

MCCOOK CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

**Monday, July 6, 2026
5:30 PM - City Council Chambers**

Roll Call.

Excuse Absences.

Open Meetings Act Announcement.

Invocation - McCook Ministerial Association - Walter Ray, McCook Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order.

Individuals who have appropriate items for City Council consideration should complete the "Topic for Consideration for City Council Agenda" form located at the information table by the entrance to the Council Chambers. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting, notification of the date will be given.

Items.

1. Announcements & Recognitions.

2. Consent Agenda.

**The Consent Agenda is approved on one motion. Any item listed on the Consent Agenda may, by the request of any single Council member or public in attendance, be considered as a separate item under the Regular Agenda.*

A. Approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026 regular City Council meeting.

B. Approve Amendment No. DFC26 to Lease Agreement No. LNE00265 between the City of McCook and General Services Administration for leased space in the terminal and old fire station at McCook Ben Nelson Regional Airport being used by The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and authorize the Mayor to sign.

C. Ratify Grant Agreement between AARP and the City of McCook.

3. Regular Agenda.

A. Update regarding the youth sports complex project.

B. Update regarding the City of McCook's/McCook Community Development Agency's application for an EPA Brownfields Program Grant.

C. Council Comments.

D. An Executive Session may be held upon a majority vote of the Council for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining - Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 57.

1. Nebraska Open Meetings Act statement, if the motion to close passes.
2. Close Executive Session.

Adjournment.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 6, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM: 2.A.

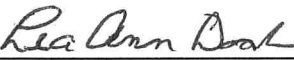
Approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026 regular City Council meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Receive and approve the minutes.

**FISCAL
IMPACT:** None.

APPROVALS:



Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk

July 1, 2026

McCook City Council
June 15, 2026
5:30 P.M.

A MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK, NEBRASKA convened in open, regular, and public session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Linda Taylor, Councilmembers Jerry Calvin, Gene Weedon, Jared Muehlenkamp, Darcy Rambali.

Absent: None.

City Officials present: City Manager Nate Schneider, City Attorney Nate Mustion, City Clerk Lea Ann Doak, Assistant City Manager Tera Koetter, Library Director Jody Crocker, Utilities Director Pat Fawver, Fire Chief Marc Harpham, Police Chief Kevin Hodgson, Public Works Director Kyle Potthoff, Senior Services Director Beth Siegfried, and Building Inspector Barry Mooney.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the McCook Daily Gazette on June 11, 2026, the designated method of giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Mayor and members of the City Council and a copy of the Acknowledgement of Receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the Mayor and Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Taylor announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted by the entrance to the Council Chambers and available for public review. Invocation was provided by Jeff Donelan, McCook Evangelical Free Church. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

Mayor Taylor announced that individuals who have appropriate items for City Council consideration should complete the "Topic for Consideration for City Council Agenda" form located at the information table by the entrance to the Council Chambers. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting, notification of the date will be given.

1. Announcements & Recognitions.

City Manager Schneider announced that a contract has been signed with Johnson Controls Building Solutions for repair of the HVAC system at the library. They will perform the needed work as soon as the parts needed are received.

2. Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the consent agenda. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Rambali, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 5, NAY: 0

- 2.A. Approve the minutes of the June 1, 2026 regular City Council meeting.
- 2.B. Forward to the City's insurance carrier for review and appropriate action a property damage incident form from Pam Harsh.
- 2.C. Receive and file the claims for the month of May 2026, published June 9, 2026.
- 2.D. Approve the application for a Special Designated Liquor License (SDL) submitted by Elevated Catering, LLC, Liquor License #C-157594 for a wedding to be held at the City Auditorium, 302 West 5th Street, on July 4, 2026 from 4:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M.
- 2.E. Approve the Police Department to declare the listed property as surplus and allow said property to be disposed of in the appropriate manner.
- 2.F. Ratify the Mayor's appointments to the Economic Development Plan Loan Committee - reappoint Kent Craw and Doug Skiles - terms expire March 2030 and to the Planning Commission - appoint David Brewster to fill the remaining term of Bruce McDowell - term expires September 2028.
- 2.G. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the 2026/2027 contract with the West Central Area Agency on Aging (WCNAAA) for the purpose of defining and specifying the separate and mutual responsibilities of each in the management, operation, support, monitoring, and evaluation of the McCook Heritage Senior Center.

3. Regular Agenda.

- 3.A. Presentation from Eric Westman, Partner and Architect with Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture, regarding the CCCFF - Creative District grant.

Via zoom, Eric Westman with Alley Poyner Macchietto and Matt Clouse with W Design gave a presentation regarding the CCCFF - Creative District grant. They reviewed the process and presented conceptual designs for the creative district. The group focused on the intersection of Norris Avenue and "D" Street and the downtown area between West and East First streets; concepts included painting of murals, decorative planters, crosswalk and lighting enhancement, benches, and the placement of speakers for sound production in the area.

Matt Sehnert; speaking on behalf of the McCook Creative district committee, thanked all who helped create the CCCFF project for McCook and those (City of McCook, the Graff foundation, Community Hospital, McCook Economic Development Corporation, and the McCook Community Foundation) who provided the required match for the grant. He noted the committee will continue to pursue grant

opportunities and contributions to move the project forward to construction.

- 3.B. Presentation from Emma Castor with West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) in regards to properties identified to be in violation of McCook's Code of Ordinances.

Emma Castor, with WCNDD, gave an update of the properties identified to be in violation of McCook's ordinances; 249 properties were reviewed, 60 letters were sent notifying property owners of the violations, 35 owners cleared the issues, and 25 properties were being presented to be designated as nuisance properties .

Gary Snyder, owner of a property to be designated as a nuisance, requested additional time for him to work with renter for removal of an unlicensed vehicle.

- 3.C. Approve Resolution No. 2026-15 approving the designation of nuisance properties as deemed by WCNDD and as declared in the Resolution.

I move to approve Resolution No. 2026-15 approving the designation of nuisance properties as deemed by WCNDD and as declared in the Resolution with the exception of property 2026 MCC 1. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 5, NAY: 0

- 3.D. Council Comments.

Mayor Taylor announced that the City of McCook has been designated as Nebraska's 5th Safest City and thanked Chief Hodgson for all he and his staff do to help us achieve this designation.

- 3.E. An Executive Session may be held upon a majority vote of the Council for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining - Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 57.

Motion to go into executive session for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining - Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 57 at 6:31 P.M. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Mayor Taylor stated for the record that at this time, pursuant to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, a closed session will be held for the purpose of the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining - Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 57. The Council will reconvene in public session following this closed session.

Included in the executive session were City Manager Schneider, Assistant City Manager Koetter, City Attorney Mustion, Police Chief Hodgson, and City Clerk Doak.

Motion to come out of executive session at 7:35 P.M. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Taylor, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Linda Taylor, Ex-officio Mayor
and Council President

ATTEST:

Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 6, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

ITEM: **2.B.**

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Amendment No. DFC26 to Lease Agreement No. LNE00265 between the City of McCook and the General Services Administration for leased space in the terminal and old fire station at McCook Ben Nelson Regional Airport being used by The Transportation Security Administration(TSA) and authorize the Mayor to sign.

BACKGROUND:

This lease agreement is for space that is currently being occupied by the Transportation Security Administration at McCook Ben Nelson Regional Airport. This amendment to lease no. LNE00265 adds required language concerning Federal Acquisition Regulation(FAR) 52.222-90 addressing DEI Discrimination by Federal Contractors.

This lease began on November 19, 2019 and will be in effect thru November 18, 2029. This lease allows TSA to occupy 968 square feet of office space at the airport at a monthly cost of \$2,130.10 or \$25,561.20 annually. TSA provides security screening for the commercial flights that utilize McCook Ben Nelson Regional Airport.

**FISCAL
IMPACT:** None.

APPROVALS:



Kyle Potthoff, Public Works Director

June 16, 2026



Nate Schneider, City Manager

June 16, 2026

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE LEASE AMENDMENT	Lease Amendment No. DFC26 TO LEASE NO. LNE00265
ADDRESS OF PREMISES MCCOOK REGIONAL TERMINAL & FS 1022 Airport Road Mccook, NE 69001	PDN Number: N/A

THIS AMENDMENT is made and entered into between
CITY OF MCCOOK

whose address is: **505 W C St**
Mc Cook, NE 69001

hereinafter called the Lessor, and the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, hereinafter called the Government:

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the above Lease to include the DEI Discrimination by Federal Contractors clause.

NOW THEREFORE, these parties for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, covenant and agree that the said Lease is amended, effective upon execution, as follows:

The following FAR clause is hereby incorporated into this Lease:

This Lease Amendment contains 2 pages.

All other terms and conditions of the lease shall remain in force and effect.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties subscribed their names as of the below date.

FOR THE LESSOR:

Name: _____
Title: _____
Entity: _____
Date: _____

FOR THE GOVERNMENT:

Name: Rebeca Torres Jurado
Title: Lease Contracting Officer
General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service
Date: _____

FAR 52.222-90 Addressing DEI Discrimination by Federal Contractors (APR 2026)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

Program participation means membership or participation in, or access or admission to: training, mentoring, or leadership development programs; educational opportunities; clubs; associations; or similar opportunities that are sponsored or established by the contractor or subcontractor.

Racially discriminatory diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) activities means disparate treatment based on race or ethnicity in the recruitment, employment (e.g., hiring, promotions), contracting (e.g., vendor agreements), program participation, or allocation or deployment of an entity's resources.

(b) In connection with the performance of work under this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- (1) The Contractor will not engage in any racially discriminatory DEI activities;
- (2) The Contractor will furnish all information and reports, including providing access to books, records, and accounts, as required by the Contracting Officer, for purposes of ascertaining compliance with this clause;
- (3) In the event of the Contractor's or a subcontractor's noncompliance with this clause, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part, and the Contractor or subcontractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts;
- (4) The Contractor will report any subcontractor's known or reasonably knowable conduct that may violate this clause to the Contracting Officer and take any appropriate remedial actions directed by the Contracting Officer; and
- (5) The Contractor will inform the Contracting Officer if a subcontractor sues the Contractor and the suit puts at issue, in any way, the validity of this clause.
- (6) The Contractor recognizes that compliance with the requirements of this clause are material to the Government's payment decisions for purposes of 31 U.S.C. 3729(b)(4).
- (c) The Contractor must include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c), in subcontracts at any tier, including those for commercial products and commercial services, except those where the place of delivery or performance is outside the United States.

INITIALS: _____ & _____
LESSOR GOV'T

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 6, 2026 MCCOOK CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

ITEM NO. 2.C.

Ratify Grant Agreement between AARP and the City of McCook.

BACKGROUND:

The City of McCook submitted a grant application that was not funded through the National AARP Community Grant program to assist in paying for a shade structure at the new PFC Gerald L. Walters Youth Sports Complex. However, we were notified by the State Director of AARP Nebraska that they set aside funds in their budget for projects that didn't receive the national funding that they believe will provide a big community impact. They believed McCook's project would definitely fit that description and have awarded the City a \$15,000 grant for the shade structure. The Grant Agreement is attached to this report.

APPROVALS:



Nathan A. Schneider, City Manager

July 1, 2026



Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk

July 1, 2026



Tera Koetter, Assistant City Manager

July 1, 2026

July 1, 2026

Grant Agreement

This GRANT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") serves as an agreement between **AARP**, located at 601 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20049, and the **City of McCook**, a municipality located at 505 West C Street McCook, NE 69001 ("Organization").

Whereas, in furtherance of AARP's mission of enhancing quality of life for all as we age, AARP wishes to grant Organization funding for the purposes set forth herein, and Organization wishes to perform the grant activities described herein. Therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises and advantages to the parties (the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged), the parties agree as follows:

1. **Grant Details.** AARP shall provide Organization with grant funding of up to \$15,000 ("Grant Funds") for the purpose of installing a permanent shade structure at the PFC Gerald L. Walters Youth Sports Complex ("Goal") so that Organization may perform the activities described herein between September 1, 2026 and November 30, 2026 ("Grant Period"). Payment shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a. *Funding.* AARP shall provide Organization with a one-time payment of grant funding in the amount of \$15,000 ("Grant Funds") by September 15, 2026.
 - b. *Scope of Grant and Anticipated Activities to be Funded.* Organization shall use the Grant Funds to undertake the following activities and achieve the following deliverables (collectively "Grant Activities") at the PFC Gerald L. Walters Youth Sports Complex:
 - i. Purchase and install a permanent 45-foot hexagonal shade structure to enhance spectator comfort and reduce heat exposure, including for older adults.
 - ii. Create an ADA-accessible shaded spectator seating area adjacent to primary walking paths to improve accessibility, comfort, and mobility for residents aged 50 and older.
 - iii. Install weather-resistant AARP-branded signage identifying the shade structure and highlighting accessible seating and gathering areas.
 - iv. Organization shall procure and keep in full force and effect, at its sole cost and expense, from governmental authorities having jurisdiction over the Grant Activities' location(s), any and all licenses, permits, bonds or other authorizations necessary to conduct the Grant Activities contemplated under this Agreement. Organization will notify AARP immediately if Organization fails to obtain the required permits and licenses prior to commencement of the Grant Activities. A copy of any required permits or licenses shall be provided to AARP upon request.
 - c. *Reporting Requirements.* Organization shall submit a financial and programmatic report to AARP within thirty (30) days of the expiration of the Grant Period, detailing all progress or achievement of the activities described herein. The report shall include an itemized listing of any and all expenditures and draw-downs of the Grant Funds made during the Grant Period.]
 - d. *Documentation and Right to Audit.* Organization shall retain invoices, receipts, accounting records and other supporting documentation for at least five (5) years following the expiration of the Grant Period. Organization shall maintain books and records consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and good business practices. AARP retains the right to audit Organization's books and records upon reasonable notice, for the limited purpose of confirming that funds are expended and drawn down solely to conduct Grant Activities and in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
2. **Permissible Use of Funds, Repayments, and Refunds.** Organization shall use the Grant Funds exclusively for the performance of Grant Activities. AARP retains the right to receive an immediate refund of all improperly expended or unearned funds, as determined in AARP's sole reasonable discretion, from

Organization upon written demand. If Organization anticipates a change in the scope or direction of Grant Activities, it must procure prior written approval from AARP before expending Grant Funds for any activity not specifically detailed herein. Furthermore, upon the expiration of the Grant Period or if Organization fails to comply with any term of this Agreement, Organization agrees to return any unexpended portion of the Grant Funds in Organization's possession upon written demand from AARP.

3. **Term and Termination.** The effective date of this Agreement shall be the date of execution, and the Agreement shall automatically terminate on December 1, 2026 ("Term"). The Agreement may be terminated by AARP at any time and for any reason upon written notification to Organization. Upon such termination, Organization shall be required to return any unearned portion of the paid Grant Funds, and AARP shall have no further obligation to provide Organization with any unpaid portion of the Grant Funds.
4. **No Implied Agency.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to create any partnership, joint venture, joint enterprise, or agency relationship among the parties, and no party shall have the right to enter into contracts on behalf of, to legally bind, to incur debt on behalf of, or to otherwise incur any liability or obligation on behalf of, the other party hereto, in the absence of a separate writing, executed by an authorized representative of the other party. Each party shall be solely responsible for its employees and contractors used to provide the Agreement.
5. **No Promotional or Political Activity.** Both parties recognize that AARP is a nonprofit, non-partisan tax-exempt organization and agree that the Grant Funds will not be used to support or oppose political candidates or initiatives. Notwithstanding any specific deliverable herein, Grant Funds shall not be used to promote any commercial product or for-profit corporation.
6. **No Collection of AARP Member Data.** At no time shall Organization knowingly collect any information from individuals involved in the Grant Activities that shall identify such individuals as AARP members, member-prospects, or individuals interested in AARP.
7. **Indemnification.** Each party (an "Indemnifying Party") shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the other Party, its affiliates, and their respective partners, officers, directors, employees, contractors, agents, and representatives (each of whom is an "Indemnified Party") against all liability, costs, actions, suits, judgments, damages, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs) arising out of or resulting from (a) the negligent, reckless, or willful acts or omissions of Indemnifying Party, its officers, directors, employees, members, independent contractors, or agents; (b) the Indemnifying Party's breach of applicable law or regulation; (c) the Indemnifying Party's breach of this Agreement, including failure to comply with its obligations as set forth in this Agreement; and (d) any claim that the services or work product or any other material provided by the Indemnifying Party hereunder infringe or violate the intellectual property or other rights of third parties, except to the extent caused by the Indemnified Party. The parties acknowledge and agree that the indemnity specified herein will include, without limitation, indemnification for settlements or compromises of matters covered by this indemnity. The Indemnifying Party shall not settle any such suit or claim without the Indemnified Party's prior written consent if such settlement would be adverse to the Indemnified Party's interest. The Indemnified Party may, at its option, conduct the defense in any third-party action arising as described above and the Indemnifying Party agrees fully to cooperate with such defense. The obligations and rights granted in this Section 6 shall survive the expiration and termination of the Agreement.
8. **Insurance.** Organization agrees to carry and maintain comprehensive general liability and professional liability in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) and workers' compensation insurance in an amount as required by applicable law covering all personnel engaged in the activities under this Agreement for the duration of the Grant Period.

9. **Acknowledgment and Trademark Licenses.** Organization should acknowledge AARP on all public communications (including but not limited to press releases, brochures, reports, documents, etc.) of all Grant Activities. AARP must be named as the grantor and the recognition should state: "*Made possible by a grant from AARP.*" To that end, AARP grants Organization a royalty-free non-exclusive, revocable license to use its name and corporate logo solely for that purpose upon the advance written approval of AARP in each instance. In addition, Organization grants AARP a non-exclusive, royalty-free, world-wide, revocable license to use Organization's corporate trademark, including its name and/or logo for the limited purpose of communications regarding the grant between AARP and Organization to AARP members, the 50-plus and the general public in promotion of AARP in all media and mediums, including without limitations, broadcast, print, online and AARP membership materials until the expiration or termination of this Agreement. All trademark licenses granted under this section are non-transferrable and shall automatically terminate at the expiration or termination of this Agreement.
10. **No Publicity.** Notwithstanding any specific deliverable herein, neither party may issue a press release, hold a press conference, or otherwise refer to the other party in any manner with respect to this Agreement without the prior written consent of such other party.
11. **Warranties.** Each party hereby represents and warrants that: (a) it has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and perform its obligations hereunder; (b) it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its origin; (c) it has not entered into, and during the Term will not enter into, any agreement that would prevent it from complying with this Agreement; (d) it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in its performance of this Agreement; and (e) the content, media and other materials used or provided as part of the Agreement shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations and shall not infringe or otherwise violate the intellectual property rights, rights of publicity or other proprietary rights of any third party.
12. **Confidentiality.** Both parties agree to take commercially reasonable measures to protect information obtained from the other, provided information is marked "confidential" or is of such a nature that the recipient party has reason to believe it is confidential.
13. **Additional Terms.** This Agreement represents the entire agreement between parties and replaces any prior agreement or proposed variation. Should there be any conflict between any forms or documents exchanged by the parties, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall govern. This Agreement shall be amended only by mutual written agreement executed by the parties or their respective designees. This Agreement shall not be assigned by Organization without the prior written approval of AARP. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns. The parties agree that this Agreement will be governed by the Laws of the District of Columbia without regard to District of Columbia conflict of laws statutes/rules. If any portion of this Agreement shall be declared illegal, void or otherwise unenforceable, the remaining provisions will not be affected but will remain in full force and effect. The parties agree that electronic and/or digital signatures are valid and enforceable.
14. **Notice.** For purposes of this Agreement, the following individuals shall serve as points of contact for both AARP and the Organization and all notices under this Agreement shall be addressed as follows:

AARP

Todd Stubbendieck
AARP Nebraska State Director
301 S. 13th Street, Suite 201
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-318-8984
tstubbendieck@aarp.org

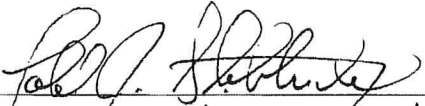
Organization

Nate Schneider
City Manager
505 West C Street
McCook, NE 69001
308-345-2022 Ext. 225
nschneider@cityofmccook.com

With a copy to: LegalNotice@aarpp.org

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO BY:

AARP

By: 
Printed Name: Todd J. Stubbendieck
Title: State Director
Date: 6-30-26

City of McCook

By: 
Printed Name: Nathan A. Schneider
Title: City Manager - City of McCook
Date: 6/29/26

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2026 MCCOOK CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM NO. **3.A** Update regarding the youth sports complex project.

BACKGROUND:

Staff would like to keep this item as a place keeper on the McCook City Council agendas while we work through the planning and construction process for the sports complex.

APPROVALS:



Nathan A. Schneider, City Manager

July 1, 2026



Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk

July 1, 2026

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2026 MCCOOK CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM NO. 3.B. Update regarding the City of McCook's/McCook Community Development Agency's application for an EPA Brownfields Program Grant.

BACKGROUND:

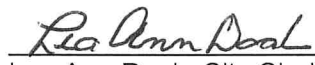
In January 2026 the City and the MEDC made application for an EPA Brownfields Grant to assist with the remediation of hazardous materials located at the former St. Catherine's Hospital and Convent at 1200 and 1201 West 4th Street and 1207 West 5th Street. On June 24 the Mayor was notified that McCook was awarded the grant in the amount of \$500,000. McCook was one of three applications approved for funding in Nebraska.

APPROVALS:



Nathan A. Schneider, City Manager

July 1, 2026



Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk

July 1, 2026



OFFICE OF BROWNFIELDS AND LAND REVITALIZATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 24, 2026

The Honorable Linda Taylor
Mayor of McCook
505 West C Street
McCook, NE 69001

Dear Mayor Taylor:

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to congratulate you and confirm that the City of McCook was selected as one of the entities EPA will begin negotiations with to award a cooperative agreement for a Cleanup Grant. The City of McCook submitted an outstanding application, and we deeply appreciate the tremendous commitment of time and energy that went into its preparation.

Since its inception in 1995, EPA's Brownfields Program has worked to help states, Tribal Nations, and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfield sites. We fully expect that these brownfield projects will provide benefits to the environment and economy of local communities. Bobbie Pennington, your Regional Brownfields Contact, will work closely with the City of McCook to negotiate the cooperative agreement prior to the grant award. You may contact Bobbie Pennington at 913-551-7209 or Pennington.Bobbie@epa.gov.

Again, congratulations on being selected! We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jerry Minor-Gordon-English, Acting Director
Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

cc: Bobbie Pennington
Tera Koetter



EPA Announces \$4.5 Million in Grants to Assess and Cleanup Communities in Nebraska

June 24, 2026

Contact Information

Shannan Beisser (beisser.shannan@epa.gov)

816-520-1949



LENEXA, KAN. (JUNE 24, 2026) – Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced \$4.5 million in Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup (MAC) grants to accelerate the cleanup of polluted sites across Nebraska.

With these funds, EPA is investing directly in American communities to clean up and redevelop blighted properties, delivering on the Trump Administration’s commitment to ensure that clean air, land, and water goes hand-in-hand with economic growth and opportunity.

“EPA is focused on delivering practical results that transform contaminated properties into clean, valuable spaces that spark economic growth and that directly benefit American families,” **said Acting Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management Thomas Croci**. “Addressing environmental contamination and reusing brownfield properties revitalizes neighborhoods, drives local job creation, and unleashes new economic opportunities. EPA is proud to partner with local communities to ensure they have the cleanest air, land, and water as we power the Great American Comeback.”

“Congratulations to our Brownfields selectees in Nebraska,” **said EPA Region 7 Administrator Jim Macy**. “These grants have the power to transform communities by opening the door to reuse, revitalization, and economic growth. We are proud to deliver these resources to Region 7.”

Clean air, land, and water for all Americans is the first pillar of President Trump and Administrator Zeldin’s Powering the Great American Comeback initiative. These grants put that commitment into action while simultaneously powering economic growth in communities across the country.

Selected applications for the 2026 Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants and RLF supplemental funding in Nebraska include:

- \$2,000,000 to the **Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment**, a selected recipient for an Assessment Grant to conduct brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- \$2,000,000 to **Fairbury, Nebraska**, a selected recipient for a Cleanup Grant to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the recipient.
- \$500,000 to **McCook, Nebraska**, a selected recipient for a Cleanup Grant to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the recipient.

Grant recipients with viable cleanup projects ready for work will help communities continue their work to carry out cleanup and redevelopment projects on contaminated brownfield properties.

View the list of selected applicants in Nebraska. [↗](#)

Background

EPA’s Brownfields Program began in 1995 and, once these grants are awarded, will have provided over \$3 billion in grant funding to assess and clean up contaminated properties and return blighted properties to productive reuse. To date, brownfields investments leveraged more than \$45 billion in cleanup and redevelopment. Over the years, the relatively small investment of federal funding was able to leverage, from both public and private sources, more than 228,900 jobs. Through fiscal year 2025, on average, \$19.47 was leveraged for each EPA Brownfields Grant dollar awarded through multipurpose, assessment, revolving loan fund and cleanup cooperative agreements.

After selection, awards will be made once all legal and administrative requirements are satisfied by selected applicants.

Learn more about EPA Region 7 <<https://epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-7-midwest>>

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Last updated on June 24, 2026

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
JULY 6, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM: 3.D.

An Executive Session may be held upon a majority vote of the Council for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining - Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 57.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council may hold a closed or Executive Session as permitted by Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 84-1410. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to such reasons as:

1. Protection of the public interest.
2. Needless injury to the reputation of an individual.
3. Strategy sessions with respect to
 - a. collective bargaining,
 - b. real estate purchases,
 - c. pending litigation, or
 - d. imminent or threatened litigation.
4. Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices.
5. Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.
6. Evaluations of job performance.

**FISCAL
IMPACT:** N/A

APPROVALS:



Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk

July 1, 2026