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FLOOR DEBATE

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is...the amount the assessment can be is the actual cost to the city of the planting.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I am. And legal counsel points out to me that there is also a...as part of this process, a preliminary statement of assessment that...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...identifies those costs.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Price-Beutler amendment, Senator Janssen, followed by Senator Stuthman and eight others.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. I remember hearing this bill in Urban Affairs. And I...right away, I felt as though this is something that every city should have. But it only affects a primary city, as I read the legislation. It looks like the objections to Senator Price's bill have been met. We need to have these types of situations in cities, in my estimation anyway. And we need to go back and get more plantings in the urban area. Because as you all know, most of Omaha and Lincoln at one time were agricultural areas, where you didn't worry about the greenery that was there, and the oxygen produced by those growing things. And if you want to look at it a different way, I believe that this would enhance the value of your property. If you live on a street that there are, say, a nice row of the catalpa (sic) pears, that this time of the year are blooming to a great extent. They're the white flowers. At one time, I believe 17th Street was lined with those catalpa (sic) pear trees. Very beautiful trees. And during an ice storm they were taken out, and never replanted as far as I can tell. But I believe that, Senator Price, this piece of legislation is important enough, I think we need this discussion and we need to take another look at it. And hopefully we can get this through, and allow the city to get on the bandwagon again and start something that they had started years ago. And I think it's very beneficial to any city. And with that, I give the rest of my time to Senator Price, if she'd like to have it.