

**From:** [justin@independentalehouse.com](mailto:justin@independentalehouse.com)

**Sent:** 2/18/2014 12:45 PM

**To:** [Mayor's Office Group](#)

**Cc:** [justin@independentalehouse.com](mailto:justin@independentalehouse.com)

**Subject:** Summer Nights

To Mayor Kooiker and the Rapid City Council Members,

First, I would like to express my support for Summer Nights in Downtown Rapid City. Currently I am one of the owners of Independent Ale House on Saint Joseph Street and in the process of opening a healthy, fast casual dining concept on Main Street in Rapid City. This event brings thousands of people downtown every week in the summer, which creates a vibrant buzz in our community. As a business owner I appreciate the exposure and visibility that this event provides. Summer Nights helps bring a "Small Town" feel to what is becoming a big city.

The discussions of moving the event to either Memorial Park or possibly to the 800 Block of Main Street concerns me. In my opinion, if the event is moved out of the 5th Street to 8th Street area of downtown several issues will arise. My biggest concern is safety, we will have families with children crossing busy intersections during the height of evening traffic. The second issue that I see is the disconnect from Main Street Square. Main Street Square and Summer Nights seem to be a cohesive fit to provide a unique entertainment experience for our city. To separate these events would diminish from the overall concept of what has been developed in downtown Rapid City.

So in closing, I support Summer Nights in Downtown Rapid City on Main or St. Joseph Street between 5th and 8th Street. This is a great event, please don't ruin it. If you would like to talk to me further feel free to call me at 391-1828. Thank you for your time.

Cheers,

Justin Henrichsen