

brought to us, that would have brought about an improvement in the entire State of Nebraska, yet we were considering making this expenditure. I guess I'd like to ask Senator Moore, if he's available, for the rationale of the Appropriations Committee on this particular expenditure, in a couple of different contexts. Number one, what is it about this project that makes it more worthy than the one that we just rejected as a floor amendment?

SENATOR MOORE: Because the window of opportunity, on this one, is only this year.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay, then the property will not be for sale again?

SENATOR MOORE: As George Coordsen would probably say, the quarter next to us is coming up for sale now, if you don't buy it now, it may be another generation before you have that opportunity.

SENATOR WITHEM: The second one is, why is this a state government responsibility, when it appears to me as though it is in many ways a beautification project for the City of Lincoln?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I suppose one could argue it's a beautification project for the City of Lincoln. But in actuality it is a project for the State Capitol and the Capitol environs. And so if...I suppose you could differentiate between the two, but I would argue that the reason you're doing this is for the State Capitol, therefore it's a state function.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. Okay, I can accept those as rationale, but I guess I can't accept either one as a reason for me making the opportunity choice between using this \$225,000 on this particular program versus some other, so I believe I'm going to join Senator Coordsen, although it's a very frightening thought, will be agreeing with Senator Coordsen in voting no on this particular portion of the committee amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in support of the committee amendment to include funding for this project. I want to commend the committee. Senator Moore's explanation, I think, was excellent. I can understand the frustration and