



**City of Lincoln
Mayor's Office**

2011 Media Releases

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Ribbon Cut For New Water Pipeline

Mayor Chris Beutler today cut the ribbon to celebrate the completion of the City's largest water system project in the last decade and proposed a toast to Lincoln high-quality drinking water. The 60-inch water transmission pipeline now extends 20 miles from the Ashland treatment plant to the Lincoln Water System (LWS) pump station in northeast Lincoln. The first 10-mile segment was completed in the 1990s and connected to an existing pipeline at that time. The final 10-mile segment was funded with \$24 million in user fees, impact fees and revenue bonds.

"This pipeline project provides the extra capacity necessary to meet the needs of our community for many years," said Mayor Beutler. "The new pipeline will carry the State's best tasting water to many generations of LWS customers. I thank and congratulate all those involved in this major infrastructure project."

LWS received the "Best Tasting Water" award from the Nebraska Section of the American Water Works Association in 2009. Lincoln's water was then entered into the national "Best of the Best" taste test contest and tied for third place in 2010.

"This project increases the transmission capacity to Lincoln's customers from 100 million gallon per day to 170 million gallons per day," said Public Works and Utilities Director Greg MacLean. "This project is the result of our contractors, engineers, material suppliers and staff working together as a team to complete a complex, multi-year project that we can all be proud of."

Garney Construction of Kansas City began working on the project in February 2008. Project design and construction phase engineering services were provided by Black & Veatch of Kansas City and Olsson Associates of Lincoln.

In addition to the extra capacity provided by the pipeline, LWS expects to see a reduction in energy used to pump the water to Lincoln. "This project also provides additional reliability for our customers in the event of a failure of one of the existing pipelines" said Jerry Obrist, LWS Chief Engineer. More information on LWS is available at lincoln.ne.gov ([keyword: water](#)).

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