



## Impact fee audit shows no problems with process

By NANCY HICKS / Lincoln Journal Star | Posted: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 7:00 pm

A special audit of the city's impact fee system found no problems with the process itself, the collection, distribution or spending of the fees.

The \$3,800 audit reviewed the collecting and spending system but did not look at the continuing political controversy: whether impact fees themselves are appropriate, and whether the city's fees are too high or too low.

The city's Audit Advisory Board approved the audit report from HBE Becker Meyer Love LLP, a CPA and consulting firm, during a Wednesday meeting.

The city collects impact fees for construction projects, both business and homes, to cover some of the costs of providing city services to a growing community.

Impact fees are based on the size and price of development and its potential impact on city services, including streets, water and wastewater and parks.

The fees are collected for the specific services and are to be used within the same geographic area where the new construction or expansion takes place, with some exceptions.

Lincoln collected about \$34.3 million in impact fees during the first eight years of the program.