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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Papillion Named #2 Best Affordable Suburb in America**

PAPILLION, Neb., Mar 4, 2010 – The City of Papillion has been ranked #2 on *BusinessWeek* magazine's 2010 list of "Best Affordable Suburbs." Papillion was also listed as the best affordable suburb in the state of Nebraska for the second consecutive year.

The selection was based on data from OnBoard Informatics and a review of suburbs within 25 miles of the most populated city in each state. The magazine focused on areas where people can live well for less. Beyond affordability, the ranking considered quality of life aspects like low crime, commute times and recreational opportunities, as well as other economic and educational measures.

Mayor David Black credited the City's staff and community leaders for their hard work. "Employees in every city department work extremely hard to deliver an incredible quality of life for residents. This rating reflects their effort to make a safe and enjoyable community. It is also a testament to the school system, our strong local business community and our civic partners." he said.

Papillion excelled in nearly every portion of the review, helping it to achieve the high national rating. Economically, the city has grown significantly in the last five years, adding nearly 2 million square feet of retail development since 2007, as well as issuing more than 200 commercial permits and having more than 700 new housing starts in that same time period. The city's emphasis on public safety and their growing Police and Fire departments boosted their *BusinessWeek* rating. The magazine also mentioned recreational opportunities provided by the city's two golf courses and extensive park and trail systems.

Papillion's city property tax levy (0.405) is the lowest in the Omaha metro area. It has not increased in the last five years. "Part of our job as elected officials is to deliver quality without too much burden on property owners. Being rated 'best affordable' is proof that we can accomplish that," Black said.

The recent *Business Week* rating adds to Papillion's growing list of national recognition as a great place to live. In 2009, *CNN/Money* magazine rated Papillion the #3 best small community in America. The city rated #6 on the *CNN/Money* list in 2007 and #23 in 2005. *BusinessWeek* also rated Papillion the best affordable suburb in Nebraska in 2009.

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