

Contact: LaVonya Goodwin
Phone: 402-575-8164
[lavonyagoodwin@gmail.com](mailto:lavyonagoodwin@gmail.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OMAHA, Nebraska – May 1, 2019

On April 29th, 2019 The Omaha City Council voted in support of forming a North 24th Street Business Improvement District from Cuming to Ames Streets. This is a critical milestone in the work to revitalize the physical landscape and economic growth of this historic business district. One of the next steps is to determine the initial projects for the North 24th Street Business Improvement District.

Under Nebraska statutes, cities are authorized to create a BID as a mechanism to raise funds and provide additional services to a business area. Some of the common uses of these funds to benefit a BID include:

- General maintenance, such as snow removal, weed control, litter removal, graffiti abatement or other general repairs;
- Lighting, including holiday lights;
- Beautification, such as landscaping, streetscapes, historic signage;
- Promotion, such as festivals, district banners, and other events;
- Parking, including acquisition, maintenance and operation of parking facilities; and
- Security

The following companies are represented on the board: Lozier Corporation, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Assembly of the Saints Church, The Salvation Army, Goodwin's Spencer Street Barbershop, CUES Foundation, The Carnation Ballroom, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Omaha Small Business Network, The Cooler Sno-Balls, Omaha Economic Development Corporation, Habitat for Humanity Omaha, the Omaha Municipal Land Bank and the Church of God in Christ.

The BID board members are currently working on the assessment formulation with the City Planning office to determine the funds that can be raised for projects. The assessment will likely be based upon street frontage.

The North 24th Street Business Improvement District has both short and long-term goals. In the first year, beautifying the area through litter control will be a priority. The BID will also look to facilitate façade improvement and market the current attractions in the area. These initial, short-term goals will provide needed solutions for the current business and property owners to improve their investments, while the board of directors develops long-term strategies for greater impact and economic significance.