

From: nate writes [mailto:natewrites@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2009 2:01 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Transferring the 24-7 Program to a Better Location

Dear Planning Commission,

I understand that you are the commission that oversees/approves movements/location-planning from local programs. I'm writing in regards to the 24-7 Program, located at 230 Quincy Street and am representing the Rapid City Neighborhood Coalition and the people from the petition. I've also spoken my concerns to the county commissioners' board at the Tuesday, April 21st meeting.

The current location of the 24-7 program is in a place not appropriate for the following reasons: traffic, safety, noise.

Since it's relocation, the small streets of Quincy and more importantly, 3rd street have been heavily impacted. 3rd street is a dead-end and is not even a full block long. Participants (700 enrolled into the program), come down Quincy Street and fill up the parking lot currently used, spilling onto the double-sided dead-end, 3rd Street. The parking lot holds 40 spots and one handicapped spot. However, there are 700 people enrolled in the program, so even while it's spanned out over a 2-four hour time periods per day, it's too many people trying to file into too small of an area at once. For your own perusal, the worst times are between 7-8:30 a.m. and 5-6:30 p.m.

Also to note, there are many children who live in this area and attend the biggest middle school in the county, Dakota Middle School with 750 enrolled, and the school is located approx. 3 blocks from the 24-7 Program. The students who are within a range of 2.5 miles must find their own transportation to and from school activities. This heavily concentrated amount of traffic, particularly at schooltimes, also puts area school children at risk.

I am writing to say I support looking at other options for a relocation and so do my core members. Working to make the program run smoother in its current location at 230 Quincy is just not do-able. I noted that recently an electronic speed detector has been put up on Quincy, but that, or adding a police officer to over-see the building/street are not viable long-term options, for they do not address the bigger problem which is the large volume of people pouring into the tiny location's dead-end street and onto Quincy, nor do they address the parking over-flow problems along the street.

Only a re-location is the answer.

I would be open to volunteering to a task force to seek out other more appropriate locations.

Thank you,
Natalie Neumann
Rapid City Neighborhood Coalition

----- Original Message -----

From: [Leslie Davis](#)

To: skooiker@rapidnet.com

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 9:13 PM

Subject: 24-7 program

Dear Sam,

I got your email address from some people in my neighborhood. I'm writing you about the 24-7 program that was forced into our area.

I live next door to the building, and I'm the Transportation Manager at Dakota Transitional Head Start. It's my duty to oversee other drivers in getting children to their schools safely and on time. It's very important that I get off to a early start in the mornings to get things organized and also get the children that I drive to school there on time. But lately this has been very hard.

There is too much traffic on my little dead-end street because of this county program. I've almost been late several times now due to people backing up, pulling into the driveway, blocking me, etc. They have also resorted to parking in front of my house in the only two spots we have, forcing us to park in our yard. Calling the Sheriffs office each and every time, (as the city police have told us to do when this happens), just isn't practical. I'd have to call repeatedly every morning and night.

It's just too much traffic (700 people in this program according to the news) in too small of an area that's already being used by residents, college students and faculty and courthouse people. Enough is enough.

Starting around 4:15 p.m. everyday there are people already standing in line for when they open the doors at 5:00. People pull up with loud stereo systems and loud mufflers starting at 5:30 a.m, and now people are walking through my yard as well, front and back. I don't feel safe in my house or neighborhood anymore, and I have been here for almost 10 years.

If there's anything I can do, please contact me, and thank you very much for looking into this matter,

Leslie Davis

Address: ladystrange21@yahoo.com