



## LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581  
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### Memorandum

**Date:** August 19, 2021  
**To:** Each Director  
**From:** Paul D. Zillig, General Manager  
**Subject:** FY 2022 Budget Hearing

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The public hearing for the FY 2022 Budget adoption was held on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM at the Lower Platte South NRD Office in Lincoln. Legal notice of the hearing was published on August 9, 2021 in the Lincoln Journal Star newspaper, a copy of the affidavit of publication will be attached to the file copy of the record of the hearing.

Public in attendance included Jack Russell representing LIBA (Lincoln Independent Business Association) in Lincoln and Cory Schmidt of NRCS. Directors present at the hearings included Bob Andersen, Susan Seacrest, Lisa Lewis, Deborah Eagan, Tom Green, Don Jacobson, Larry Ruth, Vern Barrett, Ray Stevens, and Gary Aldridge. Staff present included Kristin Buntmeyer, Mike Mascoe, Dave Potter, and myself.

Treasurer Andersen called the hearing to order at 7:00 pm. He explained that this hearing was for the purpose of receiving testimony on the proposed budget of expenditures for FY 2022. Andersen noted that there are copies of the budget available, the legal notice for this hearing was published on August 9<sup>th</sup> in the Lincoln Journal Star, and he turned it over to myself to review a budget summary. A copy of the budget summary presentation is also attached.

Andersen asked if there were any public comments on the budget. Jack Russell of LIBA addressed those in attendance and attached is a copy of his comments. Andersen reported that Dan Steinkruger of Lincoln was unable to attend but submitted written comments, a copy of those comments are also attached. Gary Aldridge then read his comments into the record, a copy of Aldridge's comments is available upon request. There were no further comments.

The hearing was closed at 7:25 pm.

PDZ/pz  
Enc. 3

pc: Steve Seglin & Corey Wasserburger

**TO:** Lower Platte South Natural Resources District  
**FROM:** Lincoln Independent Business Association  
**RE:** Proposed Budget  
**DATE:** August 18, 2021

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Good evening,

Thank you for the opportunity to address all of you tonight. My name is Jack Russell, and I am the Policy and Research Coordinator for the Lincoln Independent Business Association.

Over the last year, our community has shouldered an immense burden. The Covid-19 Pandemic brought new challenges to individuals, families, and businesses. I want to take this chance to remind you that any effort to get relief back to those citizens is worthwhile.

This body has consistently been good stewards of taxpayer dollars. In fact, I believe this would mark the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the NRD has decreased their tax levy. As you examine this newest budget proposal, we encourage you to continue this trend. After looking at the expected increase in property valuations, an opportunity is presented to lower the tax levy on residents. Putting more money in the pockets of the taxpayer.

We also wish to extend our appreciation for the way this subdivision has handled, and continues to handle financing while keeping the priority of citizens in mind. You have demonstrated that, with smart investments and common-sense restraint, it is possible to deliver a comprehensive budget while not overtaxing your constituents.

Thank you for the work you have done and continue to do, and again for allowing me to speak here tonight.

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**From:** Dan Steinkruger <dlstein158@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 5:13 PM  
**To:** Paul Zillig; Bob Andersen; Deborah Eagan  
**Subject:** FY 2021-2022 Budget

Good Afternoon Everyone,

I had hoped to attend the budget hearing and provide comments but my schedule does not permit me to do so. I would like to submit my comments in this email and ask that you share them with the appropriate members of the Finance Subcommittee and Board.

I support the budget and am very comfortable with the direction the District is taking. I would like the Board to consider two areas for stronger emphasis in future years program activities and funding.

First, I would ask that the District continue and strengthen programs to accelerate tree planting on public and private property. This includes rural areas and urban areas. Specifically, in Urban areas we continue to see the loss of Ash trees and other species. I expect this will accelerate as the years pass. It is important that we maintain and increase the urban forest canopy to mitigate heat reflection from buildings, concrete and other surfaces in our towns and cities. As minor as it is, programs that increase tree planting will be a contribution/solution to the global warming problem we are facing. The District allocates around one million dollars per year for soil conservation and water quality practices on private lands. I believe the district could focus more programs and funding for forestry given the public benefits.

The other issue is the Salt Creek Resiliency Study. I am pleased to see the the District moving forward and providing \$700,000 for implementation of recommendations from the Study. As climate change and development continues, Lancaster County and Lincoln will face additional flood threats. A key success of the LPSNRD over the years has been in identifying and implementing structural flood control measures. The Salt Creek Resiliency Study, pages 97-100 discusses 16 potential food control dams that could be placed above Lincoln to further reduce flood flows during peak storm events. I believe the District should consider the recommendations and develop a strategy to identify and build additional structures. Moving forward with this type of strategy will be challenging but by doing so the District can seek voluntary land purchases and consider other opportunities to minimize the impacts of dam construction. I would use the Patio NRD strategies of structural flood control as an example of how the LPSNRD might move forward.

We, the current citizens of Lincoln benefit from the decisions made by the NRD Boards(and their predecessors) in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s to build the levee system and flood control structures that now protect Lincoln. Future generations will benefit from the difficult decisions the Board makes now and in future years as we respond to the potential threats identified in the Salt Creek Resiliency Study.

Thank you for considering my comments

Best,

Dan Steinkruger  
7435 Whitestone Drive  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
402 480 4413

Lower Platte South NRD  
August 18, 2021

## **FY 2022 Budget Public Hearing**

Lower Platte South NRD

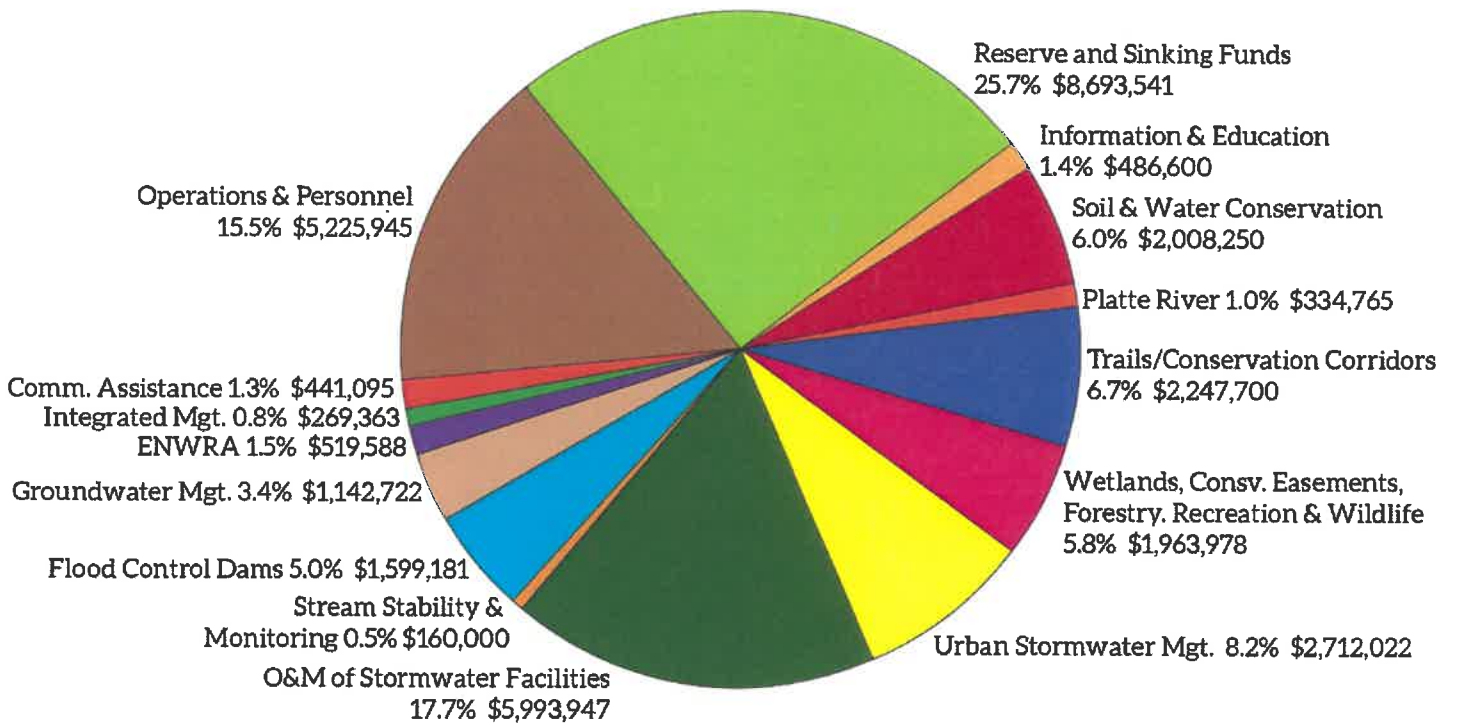
**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 18th day of August 2021, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., at 3125 Portia Street, Lincoln, NE 68521 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk during regular business hours.

2019-2020 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 9,357,379.00
2020-2021 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 11,033,113.00
2021-2022 Proposed Budget of Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 25,105,156.00
2021-2022 Necessary Cash Reserve	\$ 10,629,555.02
2021-2022 Total Resources Available	\$ 35,734,711.02
Total 2021-2022 Personal & Real Property Tax Requirement	\$ 10,156,870.00
Unused Budget Authority Created For Next Year	\$ 5,748,352.21
<b>Breakdown of Property Tax:</b>	
Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Non-Bond Purposes	\$ 10,156,870.00
Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Bonds	\$ -

<b>ANTICIPATED REVENUES</b>		
	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
Cash and Investments (LPSNRD)	9,677,966	10,399,289
Cash and Investments (LPRCA)	531,360	533,635
Cash and Investments (ENWRA)	352,964	352,392
Deadmans Run Sinking Fund	4,889,977	5,083,607
Infrastructure Sinking Fund	195,267	323,251
Mopac East Trail Sinking Fund	208,109	258,202
County Treasurers' Balance	125,000	125,000
Investment Income	60,000	20,000
Federal Funds	3,708,280	3,392,265
State Funds	1,086,968	1,045,520
Local Funds	2,507,771	2,196,666
Miscellaneous	0	0
(County Treasurers' Commission)	(100,000)	(100,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,341,662</b>	<b>23,641,627</b>
<b>NRD Property Taxes</b>	<b>10,156,870</b>	<b>10,156,870</b>
	<b>33,498,532</b>	<b>33,798,697</b>
<b>PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		
	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
Program / Project Costs	20,903,095	19,679,211
Operating Costs	1,417,435	1,785,591
Personnel Costs	3,313,424	3,440,354
Cash Reserve (General)	1,500,000	1,500,000
Deadmans Run Sinking Fund	5,085,279	5,193,607
Infrastructure Sinking Fund	323,181	421,024
Mopac East Sinking Fund	258,026	308,202
Salt Creek Resiliency Sinking Fund	0	600,000
Reserve (LPRCA)	481,192	498,716
Reserve (ENWRA)	216,901	172,992
	<b>33,498,532</b>	<b>33,798,697</b>

# NRD EXPENDITURES, FY 2022 TENTATIVE BUDGET



# EXPENDITURES

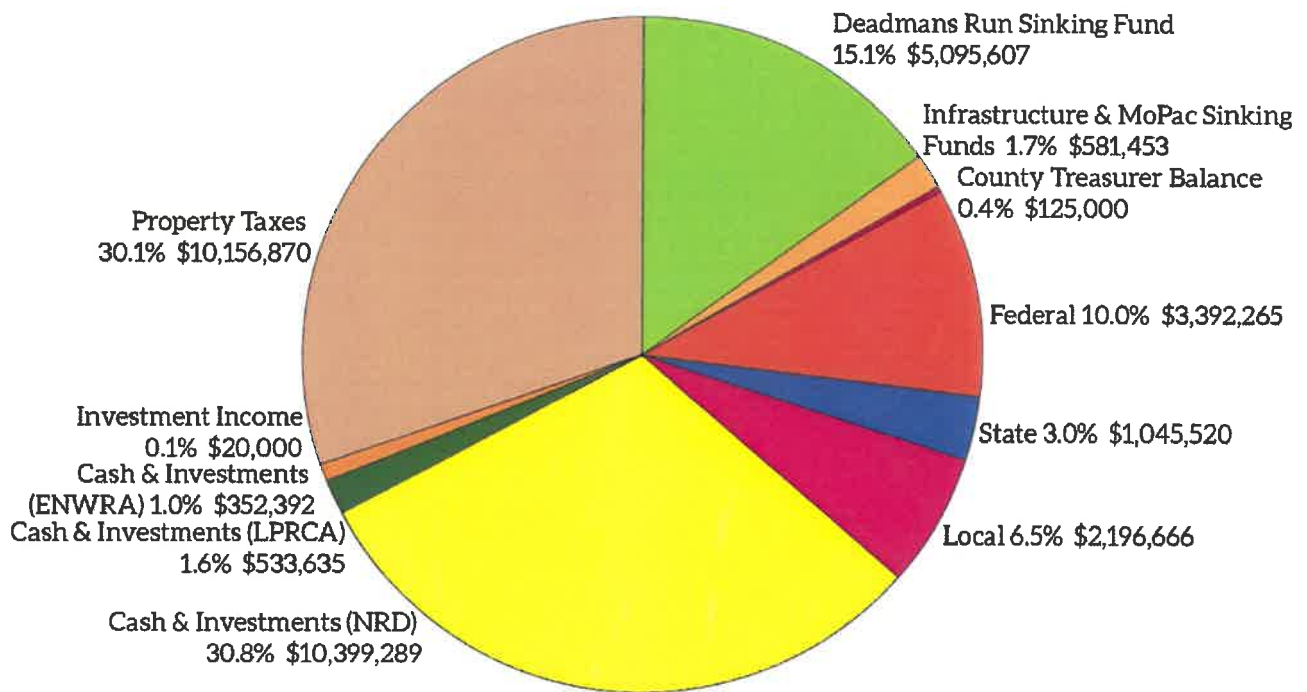
BUDGET CATEGORIES	FY 2021 BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET
Reserve and Sinking Funds	\$7,864,578	\$8,693,541
O&M of Stormwater Facilities	\$5,083,420	\$5,993,947
Operations & Personnel	\$4,730,859	\$5,225,945
Urban Stormwater	\$4,445,755	\$2,712,022
Flood Control Dams	\$2,661,473	\$1,679,181
Wetlands, Conserv. Easements, Forestry & Wildlife	\$1,923,368	\$1,969,978
Soil & Water Conservation	\$1,829,750	\$2,008,250
Trails & Conservation Corridors	1,575,700	\$2,247,700
Groundwater Management	\$909,722	\$1,142,722
ENWRA	\$793,366	\$519,588
Information & Education	467,500	\$486,600
Community Assistance	\$409,563	\$441,095
Platte River	\$348,753	\$334,765
Integrated Management	\$249,725	\$269,363
Stream Stability & Monitoring	\$205,000	\$160,000
		<b>\$33,798,697</b>



## **LPSNRD FY'22 Budget - Major Highlights**

- 1. Antelope Creek streambank repairs, 40th St. to Scott Ave. (\$2.3M)**
- 2. Surface Water Quality cost-sharing assistance to landowners (\$1.9M)**
- 3. Deadmans Run Flood Reduction Proj., 48<sup>th</sup> to Cornhusker (\$1.6M)**
- 4. Salt Creek Levees operation & maintenance (\$1.3M)**
- 5. Groundwater Management (\$1.1M)**
- 6. Homestead Trail bridges, culverts & bank stabilization (\$900K)**
- 7. Upper Salt 3-A Watershed Rehabilitation (\$790K)**
- 8. Salt Creek Resiliency Study implementation (\$700K)**
- 9. Antelope Creek drainage pipe rehabilitation (\$700K)**
- 10. Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch (\$650K)**
- 11. Community Assistance Programs (\$415K)**

# NRD REVENUES, FY 2022 TENTATIVE BUDGET



# REVENUES

BUDGET CATEGORIES	FY 2021 BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET
Property Taxes	\$10,156,870	\$10,156,870
Cash & Investments (NRD)	\$9,677,966	\$10,399,289
Deadmans Run Sinking Fund	\$4,989,977	\$5,095,607
Federal	\$3,706,280	\$3,392,265
Local	\$2,507,771	\$2,196,666
State	\$1,086,968	\$1,045,520
Cash & Investments (LPRCA)	\$531,360	\$533,635
Infrastructure and MoPac Sinking Funds	\$403,376	\$581,453
Cash and Investments (ENWRA)	\$352,964	\$352,392
County Treasurer Balance	\$125,000	\$125,000
Investment Income	\$60,000	\$20,000
		<b>\$33,798,697</b>

# Public Comments

**Thank you for attending the  
FY 2022 Budget Public Hearing.  
Your interest in the district's  
natural resources is truly  
appreciated.**