

STAFF REPORT  
March 25, 2010

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**No. 10SR013 - SDCL 11-6-19 Review to authorize the acquisition of property for a community garden**      **ITEM 24**

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

APPLICANT/AGENT	Josh Christiansen for NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources
PROPERTY OWNER	Neighborhood Housing Services of the Black Hills, Inc
REQUEST	<b>No. 10SR013 - SDCL 11-6-19 Review to authorize the acquisition of property for a community garden</b>
EXISTING LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Lots 19 and 20 of Block 25 of North Rapid Addition, Section 36, T2N, R7E, BHM, Rapid City, Pennington County, South Dakota
PARCEL ACREAGE	Approximately 0.16 acres
LOCATION	706 Lemmon Avenue
EXISTING ZONING	Medium Density Residential District
SURROUNDING ZONING	
North:	Medium Density Residential District
South:	Medium Density Residential District
East:	Medium Density Residential District
West:	Medium Density Residential District
PUBLIC UTILITIES	City water and sewer
DATE OF APPLICATION	2/26/2010
REVIEWED BY	Ali DeMersseman / Karley Halsted

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the SDCL 11-6-19 Review to authorize the acquisition of property for a community garden be continued to the April 8, 2010 Planning Commission meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The City of Rapid City is seeking to acquire Lots 19 and 20 of Block 25 of North Rapid Addition, 706 Lemmon Avenue, for use as a community garden. NeighborWorks has been working with the residents of Lemmon Avenue to revitalize the neighborhood, and the establishment of a community garden at this property is one component of the revitalization efforts. NeighborWorks is proposing to manage the community garden, and is requesting that the City incur the costs of water for the garden.

The property is located north of the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Lemmon Street, and is zoned Medium Density Residential District. The properties to the north, east, south and

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west are also zoned Medium Density Residential District. The general area is developed with a mix of single-family and multi-family residences.

The property measures approximately 6,970 square feet in area and was previously developed with a single family residence. The residence on the property was demolished, and the property is currently void of any structural development.

South Dakota Codified Law 11-6-19 states that "...whenever any such municipal council has adopted a comprehensive plan, then no street, park or other public way, ground, place, space, no public building or structure, no public utility, whether publicly or privately owned, if covered by the comprehensive plan or any adopted part thereof, shall be constructed or authorized in the municipality or within its subdivision jurisdiction until and unless the location and extent thereof shall have been submitted to an approved by the Planning Commission." The property is identified as being located within the area covered by the Rapid City Comprehensive Plan requiring that the acquisition and proposed improvements be reviewed and approved by the Rapid City Planning Commission.

**STAFF REVIEW:** Staff has reviewed the SDCL 11-6-19 Review request to authorize the acquisition of the property for a community garden and noted the following considerations:

**Site Plan:** The applicant has submitted a site plan identifying the property developed with seventeen, 8 foot 10 inch by 12 foot 10 inch raised garden spots, an 8 foot by 10 foot storage shed, a picnic area, a fence and a sign. In addition, the applicant's narrative states that lighting will be provided at the property. However, the applicant has not submitted elevations of the proposed storage shed, fencing, and sign, or details regarding the proposed lighting. Furthermore, the applicant has not identified the ground materials that are proposed between the raised garden spots, existing utility services to the property, or proposed parking facilities on the site plan. As such, staff recommends that the item be continued to allow the applicant to submit a revised site plan that includes the above mentioned items, elevations of the proposed shed and sign, and proposed lighting details for review and approval.

**Drainage and Grading Plan:** The property is located within the Haines Avenue Drainage Basin. However, a grading and drainage plan for the proposed improvements on the site has not been submitted. As such, staff recommends that prior to Planning Commission approval, a grading and drainage plan be submitted for review and approval to ensure that the proposal will not negatively impact existing drainage on the property or adjacent properties.

**Water:** As previously noted, the applicant is requesting that the City incur the cost of watering the garden. The request will be considered at the March 30, 2010 Public Works Committee meeting and at the April 5, 2010 City Council meeting. Staff has indicated that water service will need to be installed in an above-ground meter pit in accordance with Parks Department standards for irrigation services.

**Erosion and Sediment Control Permit:** As noted above, a house on the site was demolished and the property has been cleared. However, staff has indicated that the site has not been

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reclaimed or stabilized. As such, an Erosion and Sediment Control Permit must be obtained and stabilization or reclamation of the site is required within 14 days of stopping work.

Zoning: As previously noted, the property is zoned Medium Density Residential District. The City's Future Land Use Plan identifies the appropriate use of the property as Medium Density Residential District. Agricultural crops are a permitted use in the Medium Density Residential District.

The use of the property as a community garden is in compliance with the existing zoning of the property and the City's Future Land Use Plan.

Floodplain Development Permit: The property is located within the 100 year Federally Designated floodplain. Therefore, a Floodplain Development Permit must be obtained prior to the issuance of a building permit.

Building Permit: A building permit will be required prior to the start of construction activities on the property.

Staff recommends that the SDCL 11-6-19 Review to authorize the acquisition of property for a community garden be continued to the April 8, 2010 Planning Commission meeting to allow the applicant to address the outstanding issues as identified above.