

From: [Ravenscroft, Sue P \[ACCT\]](#)
To: [City Council and Mayor](#)
Subject: Letter for council communications
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 12:20:07 PM
Attachments: [Letter re Linc subsidy 5 16 23.docx](#)

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Haila and Council members:

I have attached a letter I would like to have included in council communications. Thank you for your consideration. I will include the letter below just in case the attachment does not work.

Sue Ravenscroft
455 Westwood Drive
Ames, IA 50014

May 16, 2023

City Council members and Mayor Haila:

I am writing in response to a letter that you discussed at the May 9, 2023 city council meeting. In that letter Chuck Winkleblack said that the Linc project was not progressing as he had hoped and blamed several factors. He is now requesting, as I understand his letter, that the city assume construction costs of \$1.68 million and provide him \$1.8 million dollars in cash in order to make the Linc “financially viable.” And he is asking for this substantial subsidy while informing us that he is downsizing the project by eliminating the proposed north parking deck.

I would suggest that if the city has excess funds of \$3.5 million it use those funds to reconsider adding a walking track in the Fitch Aquatic Center. The city does not have an indoor walking facility even though many people enjoy walking and want an indoor space to make it safer and more feasible, especially through the winter.

Even though the Linc is a privately-owned project, the city has already agreed to provide public support to the developers in the form of a \$42,000,000 tax rebate (TIF). Any further expenditures related to the Reinvestment District project should be spent on the Aquatic Center, which the public needs and has expressed a strong desire for.

Thank you for your time and attention.
Regards,
Sue Ravenscroft