



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Department of Parks and Recreation

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Date: February 7, 2014

To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

From: Jeff Biegler, Parks and Recreation Director

Subject: Black Hills Farmer's Market

The Black Hills Farmer's Market has been an important fixture in Rapid City for many years. During that time the Market has set up in several different sites in the city, including their current location at Founders Park.

Staff has received numerous inquiries from other groups regarding use of the park on Saturdays, and in many of those cases, the requested use can coexist with the activities of the Farmer's Market.

However, in December of 2013, the Parks and Recreation Department secured the Fat Tire Festival, bringing this wonderful family, community, and regional event back to Rapid City. The large festival will center its activities at Founders Park on June 20, 21, and 22 requiring the Farmer's Market to relocate their Saturday set up that week.

In addition to the Fat Tire Festival, another city-wide event called the Color Run is scheduled to wind through the city and utilize many city streets and locations including the Founders Park parking lot on Saturday, August 30 (previously scheduled for June 14).

City P&R staff met with the BH Farmer's Market board in January to inform them of the two events which will require relocation of the Farmer's Market vendor booths to another location. P&R staff suggested the parking area directly across from Founders Park as an alternate location for the Farmer's Market to use during those two events.

The Farmer's Market is opposed to any relocation, instead seeking exclusive use of Founders Park for every Saturday in June and every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from July through October.

The Black Hills Farmer's Market would like to secure a long-term lease and a suitable location in the city where they can operate their businesses throughout the summer months (June through October). With increased interest in Founders Park for other community events, staff does not feel this site is appropriate for an exclusive long-term lease to any group for 20 consecutive Saturdays throughout the summer.

There are two existing Rapid City Municipal Codes relating to a Farmer's Market:

1. 17.04.263 – **Farmer's Market.** *The Offering for sale of fresh agricultural products directly to the consumer at an open air market designated by the Council as a community activity.*
2. 17.50.230 – **Farmer's Market.** *A farmer's market as defined in 17.04.263 may be conducted in any nonresidential zoning district subject to such conditions and limitations as the Council may direct in designating such farmer's market as a community activity.*

Recommendation

Parks and Recreation staff recommends allowing the Farmers Market to use Founders Park during the 2014 season as follows:

- Every Saturday in June with exception of June 21, 2014
- Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from July through October, with exception of August 30, 2014

In addition, staff recommends allowing the Farmer's Market to use the parking lot at the southwest corner of Omaha and Cross Street on Saturday, June 21 and Saturday, August 30.