

TO: Rapid City Planning Commission  
Public Works Committee  
City Council

FROM: Jim White, Chairman  
Rapid City Beautification Committee

DATE: November 26, 2003

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Rapid City  
Planning Department**CITY LANDFILL 20' FENCE EXCEPTION**

One of my main areas of concern in the interest and reason for serving on this committee for the past seven years is the entrance to Rapid City from S. Highway 79. Because I travel this route weekly to and from the Rapid City Trap Club, I am always disheartened at the appearance of this area, especially in the eyes of approaching travelers and tourists.

This corridor from the south into the City is not a pleasant sight. I have personally maintained the **"Welcome to Rapid City"** sign most recently located on the KOTA property just south of J. F. England & Sons (my late uncle's business) as a small gesture on my part to improve the area.

It is my understanding that the city landfill is requesting a "Fence Exception" to install a 20' high fence to obstruct the view into the landfill area. Although I agree that this area is an eyesore for collection of flying debris, a 20' fence is what I would guess would be a poor, but quick solution.

As a transplant from California, I am reminded of my late father's comments when we moved to Rapid City. He stated that a California storm sewer was a "Dip" in Rapid City. I have never forgotten his remarks, although he meant to put into perspective what we were leaving in Mountain View, CA for Rapid City, his point has been well-taken.

It is my deepest desire that the City Council will consider other alternatives than an obtrusive 20' fence. I would, and I am sure my committee would, be more accepting of the use of natural vegetation such as Austere, etc.

The fence exception request will need the council's approval of the Fence Height Exception (03FV007) and the SDCL 11-6-19 Review (03SR047).

Let's move this city into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a more pleasant and well-thought out solution to the landfill problem.

CC: Sam Kooiker, Beautification Committee