

## Cuts questioned at city budget discussion

*By Lincoln Journal Star*

*Saturday, May 16, 2009 - 09:07:40 pm CDT*

About 110 Lincolniters chimed in Saturday on possible cuts to programs and services in next year's city budget.

Three large group discussions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus covered six issues: snow removal, libraries, police response to non-injury accidents, middle school resource officers and after-school youth programs, indoor air quality, and childhood injury prevention.

"It was very interesting," said city spokesperson Diane Gonzalez. "There were certain issues that seemed to ignite different groups."

For the most part, she said, people opposed cutting library and snow removal services, but supported dropping a city program for regulating indoor air quality.

The majority also opposed cutting the city's after-school programs to curb youth crime, Gonzalez said. Many wanted to assign the four middle school resource officers to specific schools, instead of having them split time between several.

People were split on the other issues, she said.

Channel 5 recorded the discussions, and they will be aired soon. Video also will be available on the channel's Web site.

Discussion results, to be compiled with those from the city's online budget survey, should be released in the next few weeks.

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