

RAPID CITY COMMON COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO FUND THE DAHL EXPANSION

Whereas the Dahl Arts Center has cultivated contemporary visual arts, performing arts and arts education since 1974 when Mr. and Mrs. Art Dahl bequeathed the building and the Cyclorama mural of American History to the City of Rapid City;

Whereas the Dahl Arts Center has played and continues to play a critical economical, cultural, and social role in the community, making Rapid City a better place to live and work;

Whereas art stimulates economic development as proven by projects such as City of Presidents, Crazy Horse, Mt. Rushmore and development in Hill City;

Whereas the Dahl Arts Center is a free attraction on Rapid City's Star Tour and supports tourism in our downtown area;

Whereas we recognize the need for the 30 year old community arts center to grow as Rapid City has grown so that our community will attract more cultural tourists and spur economic growth;

Whereas an expanded Dahl will make our downtown more attractive and vital for generations to come;

Whereas the Dahl serves over 60,000 people annually of all ages, income levels and abilities;

Whereas the Dahl Arts Center provides income generating potential for arts organizations, community groups and employment for artists in our region and an expanded community arts center will increase this potential;

Whereas arts education provided by the Dahl Arts Center for children in our community has the potential to significantly strengthen student problem-solving and critical thinking skills, overall academic achievement and school success and that strong, culturally sensitive arts education programs have the potential to help our community lower drop-out rates and help kids from families at all income levels improve academic performance;

Whereas the Dahl Expansion will be a major construction project, creating jobs local employment opportunities;

Whereas the City of Rapid City has confidence in our City's future and believes that we need to invest in diversifying our economy;

Whereas the Rapid City Arts Council was challenged by the City in 2000 to raise 20% of the capital cost and has exceeded that by raising 30% of total needed funds from private donors, in effect providing taxpayers with a 30% discount on the cost of the project;

Whereas that 30% contribution by far exceeds the private sector contribution raised by any other 2012 applicant in the history of the 2012 program;

Whereas major foundations (Kresge and Bush) have accepted the Dahl Expansion for consideration of \$1.3 million dollars of funding and we recognize that these foundations have great potential to help build future Rapid City projects as well;

Whereas a significant portion of the private funding requests contain deadlines which are fast approaching, thereby requiring an affirmation of the City's intent in order for the Dahl Expansion to qualify for consideration;

Whereas inflationary cost increases affect all 2012 construction projects and costs to the Dahl project have seen sharp increases since it was approved in 2000;

Whereas adding \$3.2 million in funding to funds already committed by the City and private donors will make it possible to protect the \$5 million dollar investment the City and private donors have made in the Dahl Expansion;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Rapid City Common Council assembled, that we therefore declare the commitment of the City of Rapid City to fund construction costs not to exceed \$11,000,000 at 2005 construction cost levels and move forward on this long awaited, planned for and needed project that will add immeasurably to the quality of life in our community for generations to come.