

## OFFICE OF THE PENNINGTON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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January 17, 2008

Jason Green, City Attorney 300 Sixth St. Rapid City, SD 57701



Re: Tract AR2 of Ridge Park Estates, Rapid City, Pennington County, S.D. (Tax ID No. 48970).

Dear Mr. Green:

The above described real property was purchased by Sonya Hogg at the annual tax deed sale on December 19, 2007. The property in question is a little over three acres in size and located along St. Patrick St. west of Roosevelt Ave., apparently in the area known as Skyline Drive. As I understand it, the City of Rapid City currently has approximately \$58,000.00 plus accrued interest in special assessments against the property. I have been directed by Commissioner Kjerstad, on behalf of Ms. Hogg, to write this letter requesting that the City consider removing or otherwise compromising the special assessments levied against the above-referenced property.

As a brief background, the aforementioned assessments were placed on the property back in 1995. The property was subsequently sold for delinquent taxes and assessments and in February of 2002, Pennington County acquired the tax deed to the property. In July of 2003, Pennington County quit claimed the property to the City of Rapid City. The City subsequently granted a major drainage easement across the property in October of 2003 and eventually quit claimed the property back to Pennington County in January of 2004. As previously mentioned, this past December of 2007, Ms. Hogg purchased the property at a tax deed sale.

I have been informed that the property is not a site suitable for future construction as it is situated primarily within a steep ravine-cliff area. It is also my understanding that Ms. Hogg's intention is to purchase the property to include it as part of the Skyline Drive preservation project. Frankly, you probably know more details about the conservation efforts underway to preserve that area within the City. Ms. Hogg would like to see this property be a part of that effort.

I realize the ultimate decision lies with the City Council and in that light, I would respectfully request that this letter be forwarded to the appropriate office as you deem necessary. Thank you Mr. Green for any assistance you may provide and please feel free to contact me personally if you have any questions regarding this letter. Also, I believe Ms. Hogg would be willing to meet with city officials to follow up on this request and to answer any specific questions they may have of her. Ms. Hogg's address is: 1821 Palo Verde, Rapid City, SD, 57701 (605-718-1866).

Sincerely,

Jay A. Alderman, Chief Civil Deputy State's Attorney

cc: Sonya Hogg