



# CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

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## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

300 Sixth Street

Dirk Jablonski, Public Works Director  
City web: [www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org)

Phone: 605-394-4165  
Fax: 605-355-3083  
e-mail: [dirk.jablonski@rcgov.org](mailto:dirk.jablonski@rcgov.org)

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Dirk Jablonski, Public Works Director

DATE: January 23, 2008

RE: Drainage Area Restrictions

Section 16.12.200, entitled Easements, of the City Code states that no obstructions may be placed in a drainage easement. A copy of the Code Section is attached. Staff will be available to address any questions or comments you may have at the January 29, Public Works Committee meeting.

## Rapid City - Subdivisions

abutting the traffic artery or any other such disadvantageous feature, the subdivider shall put in a planting screen easement of not less than 10 feet in width, across which no right of access shall be provided.

F. Side lot lines shall be substantially at right angles to streets except on curbs where they shall be radial.

G. For lots in residential districts having a width of not more than 150 feet, the lot length shall not be greater than twice the lot width.

(Ord. 2863 (part), 1991: prior code Appendix B (Art. IV, § 6))

**16.12.200 Easements.**

A. Easements across lots or centered on rear or side lot lines shall be provided for utilities and drainage where necessary and shall not be less than 20 feet wide total unless otherwise approved by the City Engineer.

B. Where a subdivision is traversed by a watercourse, drainage way, or stream, there shall be provided a stormwater drainage easement or right-of-way conforming substantially with the lines or the existing or planned drainage way. The width of the drainage easement or right-of-way shall conform substantially with the lines of the existing or planned drainage way and shall be sufficient to contain the ultimate channel and maintenance way for the tributary area upstream.

C. Lots and easements shall be arranged in such a manner as to eliminate unnecessary jogs or offsets and to facilitate the use of easement for power distribution, telephone service, drainage, water and sewer services.

D. 1. Any drainage easement, drainage right, or drainage right-of-way indicated on a subdivision plat or by other document dedicating the easement, right or right-of-way shall be kept free of all

obstructions including, but not limited to buildings, walls, fences, hedges, trees, shrubs and firewood storage stacks or piles. Drainage easements shall grant to all public authorities the right to construct, operate, maintain, inspect and repair such improvements and structures as it may deem expedient to facilitate drainage from any source.

2. Any obstruction located in a drainage easement is declared a public nuisance in accordance with § 8.16.010C.8.

(Prior code Appendix B (Art. IV, § 7))

**16.12.210 Drainage and inundation.**

A. 1. A drainage plan shall be made for each subdivision by the owner's engineer. Adequate provisions shall be made within each subdivision to provide drainage facilities needed within the subdivision taking into account the ultimate development of the tributary area.

2. Drainage and flood control facilities shall be provided in conformity with the master drainage and flood control plan.

3. The storm and sanitary sewer plan shall be made prior to other utility plans. Engineering considerations in subdivisions and other development shall give preferential treatment to gravity flow improvements as opposed to other utilities and improvements.

B. Off-premises drainage easements and improvements may be required to handle the runoff of subdivisions into a natural drainage channel.

C. Low areas subject to periodic inundation shall not be developed or subdivided unless and until the City Engineer may establish that:

1. The nature of the land use would not lend itself to damage by water to an appreciable extent; or that