



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

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June 23, 2008

Mr. Jerry Cole, Director
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Parks & Recreation Department
125 Waterloo Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Mr. Cole & Advisory Board Members:

As Mayor of Rapid City, South Dakota I am pleased to forward a request that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board consider naming the current bike path the "Swanson Memorial Bike Path" or something similar in honor of Leonard Swanson. Mr. Swanson passed away in April of this year, and I am sure that many of you are aware the bike path is a direct result of the efforts of Leonard Swanson following the 1972 flood.

Mr. Swanson served as the City's Director of Public Works for thirty-four years and as City's Urban Renewal Director immediately following the flood. Mr. Swanson's vision and commitment to preserving the integrity of the floodway is well documented and naming the bike path in his honor would be most fitting.

I join with the Swanson family, his friends and many community members in requesting this lasting memorial to Swanny. It is my hope that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will seriously consider this request along with the letters and testimonials you may have already received regarding Mr. Swanson. The Swanson Family has set aside dollars from memorials received that would be able to assist the Parks & Recreation Department to appropriately sign the bike path in his honor.

Sincerely,

Alan Hanks, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota



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