

November 27, 2012

Mayor Sam Kooiker & Rapid City Common Council
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Mayor and City Council:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, please accept this update as a follow up to the Council's July 2012 motion directing that options be presented regarding funding sources for the use of revitalizing the Civic Center, including a summary of the necessary ordinance changes.

It is the intent of the Board of Directors to more firmly establish the basis and vision for moving forward. To this end, one of the first actions to be taken will be to seat a committee of vested community members to thoroughly review and thoughtfully consider the current status of the Barnett Arena and related infrastructure. This group of volunteers will hold meetings, receive operational data, obtain public input, and offer direction and insight relative to the future of the municipal facility. This committee will be known as the Civic Center Future Committee (CCFC), and the committees work may take up to 9-12 months to complete.

Once established, meetings of the CCFC will be held, and the committee will report their findings to the Civic Center Board. All plausible options for the future sustainability of the facility will be accepted and considered.

The following topics will most likely be explored by the CCFC:

- 1) The Current Status of Civic Center Facility
 - a. The Don Barnett Area
 - b. Americans with Disabilities Act
 - c. Building and Life Safety Codes
 - d. Parking

- 2) Identified Facility Issues
 - a. 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance
 - b. Life Safety Concerns
 - c. Parking Limitations
 - d. Facility Capacity and Purposing

- 3) Future Options Currently Identified (additional options may also be considered):
 - a. Status Quo – Do nothing;
 - b. Address parking only;
 - c. Address parking and bring the existing Barnett Arena up to code, including compliance with the 1990 and 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act;
 - d. Address parking, build a new arena and tear down the Barnett Arena;
 - e. Address parking, build a new arena and re-purpose the Barnett Arena;
 - f. Address the arena issues without addressing parking.

- 4) Funding Overview (overall Vision Fund projections)

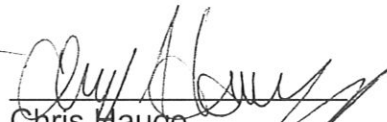
- 5) Recommendations and Timetable for Future Actions, Planning or Implementation

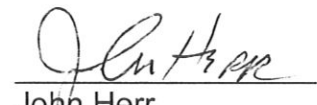
While the likely result of this endeavor will be a formal request for the expenditure of public funds, we believe it is critical for the credibility of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center and the Rapid City Vision funding process to involve members of our community as we contemplate the current and future needs of the facility. Please recall that the presentation made to the Council by the Board in July offered a vision, a general cost range, and but one option to be explored. The Board believes that most of the members of our community would agree that the Civic Center has become a vital part of Rapid City's infrastructure, yet we have always recognized the need for a project of any such magnitude to be presented, scrutinized, and transparently considered prior to any formal request for public funds.

The formation of the Civic Center Future Committee will also allow for the time we feel is necessary to further evaluate appropriate funding options for addressing some of the current building code concerns including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and resolution of life safety and parking issues at the Civic Center.

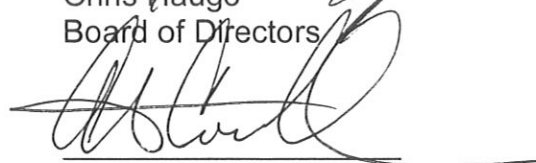
Sincerely,


 Rich Huffman
 Board of Directors


 Chris Haugo
 Board of Directors


 John Herr
 Board of Directors


 Jeff Bailie
 Board of Directors


 Al Cornella
 Board of Directors

Civic Center Future Committee

Gary Brown
Pete Cappa
Tom Collings
Dave Davis
Bill Honerkamp
Mike Kenton
Kitty Kinsman
Lloyd LaCroix
Ed McLaughlin
Bill Napoli
Kevin Phillips
Linda Rabe
John Schmit
Dan Senftner
Ben Snow
Mutch Usera
Dan Warren