



# CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

300 Sixth Street

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Rapid City Planning Commission

FROM: Glade Jones, Chairman – Accessible Parking Subcommittee

DATE: May 15, 2001

RE: Recommendation Concerning Parking Lot Restriping

The Accessible Parking Subcommittee recommends to the Rapid City Planning Commission that the City Code be revised to require compliance with handicapped parking requirements when parking lots are restriped. Earlier this winter, the Planning Commission established the Accessible Parking Subcommittee and requested that the committee provide a recommendation as to whether legal non-conforming parking lots should be required to meet current handicap accessible standards.

The subcommittee has met twice in the past two months with the following individuals serving on the subcommittee: Glade Jones, Director of Western Resources for Disabled Independence; Shelly Shock, Western Resources for Disabled Independence; Jim Scherr, Black Hills Orthopedic and Spine Center; Steve Colgan, NWE Management; Barb Thirstrup, Black Hills Corporation; and Amber Solay, Planning Commission representative. Staff support to the subcommittee was provided by the City Planning Department, Building Inspections Division, and City Attorneys Office. During these two meetings, the subcommittee identified numerous questions and issues that will have to be considered in developing such an Ordinance. Some of those issues include:

- What parking regulations should be waived and to what extent those regulations should be waived in order to accommodate handicapped parking;
- How to ensure that the provision of handicapped parking will not result in a parking shortage in the case of very small parking lots;
- How best to enforce the new regulations and what the implications will be for City Staff; and,
- Whether a grace period should be allowed during which businesses could restripe parking lots for no fee.

Aside from the number of issues that will have to be considered in preparing the Ordinance, the subcommittee was in unanimous agreement that the changes *should* be pursued.

Again, the Accessible Parking Subcommittee, recommends that the City Code be amended to require compliance with handicapped parking regulations upon parking lot restriping. The

existing Subcommittee members have agreed to continue working with City Staff on this project assuming that is the direction the Planning Commission wishes to take.

Subcommittee members and City Staff will be present at your June 7, 2001 Planning Commission meeting to answer any questions you may have regarding this matter.

Thank you.