



RAPID CITY PARKS & RECREATION

515 WEST BOULEVARD RAPID CITY, SD 57701

Alex DeSmidt, Landscape Designer

June 18, 2013

To: PW Committee/City Council

RE: Request Authorization for Mayor & Finance Officer to Sign –Agreement for City Parks Trail Maintenance & Improvements

The completion of a new trail in Founders Park during the Rapid City Greenway Trails and Pedestrian Facilities Project, in 2012, has provided users with access to areas that were relatively inaccessible before. This has caused heavy use of unsustainable, unsafe and unmaintained trails between Founders, Chuck Lien, "M" Hill, and Hanson-Larsen Memorial Parks. These trails were once constructed from general public use, out of necessity to reach the Hanson-Larsen Memorial Park (HLMP) from the west end of Founders Park. However, lately Parks has seen significant construction of several trail features in this area, which limit access to the majority of the public. This corridor is only one of three areas the public can access the over 20+ miles of trails within the 300+ acre HLMP property.

To mitigate these issues, we have investigated solutions with HLMP's Trail and Park Management, TrailArts. We feel it is in the City's best interest to establish a defined trail system through this transitional corridor between City and Private Parkland by contracting with TrailArts for the work of removing and constructing trails, as depicted in the attached map. Although Heartland Outdoors, Inc. is based in Colorado, their staff and crew have been in the Rapid City area since 2008 working on trails in the Hanson-Larson Memorial Park and other areas of Rapid City. There are no other professional trail building firms in South Dakota who would be able to perform this service.

Based on this information, staff recommends that the Mayor and Finance Officer be authorized to sign the attached Agreement with Heartland Outdoors, Inc. dba TrailArts for Trail Maintenance and Improvements. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Alex DeSmidt, Landscape Designer
Rapid City Parks and Recreation