

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor of Fremont, Nebraska announces first inland port authority board

The state of Nebraska's longest serving governor, Dave Heineman is among Mayor Joey Spellerberg's appointees to Fremont's first inland port authority board. The proposed 1,500-acre industrial site and logistics hub is a long-term effort to promote economic development in eastern Nebraska, including greater Fremont and the Omaha metropolitan area.

FREMONT, Neb. – Mayor Joey Spellerberg, in conjunction with Dodge County Board Chair Bob Missel, today announced the appointment of seven commissioners to guide the policy and development of the newly created Fremont Inland Port Authority. The new port authority district holds great promise to shape the future of the greater Fremont area.

“I am excited to announce these outstanding individuals as our first commissioners,” said Spellerberg. “These community members bring a variety of experiences and leadership in government, business, and civic organizations. I look forward to working with them as they begin their important work to help provide more opportunities for our local communities and the state of Nebraska.”

Proposed Port Authority Board of Commissioners

- Dave Heineman, former governor of Nebraska
- Fred Mytty, former Dodge County clerk and election commissioner
- Steve Pribnow, CPA, managing partner, Erickson & Brooks Certified Public Accountants
- Jennifer Greunke, project & implementation manager, Brandt Holdings Agriculture; and former district operations manager, Platte Valley Equipment
- Christy Fiala, executive director of Fremont Area United Way
- Paul Vaughan, former Dodge County attorney and retired district court judge
- Joe Sajevic, former executive director of the Fremont Public Schools Foundation and former Fremont High School principal



Dodge County Board Chair, Bob Missel noted the appointees' diverse backgrounds. “We appreciate their willingness to step up for the good of our community. When you look at their expertise, combined with Dave Heineman's working knowledge of economic development, we could not ask for a better start.”

As the board gets established this spring, an engineering firm begins work on a detailed site plan. Megan Skiles, executive director of the Greater Fremont Development Council (GFDC), expects the study to be complete early next year. Skiles will serve as an advisor to the port authority board.

The Fremont City Council takes up the port authority appointments at its March 28 meeting, followed by the Dodge County Board of Supervisors, April 5.

FREMONT

Here We Grow

A Nebraska Port Authority

We're working together *to shape our greater Fremont community for decades to come*. An inland port district attracts new business, increases trade and leads to high-paying jobs. For our young people, it means unlimited opportunity in a thriving community.

Why did the state of Nebraska choose Fremont for an inland port authority?

We're united! The Fremont City Council and Dodge County Board of Supervisors showed our spirit of partnership with a unanimous vote. Jan. 21, 2022

Will businesses already here in Fremont benefit? YES. An inland port authority evens the playing field so Fremont businesses can earn their fair share of growing markets.

Why an inland port? Inland port authorities can get the nation's supply-chain moving. Few people realize Fremont is ideally located, 48 hours or less from almost anywhere in the United States.

What's involved with a logistics hub?

A logistics hub moves products smoothly in all directions by rail or highway. We'll wait for a site study to explore the potential.

Who runs the inland port authority?

Mayor Spellerberg appoints a seven-member volunteer board of commissioners for approval by the Fremont City Council and Dodge County Board of Supervisors.

What's the difference between the inland port authority and local government?

While the inland port authority looks like local government, it does not levy taxes or exercise eminent domain.

Do taxpayers fund the port authority?

No. Nebraska inland port authorities actually have financing tools that other communities don't have. That's what it takes to get large shovel-ready industrial developments off the ground.

FREMONT LOGISTICS HUB A NEBRASKA INLAND PORT AUTHORITY



WHAT'S THE BENEFIT OF AN INLAND PORT AUTHORITY?

- new business
- high-wage jobs
- career opportunities
- increased retail & restaurant sales
- adds dollars to local economy



RAIL & HIGHWAY TOGETHER GIVE OUR FREMONT COMMUNITY A COMPETITIVE EDGE



THE LOGISTICS HUB IS A MAGNET

for business activity which multiplies many times over through our community and across the state.



PRE-DEVELOPMENT PHASE

CITY-COUNTY

SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Manages building permits
Approves plans
Considers zoning
Discretion to annex

PORT AUTHORITY

FINANCES DEVELOPMENT

Issues bonds
Accepts grants
Promotes district
Identifies opportunities

GFDC

(GREATER FREMONT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL)

SITE MARKETING

Manages prospects
Economic development liaison
Coordinates housing incentives
Pursues workforce strategies

Why is this a ten-year project?

A development of this size requires a thoughtful approach to make sure it's a win for our community. During this pre-development phase, we expect many months of careful planning before we're ready to break ground.

What happens to the ag land within the inland port authority district?

For now, we don't anticipate disruptions. The property remains ag land until the time is right. The next key step is a site plan to share a vision of what's possible.

Are we starting from scratch?

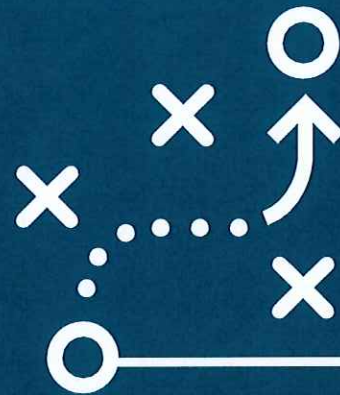
Not at all. Buy-in from GFDC business members since 2019 fuels growing interest. As a result of a \$30 million grant from the state Nebraska Rural Projects Act, you'll see engineers onsite this spring.

How can the community help?

Thanks to community support, the state of Nebraska chose the greater Fremont area for this opportunity. The best thing we can do is continue progress in affordable housing and workforce development.

Be informed!

Look for news with your monthly utility bill.



A COMMUNITY GAME PLAN

What's next?

A site plan. A top engineering firm goes to work soon on a detailed study. This will give us a much deeper understanding of our best opportunities.

ENGINEERING SITE PLAN BEGINS Spring 2023-Winter 2024

- How could it look?
- What's the ideal mix of businesses?
- What kind of infrastructure?
- What kind of improvements?
- Are there issues we need to address?