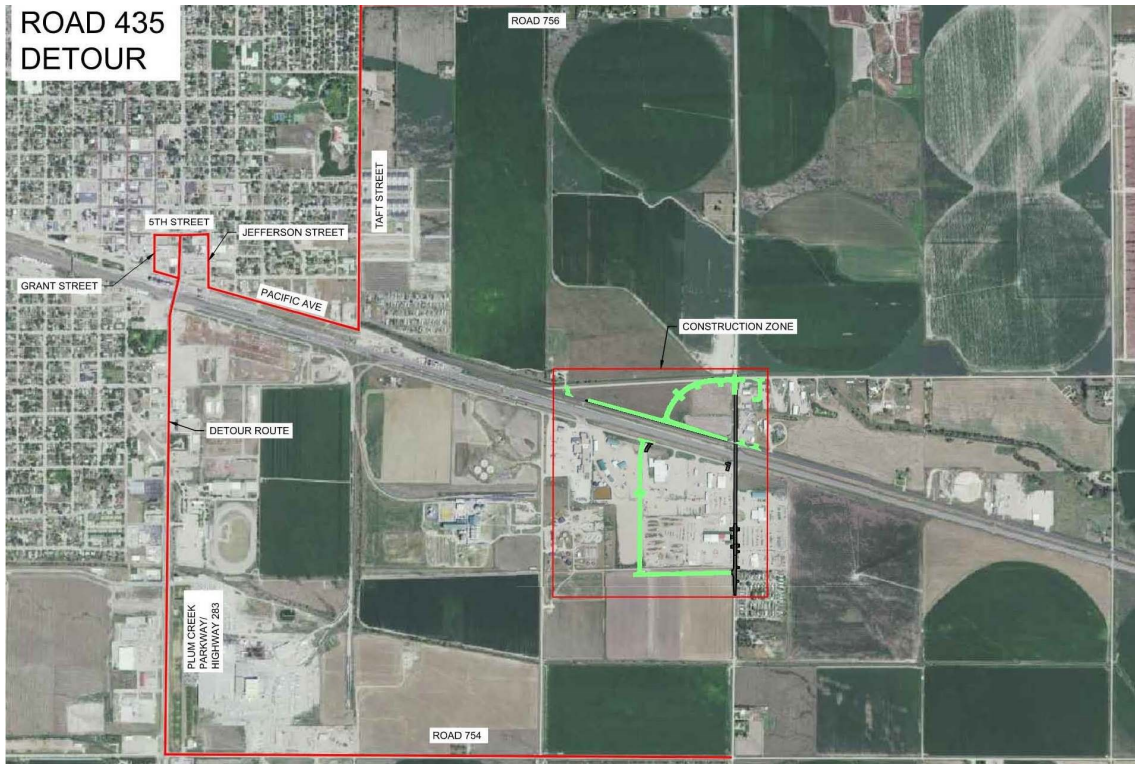
Lexington East Viaduct Construction Phasing Plan 2024-2025 (Updated October 2024)

Green = completed



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

Green = completed



Lexington snow and ice removal

Winter weather will be here soon And the City would like to remind citizens of the following points related to snow removal. There is also the Emergency Snow Route map on the next page.

Property owners are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks abutting their property, within 48 hours of the snowfall. Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks not only ensures safe passage for pedestrians (including school children), but also limits liability. Someone who sustains injuries from slipping on ice might claim their injuries resulted from property owner neglect. Please remember that snow and ice removed from your property is not to be placed into the street. Instead move it to non-paved areas.

The City needs the cooperation of all citizens as we work to remove snow and ice from the streets. Citizens are encouraged to listen to local radio stations or read the local newspaper (including online) for

announcements of possible Snow Emergency situations where substantial snowfall is experienced or anticipated.



In times of a declared Snow Emergency, parking along streets in the designated Snow Emergency Route is prohibited. Commercial Areas may also be included (see Snow Route map).

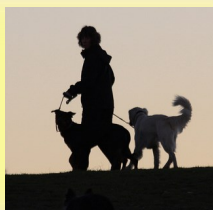
Citizens living along these routes are encouraged to comply with the prohibition and move their vehicles from the street.

In addition, during a Snow Emergency, parking in the Downtown area is prohibited. In non-emergency times, citizens are still encouraged to move their parked vehicles off of the street in a reasonable period of time after snowfall to allow City crews access to remove the snow and ice. Information regarding the removal of snow in your area of the City can be obtained by contacting Tom Nelson at 308-324-5995.

The City of Lexington would like to reiterate that snow and ice removal is important for vehicular traffic as well as Pedestrian traffic.

Please take the time to do your part to keep our streets and sidewalks safe. The City of Lexington thanks everyone for their cooperation and prompt attention to this issue.

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS



As you and your dog are out walking in your neighborhoods, in the City's parks or on the trails, please remember to clean up after your dog.

A simple plastic bag slipped over your hand like a glove makes an efficient and clean pick-up tool. Picking up is just part of having a dog. It may seem silly at first, but people who see you do it will know any mess left behind is NOT from your dog. Picking up shows pride in your community, in yourself, and in your dog. You'll set a great example for others, and will help create a positive image for dogs and their owners.





KEEP LEXINGTON BEAUTIFUL

FREE COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT!



DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARDS RECYCLING PROJECTS!

OCTOBER 12 12-2PM

H&R BLOCK * 617 N. Grant St. Lexington

Shredding available to anyone in the Lexington area, residential and commercial. No cardboard boxes accepted. Document drop off available 1 day in advance.

For more information contact us @ klbnebraska@gmail.com or
308-325-5701

