



September 7, 2004

CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor

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Mr. Todd Seaman, Region Engineer
South Dakota Department of Transportation
2300 Eglin Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

RE: Emergency Access to Plum Creek/Elks Country Estates

Dear Todd:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Rapid City Council requesting that the South Dakota Department of Transportation construct an emergency access from the Southeast Connector to the Plum Creek and Elks Country Estates developments as soon as possible.

As you are aware, the City Council is very concerned that a significant number of residents have only one access to their homes in the Plum Creek and Elks Country Estates development. That sole point of access is provided via South Dakota Highway 44 and Jolly Lane, and requires all of the residents to cross Rapid Creek. The long history of flash flooding along Rapid Creek presents a significant potential hazard.

Previously, the Rapid City Council required the developer of the Plum Creek Subdivision to construct a secondary access to the area via Valley Drive. However, with the construction of the Southeast Connector, that route is no longer available. The City of Rapid City appreciates your agreement to provide a temporary emergency gated gravel access for emergency vehicles onto the Southeast Connector if the developer does not provide an alternate access through the Plum Creek Development. The City of Rapid City requests that this emergency access be constructed as soon as possible, to limit the potential risks to the residents of this neighborhood.

The City of Rapid City has long had a very beneficial and constructive working relationship with the South Dakota Department of Transportation and we appreciate your commitment to protecting the lives of the citizens of Rapid City. We look forward to the expeditious completion of this emergency access route. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything that the City Council, the City staff or I can do to assist you in this effort.

Most Sincerely,

Jim Shaw, Mayor
City of Rapid City



Motion was made by Waugh, seconded by Kroeger and carried to continue Consideration in modifying the requirements for platting property in an area east of Elk Vale, Doyle Estes to the August 16, 2004 Council meeting.

Public Works Committee Items

Options to access to Plum Creek/Elks Country Estates were distributed. Kooiker voiced his disappointment about the South Dakota Department of Transportation agreeing to provide emergency access from the development to the Southeast Connector, only if the permanent access has not been constructed through the development when the SE Connector construction is completed. He pointed the SE Connection completion date is approximately a year away. The access would be for emergency purposes only, and would be a gravel, gated access. He suggested Option 2 – Designate the areas as a Special Study Area and allow no additional platting until completion of a plan for the development of the internal road system is completed. He asked that a letter be addressed to the SDDOT from the Mayor and Council reiterating the request for emergency access. Motion was made by Kooiker, seconded by French to approve Option 2 and sending a letter to the SDDOT from the Mayor and Council reiterating the request for emergency access as soon as possible. Alderman Kroeger expressed concern over allowing no additional platting during the study. He pointed out there was another emergency access from the development, and explained that Mr. Zandstra had built a road three years earlier, but it is gated. City Attorney Green indicated Option 2 is a statement by the Council that plats will not be approved until improvements are constructed; it only slows the platting process. Upon a vote being taken, motion carried with Kroeger and Murphy voting NO.

No. PW072704-07 Motion was made Johnson, seconded Olson to Authorize Mayor and Finance Officer to sign Amendment #2 to a Professional Service Agreement with CETEC Engineering to design West Chicago Street Reconstruction 44th to Wedgewood Drive for an amount not to exceed \$74,949.32. Acting Public Works Director Vore reported the West Chicago Street Reconstruction project was estimated at \$1,209,350. Upon a vote being taken on the motion, motion carried.

Police Department Items

Motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the Police Department to apply for a COPS More Technology Grant in the amount of \$427,210.15.

City Attorney's Items

Motion was made by French, seconded by Murphy and carried to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters. The Council came out of executive session and no action was taken.

Approval of Bills

The following bills having been audited, it was moved by French, seconded by Kroeger and carried to authorize the Finance Officer to issue warrants or treasurers checks, drawn on the proper funds, in payment thereof:

Payroll Paid Ending 07-31-04, Paid 07-30-04	980,264.83
Payroll Paid Ending 07-24-04, Paid 07-30-04	712,369.07
Payroll Paid Ending 07-24-04, Paid 07-30-04	1,604.80
Pioneer Bank, Taxes Paid 07-30-04	242,953.30
Pioneer Bank, Taxes Paid 07-30-04	173,905.52
Pioneer Bank, Taxes Paid 07-30-04	121.62
First Administrators, claims paid 07-20-04	35,395.13