Rezone and Use On Review Supplement

The current facility is owned by Pennington County. It was used as a Juvenile Detention Center, Juvenile Court, and an office building for Adult and Juvenile Probation officers. In 1990, the courts and probation officers were moved to the Courthouse. Juvenile Detention was moved from the building in 1995.

In 1996, Rapid City Area Schools leased the building from Pennington County and is currently using it as a detention school and alternative school. The school will be moving at the end of this school year (June 2001).

The current facility, with some minor renovation, would accommodate up to 100 work release and community service-sentenced individuals. Minimum remodeling is anticipated for this project, with all remodeling taking place inside the building. Renovations planned include some additional bathroom facilities, smoke and fire alarms, fire sprinkler systems, minor electrical and alarm changes.

Work Release and Community Service inmates would be restricted to the property except when authorized to go to and from their place of work, to community work projects with approved supervision staff, or to authorized furloughs to a designated location (home, family events). Inmates approved for Work Release are screened and approved by staff for suitability to the program. Most Work Release inmates have served a portion of their time in jail before going to Work Release. The average length of stay in Work Release is approximately sixty days.

There are approximately fifteen parking spaces on the northwest side of the building and twenty-four parking spaces on the south end. Staffing would be twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, with a maximum number of staff on at any one time of five employees. Work release inmates generally do not drive, but a review of our existing operation indicates that approximately 10% do commute from the work release center to their jobs, with their own transportation.

Pennington County has run a Work Release Program for the past eighteen years. In the mid 1980s, it was located in an annex building the parking lot of the Courthouse. From 1989 to 1997, it was located in the existing jail at 602 Second Street. Currently, the facility is located behind the Courthouse and next door to the Public Safety Building. The current facility is limited to allow thirty-five Work Release inmates. Community and judicial needs require additional space. Presently, there is a six to eight week waiting list to assign an inmate to the Work Release Center.