

# Council candidates may file, if boundaries are approved

By Cindy Coglianese

The gates may open today for city council candidates to file for the May 1 election if the council votes to approve proposed district boundaries.

The proposal, labeled Alternate 'D', was drawn up by a coalition of neighborhood leaders as city administrators after the November approval by voters of a plan to elect four council members by district. It would divide Lincoln into four quadrants with lines running north to south and east to west. The city would be divided into northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast areas.

All four seats open in the May election would be elected by district.

The election commissioner's office said Friday that candidates may file there until March 14 after the council approves the district plan. The filing fee is \$10. April 3 is the date set for the primary election.

Although there have been no formal announcements of candidacy in Lincoln, two residents in the northwest quadrant have said they will run in the primary.

Eric Youngberg, 28, a member of the board of directors of the Clinton neighborhood organization, and Bill Smith, 43, president of the West Lincoln neighborhood organization said they have concerns about the university community since the UNL campuses are in the northwest quadrant.

"I haven't really thought about how to reach out to the students yet to express our views," Smith said. "The university has to be one of our primary concerns. I don't know how many students are registered to vote in Lincoln, but I know they are concerned about city policy."

Smith, who is a supervisor at American Stores, said he will announce his candidacy in February.

Youngberg also expressed his concern about UNL.

"I think students should vote where they live and spend most of their time," Youngberg said.

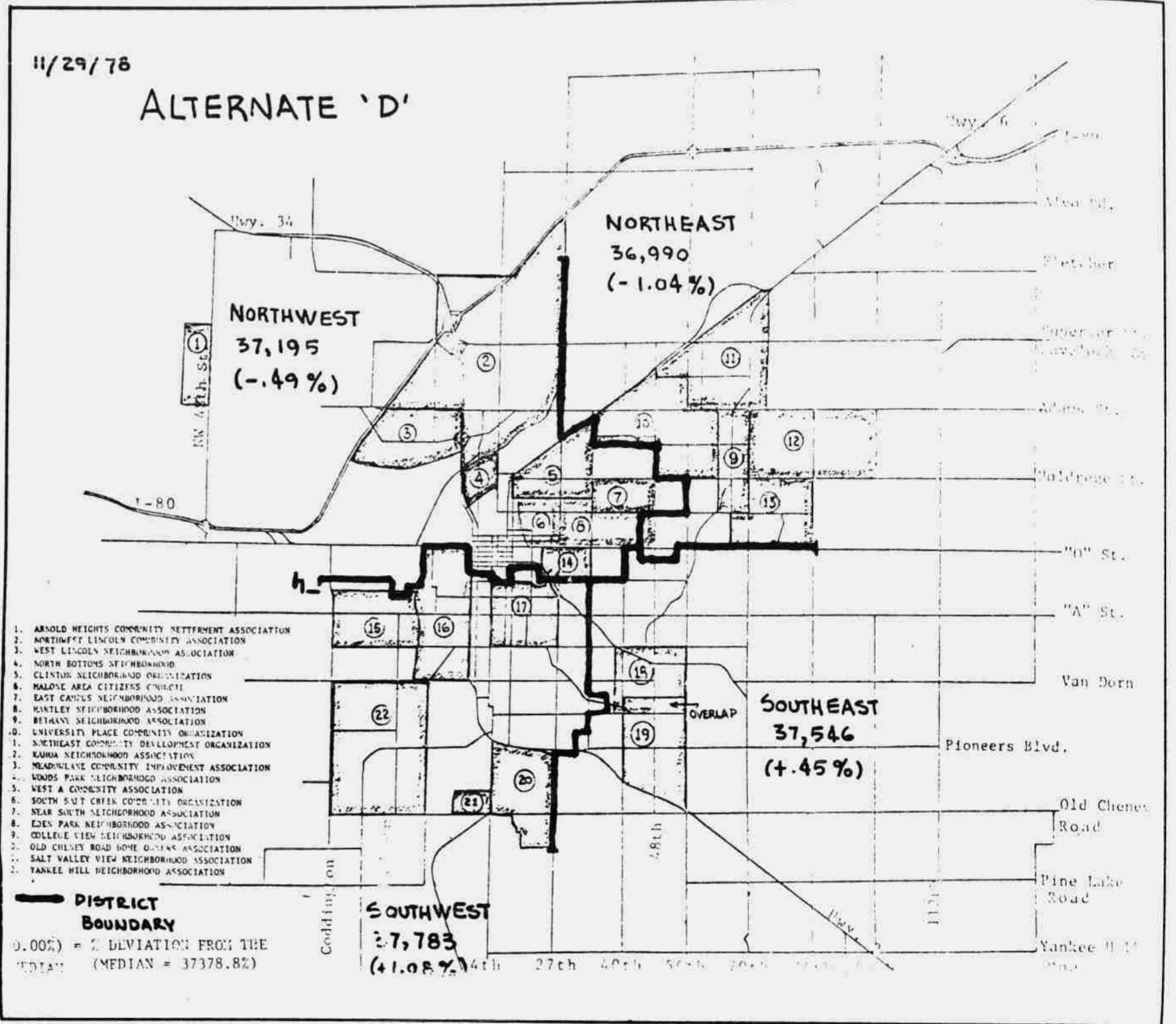
He said liquor policies, bicycle and motorcycle regulations and human rights regulations are some of the issues he plans

to bring to the council.

"There needs to be accountability-one person (on the council) that UNL students can go to," he added.

Both men serve on the Community Development Task Force and are active in

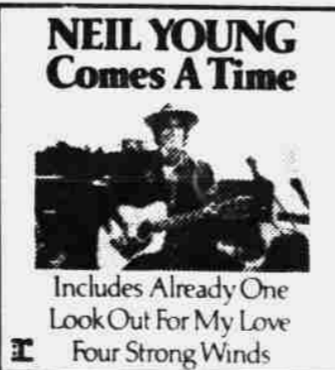
their neighborhood organizations. Youngberg also works for the Technical Assistance Agency, part of the state Welfare Department and was graduated from UNL with a masters degree in Community and Regional Planning.



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