

**Integrated Deer Management Plan  
Proposed to Rapid City Common Council  
By Deer Task Force Committee  
November, 2004**

Based on the social, safety and political concerns that have been raised throughout the City of Rapid City, the Deer Task Force Committee has performed extensive due diligence on how to manage the existing deer herd in Rapid City. The committee has listened, gathered data, worked to interpret the numbers and rationalize the aspects of the entire community.

The following are examples of action taken by the committee.

Compiled all numbers/totals related to the following:

- Deer, complaints, accidents, near misses, damages, issues.
- Visited with the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks and received their input.
- Held public hearing at Civic Center, gave adequate notice for meeting.
- Have been receptive of all reports, documents and numbers.
- Read and studied reports and technical guides.
- Reviewed existing ordinances and received input from City Attorney.
- Met with committee members to discuss situation.

After completing this list of activities and holding many more informal conversations, phone calls, and other meetings, the Deer Task Force Committee is recommending the following action steps to be taken immediately:

1. Harvest

- Request SD Game, Fish & Parks to issue permits to harvest up to 250 deer within the boundaries of Rapid City between December 4, 2004 and February, 2005.
- Harvest will occur at certain times and be in coordination with the Rapid City Police Department.
- Appoint a member of the Police Department to coordinate hunts.
- Advertise and distribute deer carcass at no cost to recipient.
- Funding for harvest will come from the 2004 Council Contingency not to exceed \$20,000.00.

## 2. Enforcement

- Make sure the City Attorney and City Council are aware and prepared to enforce current ordinances, laws and resolutions relating to feeding of deer or other wildlife.
- Issue public notices and press releases of new enforcement policy.
- Have City Attorney work with Code Enforcement/Police Department to issue penalties and fines to those breaking the law.

## 3. Contraception

- Direct Mayor's Office to appoint a citizens committee on deer reproduction controls.
- Direct committee to research new PZP one time vaccinations.
- Direct committee to raise funding for contraception methods.
- Study the concept of reflectors such as the Strieter-Lite.

W I L D A N I M A L H I T S  
 RAPID CITY - ACCIDENTS  
 DATE = 19 90 THRU 19 99  
 DATA EXTRACTED ON 21May 2004

YEAR	TOTAL ACCIDS	FATAL ACCIDS	INJURY ACCIDS	PROP-DMG ACCIDS	NUMBER KILLED	NUMBER INJURED	\$ DAMAGE
19 90	25	0	0	25	0	0	30,100
19 91	24	0	1	23	0	1	27,000
19 92	29	0	2	27	0	2	33,700
19 93	22	0	2	20	0	2	28,600
19 94	42	0	5	37	0	7	65,600
19 95	24	0	3	21	0	3	38,800
19 96	28	0	0	28	0	0	44,100
19 97	26	0	2	24	0	3	49,300
19 98	39	0	1	38	0	1	59,600
19 99	45	0	2	43	0	2	84,800

W I L D A N I M A L H I T S  
 RAPID CITY - ACCIDENTS  
 DATE = 20 00 THRU 20 03  
 DATA EXTRACTED ON 21May 2004

YEAR	TOTAL ACCIDS	FATAL ACCIDS	INJURY ACCIDS	PROP-DMG ACCIDS	NUMBER KILLED	NUMBER INJURED	\$ DAMAGE
20 00	33	0	2	31	0	2	60,600
20 01	37	0	2	35	0	2	88,000
20 02	38	0	2	36	0	2	77,800
20 03	59	0	3	56	0	4	135,900



## DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

Regional Office  
3305 West South Street  
Rapid City, South Dakota 57702-8160

October 19, 2004

The 2004 Rapid City deer survey has been completed (Page 1). Total deer combine from all routes (Page 2, Table 4) indicates little change from last year, but only 6% below the number of deer observed during the first survey conducted in 1995. While this method shows a cleaner picture (Graph 1) of the survey trend data, a more accurate view of the trend can be determined by just looking at the high count for each survey (Graph 2). Total number of deer from the high counts in 1995 was 181 and in 2004 a total of 195 deer were counted, an 8 % increase. Assuming weather conditions and all other factors that could affect observability are equal from year to year trend data indicates deer numbers are similar to those in 1995.

Should the City decide to enter into a deer control program again, the Department of Game, Fish & Parks would recommend following a similar program as before. Emphasis should be placed on the removal of does. During the first 3 years the goal should be to remove 200 deer per year. After the third year, harvest could be cut roughly in half to maintain deer levels.

Sincerely

Mike Kintigh  
Regional Supervisor

RECEIVED

OCT 19 2004

MAYOR'S OFFICE

### Summary of Rapid City Deer Routes, 2004

Each of the three Rapid City deer routes were surveyed once per day for three consecutive days, October 13-15, 2004. On the 13th and 15th all routes were run during the evening with start times of approximately 5pm. On the 14th routes were run in the morning starting approximately 7am. Routes are to be run from North to South.

Due to potential traffic problems during these time periods a driver and observer were used for each route. Participants in the survey were; Mike Kintigh, Rick Halseth, John Wrede, Steve Griffin, Dennis Mann, Jim McCormick, Tim Bradeen and Greg Simpson. A total of 30 man hours and 165 vehicle miles were used to conduct the survey.

Weather conditions: At the start of the surveys.  
 Oct. 13: Temperature was 52, few clouds and light winds.  
 Oct. 14 Temperature was 50, overcast, raining and no wind.  
 Oct. 15: Temperature was 52, no cloud cover and moderate winds.  
 Moon phase: new moon

Length of Routes: North - Approximately 18 miles  
 Central - Approximately 13 miles  
 South - Approximately 14 miles

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Sq. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/13/2004 PM	North	1	17	12	5	71	2	10	6	3	60	56	3.11
	Central	2	6	5	0	83	2	3	4	0	133	22	1.69
	South	16	54	34	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	104	7.43
Totals		19	77	51	5	66	4	13	10	3	77	182	4.04

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Sq. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/14/2004 AM	North	1	7	6	1	86	0	9	1	0	11	25	1.39
	Central	1	1	1	0	100	0	8	4	0	0	15	1.15
	South	5	4	2	1	50	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.86
Totals		7	12	9	2	75	0	17	5	0	29	52	1.16

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Sq. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/15/2004 PM	North	0	13	8	0	62	3	8	7	0	88	39	2.17
	Central	3	9	9	0	100	2	8	4	0	50	35	2.69
	South	17	49	33	0	67	0	0	0	0	0	99	7.07
Totals		20	71	50	0	70	5	16	11	0	69	173	3.84

Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Sq. Mile
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
North - Total	2	37	26	6	70	5	27	14	3	52	120	2.22
Central - Total	6	16	15	0	94	4	19	12	0	63	72	1.85
South - Totals	38	107	69	1	64	0	0	0	0	0	215	5.12
Totals	46	160	110	7	69	9	46	26	3	57	407	3.01

### Rapid City Deer Survey Summary, 1995-2004

#### Summary of North Route

Date	Mule Deer						Whitetail Deer						Percent Composition		Total Deer Counted	Percent Change	Percent Change From 1995
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Mule Deer	Whitetail			
1995	8	33	38	6	85	115	0	4	2	0	6	50	93%	7%	91		
1996	11	51	60	3	125	118	0	2	3	0	5	150	96%	4%	130	43%	43%
1997	4	38	29	1	72	76	0	2	1	0	3	50	96%	4%	75	-42%	-18%
1998	4	8	5	0	17	63	0	4	1	0	5	25	77%	23%	22	-71%	-76%
1999	2	22	29	1	54	132	1	7	4	2	14	57	79%	21%	68	209%	-25%
2000	1	21	31	0	53	148	0	14	11	1	26	79	67%	33%	79	16%	-13%
2001	3	28	30	5	66	107	3	15	14	0	32	93	67%	33%	98	24%	8%
2002	15	32	32	9	88	100	2	21	22	1	46	105	66%	34%	134	37%	47%
2003	18	27	21	3	69	78	6	38	24	2	70	63	50%	50%	139	4%	53%
2004	2	37	26	6	71	70	5	27	14	3	49	52	59%	41%	120	-14%	32%

#### Summary of Central Route

Date	Mule Deer						Whitetail Deer						Percent Composition		Total Deer Counted	Percent Change	Percent Change From 1995
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Mule Deer	Whitetail			
1995	8	22	23	3	56	105	3	22	17	0	42	77	57%	43%	98		
1996	9	18	22	3	52	122	2	18	5	0	25	28	68%	32%	77	-21%	-21%
1997	5	20	13	0	38	65	0	10	3	1	14	30	73%	27%	52	-32%	-47%
1998	7	26	29	0	62	112	0	10	10	0	20	100	76%	24%	82	58%	-16%
1999	1	3	4	1	9	133	3	14	8	2	27	57	25%	75%	36	-56%	-63%
2000	1	8	5	0	14	63	0	8	4	0	13	44	52%	48%	27	-25%	-72%
2001	4	4	4	1	13	100	1	9	10	0	20	111	38%	61%	33	22%	-66%
2002	10	17	19	0	46	112	3	9	1	0	13	11	78%	22%	59	79%	-40%
2003	4	16	17	0	37	106	0	20	16	0	36	80	51%	49%	73	24%	-26%
2004	6	16	15	0	37	94	4	19	12	0	35	63	51%	49%	72	-1%	-27%

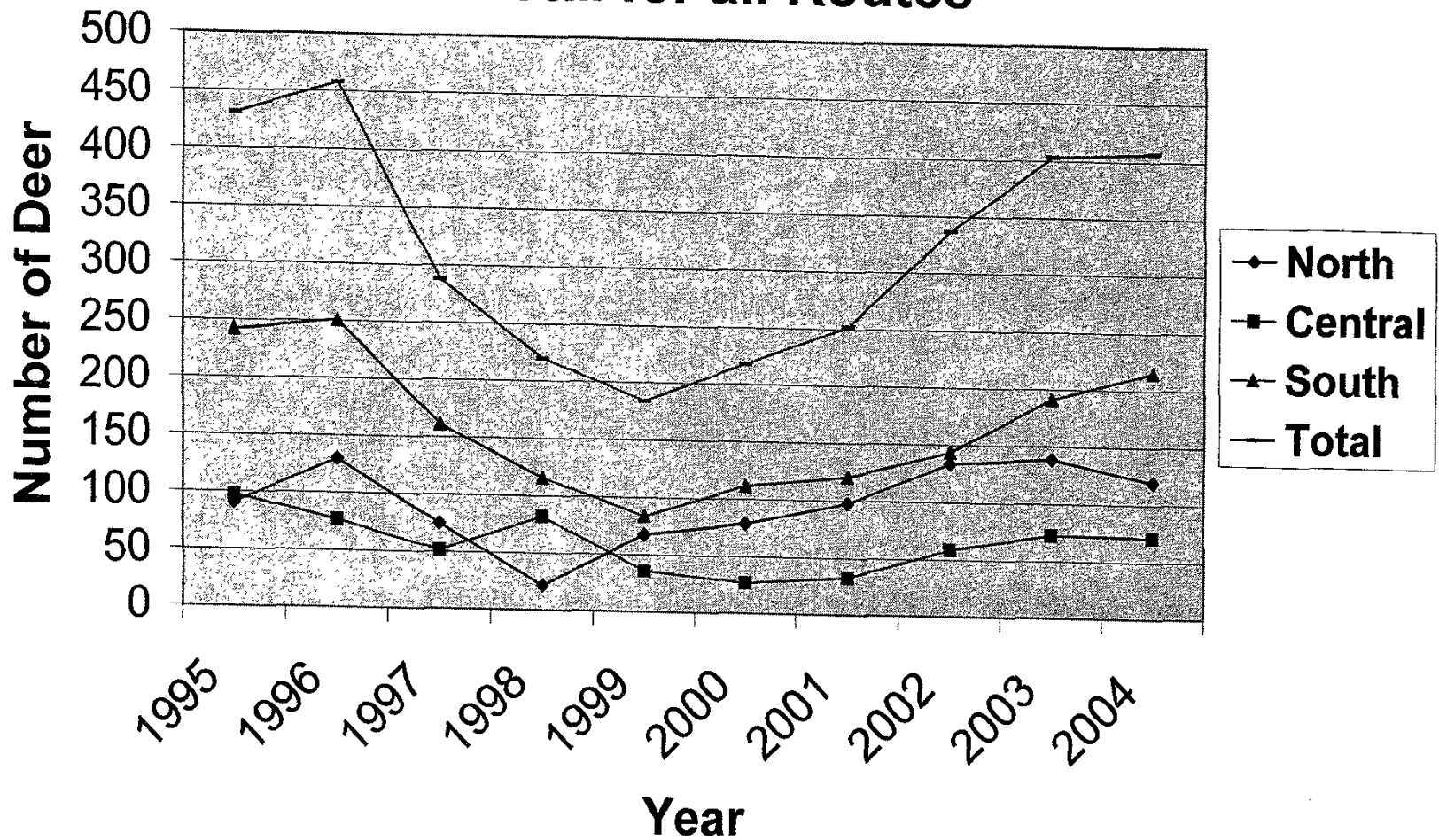
#### Summary of South Route

Date	Mule Deer						Whitetail Deer						Percent Composition		Total Deer Counted	Percent Change	Percent Change From 1995
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Mule Deer	Whitetail			
1995	17	95	96	34	242	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	242		
1996	22	114	87	28	251	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	251	4%	4%
1997	9	87	52	10	158	60	0	2	1	0	3	50	98%	2%	161	-36%	-33%
1998	10	65	38	3	116	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	116	-28%	-52%
1999	6	43	34	1	84	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	84	-28%	-65%
2000	4	57	51	0	112	89	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	112	33%	-54%
2001	12	48	47	14	121	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	121	8%	-50%
2002	7	58	74	0	139	128	0	2	3	0	5	150	97%	3%	144	19%	-40%
2003	30	80	81	0	191	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	191	33%	-21%
2004	38	107	69	1	215	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	100%	0%	215	13%	-11%

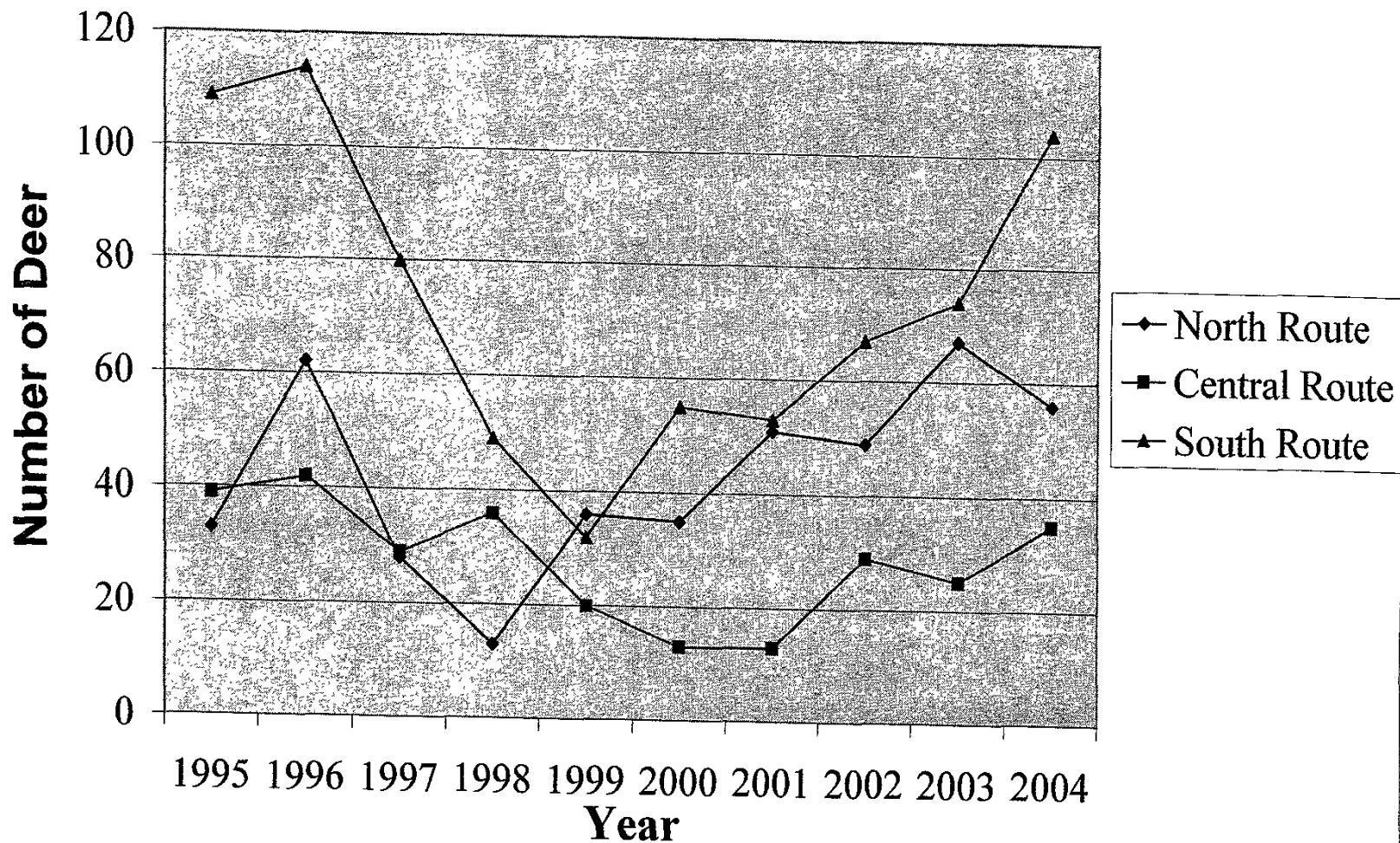
#### Summary of All Routes Combined

Date	Mule Deer						Whitetail Deer						Percent Composition		Total Deer Counted	Percent Change	Percent Change From 1995
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Total	Fawns/100Doe	Mule Deer	Whitetail			
1995	33	150	157	43	383	105	3	26	19	0	48	73	89%	11%	431		
1996	42	183	169	34	428	92	2	20	8	0	30	40	93%	7%	458	6%	6%
1997	18	145	94	11	268	65	0	14	5	1	20	36	93%	7%	268	-37%	-33%
1998	21	99	72	3	195	73	0	14	11	0	25	79	89%	11%	220	-24%	-49%
1999	9	68	67	3	147	99	4	21	12	4	41	57	78%	22%	188	-15%	-56%
2000	6	86	87	0	179	101	0	23	15	1	39	65	82%	18%	218	16%	-49%
2001	19	80	81	20	200	101	4	24	24	0	52	100	79%	21%	252	16%	-42%
2002	32	107	125	9	273	117	5	32	26	1	64	81	81%	19%	337	34%	-22%
2003	52	123	119	3	297	97	6	58	40	2	106	69	74%	26%	403	20%	-6%
2004	46	160	110	7	323	69	9	46	26	3	84	57	79%	21%	407	1%	-6%

# Rapid City Deer Survey Total for all Routes



# Rapid City Deer Survey High Count From Each Route





## Title 6 ANIMALS

Chapter 6.08 ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS

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**6.08.260 Deer baiting prohibited.**

A. The city council finds that the baiting of deer by placing unnatural food sources upon real property within the city for the purpose of attracting deer to eat such unnatural food source has the effect of enticing deer from their natural habitat into an unnatural urban environment, thereby endangering the deer, resulting in an unnatural growth of the deer population, resulting in an unnatural loss of the deers' instinctive avoidance of humans, resulting in reliance by deer upon such unnatural food source, and also endangering persons and domestic animals, and resulting in damage to property.

B. "Unnatural food source" is defined as any amount of grain, fruit, vegetables, nuts, hay, or other similar edible material which has the effect of attracting deer for the purpose of eating such material. "Unnatural food source" does not include growing plants or the natural remainders of such growing plants.

C. No person being the owner or occupant of any parcel of real property within the corporate limits of the city shall place thereon, or suffer to remain thereon, any unnatural food source, nor shall any person place such unnatural food source upon the real property of another. It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution hereunder that such unnatural food source was placed not less than five feet above the ground and was not accessible to deer, or that the unnatural food source was placed in good faith for the purpose of feeding domestic livestock or pets by or at the request of a person owning or having responsibility for such domestic livestock or pets, or that the unnatural food source was placed in good faith for a purpose other than attracting deer or other wildlife and that the attraction of deer is only an incidental result.

D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to any governmental agency or to any employee or authorized agent thereof in the course of his employment or agency. Specifically, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the baiting of deer by authorized governmental agents in the furtherance of an approved plan to reduce deer population or in furtherance of an approved plan to entice deer out of the urban environment into a less urban and more natural environment. (Ord. 3385, 1997; Ord. 3199, 1995)