



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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January 21, 2016

Rapid City Planning Commission
300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

RE: Black Hills Corporation TIF Request (Rushmore Gateway Corridor)

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to urge your support of tax increment financing requested by Black Hills Corporation for their development near the intersection of Highway 16 and Catron Boulevard.

I realize tax increment financing can be controversial, but in this case I would like to point out that Rapid City is lacking significant commercial development. In 2015, only seventeen commercial development building permits were issued in Rapid City. The request by Black Hills Corporation will help Rapid City reach some of our goals in terms of job growth, higher wages and overall economic development.

This particular development will be greatly enhanced by tax increment financing. It will speed up both the growth of jobs and positive commercial development along the Highway 16 Corridor.

The Black Hills Corporation development will consolidate current employees to one central location. In addition, it will bring new employees to the City and offer higher paying jobs that the City is sorely in need of.

Without the TIF, the development will proceed, but the increase of additional employees will be delayed.

Please support this project and the request for tax increment financing. If you have any further questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steve Allender
Mayor, Rapid City



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