

Memorandum

Date: July 2, 2024
To: I&E Subcommittee
From: Adam Sutton, Environmental Educator
Subject: FY25 LRIP - 2nd Grade Field Trip to Lincoln Children's Zoo

The Information and Education Subcommittee met Monday, July 1, at 5:30 PM. Subcommittee members present were Ken Vogel (Chair), Tom Green, Melissa Baker, Gary Aldridge, John Yoakum, Ray Stevens, Lisa Lewis. Others in attendance included staff members Mike Sousek, David Potter, Jodi DeLozier and Adam Sutton. I&E Subcommittee member Susan Seacrest was not present.

Chair Vogel called the meeting to order. Jodi and Adam summarized changes in the 2nd grade field trip program which prompted the subcommittee meeting. At the initial I&E LRIP meeting on May 14th, NRD staff felt they did not have enough information to share with the Subcommittee to make an informed decision whether to support the Zoo field trips. Since that time, NRD staff met and worked with the Lincoln Children's Zoo and Lincoln Public Schools to not only lower the admission price per student, but also to tailor the field trip curriculum to meet NRD goals. Field trip curriculum and activities will emphasize the LPSNRD's focus on local natural resource issues such as the importance of water quality and native habitat as well as local flora and fauna.

In addition to changes in the 2nd grade field trip curriculum, it was noted that this field trip program does not require additional money added to the I&E budget. Rather, funds will be shifted from other education programs to meet the funding needs. In summary, the overall I&E budget remains the same, but only the amounts to identified programs within the same budget code in the LRIP will change.

It was moved by Yoakum, seconded by Stevens to recommend the Board of Directors financially support the Lincoln Children's Zoo field trip for all 2nd graders in the Lower Platte South NRD at \$6/student admission price for LPS students and \$8/student for non-LPS students.

Following the motion and second, but before the vote, Director Aldridge moved to object consideration of the motion. Chair Vogel declared the objection inappropriate. Discussion followed the main motion.

A roll call vote was taken – Directors Yoakum, Baker, Green, Stevens, Lewis and Vogel voting yes, and Aldridge voting present. Motion passed.

There being no further business, Chair Vogel adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.

cc: F&P Subcommittee