In order to complete this final reflection, I went back and reread my past reflections. In January I wrote about my expectations for the serviceship. I focused primarily on my expectations last semester and what I wanted to accomplish this semester. My previous expectations were not exorbitant, I knew that this was a new experience for both the Honors department and the South of Downtown CDO. My goals for the second semester of this year were to continue working on litter cleanups/ sustainability projects and housing affordability. I kept working on litter cleanups and helped lead the first clean up of the year for the CDO. It was a learning experience for all parties involved. I left the CDO with my thoughts on what could be improved and plans for the next clean up in May. As for housing affordability, I wrote summaries on pieces of legislation but could not attend many meetings due to scheduling conflicts.

In February my reflection was about the differences between classroom learning and learning through the serviceship. Not much has changed since February on my thoughts on this subject. I learned a lot in the past few months about working with public schools and organizing public service events. I also learned quite a bit about bills in the Nebraska legislature and how to make them understandable to everyday people. I did this by writing the aforementioned summaries. This to me was so much more impactful of a learning experience than learning from books or lectures.

My March reflection was about my performance in the serviceship. My thoughts are relatively the same. I wish that I could have dedicated more time to this position. Trying to schedule meetings got especially difficult in this last month with all I was doing for school and my other responsibilities with Earthstock. It was hard for me to dedicate a lot of time to the litter clean up and earth day celebrations but I still managed to get all of my tasks done and figured out how to make it work. Making this position into a full-time summer position would be beneficial to both the intern and the CDO. It would cut down on people having to choose between classes or other activities and doing work for the CDO.

After re-reading the previous reflections not much has changed as far as my thoughts and opinions of the serviceship. I will say, however, that I have changed as far as personal and professional growth. I have gained so many skills such as grant writing, communication skills, and time management. Learning how to canvass effectively was both personal and professional growth. Canvassing was probably the most impactful part of this serviceship. I made so many connections with people and learned so much about how people can be incredibly different from door to door. It taught me active listening and how to take notes when having one on one discussions.

I am really grateful for this experience and for all of the work I was able to do while taking part in this serviceship. Thank you!