



City of Rapid City
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Mayor's Beautification Committee

November 15, 2000

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

At the September 20, 2000 monthly meeting of the Mayor's Beautification Committee, Dale Russell and Karen Harris of the Rapid City Office of the South Dakota Department of Transportation presented an overview of the future reconstruction of Omaha Street. The reconstruction would take place from approximately 12th Street on the west to East Boulevard on the east. Mr. Russell and Ms. Harris requested future input from the Beautification Committee with regard to the beautification issues along this important corridor.

In response to the South Dakota Department of Transportation's request, the Beautification Committee established a subcommittee to review the preliminary plans and make recommendations to our general committee as to how to proceed. The subcommittee met on October 11, 2000 to review the preliminary plans and brainstorm about the beautification issues involved with this project.

The subcommittee decided to recommend to our general committee that we would like to see an arrangement created between the City and the South Dakota Department of Transportation similar to the arrangement made on the I-90 project currently underway around the I-190 and Haines Avenue interchanges. This arrangement would have the South Dakota Department of Transportation hiring a landscape architect to work through the beautification issues generated by the reconstruction including the design of the landscape features of the project. The Mayor's Beautification Committee would be allowed input during the design phase in the same way as we were allowed input during the I-90 project.

At the October 18, 2000 meeting of the Mayor's Beautification Committee, the subcommittee made the above recommendation to the general committee. The general committee concurred with the subcommittee's suggestion.

Therefore, the Mayor's Beautification Committee is requesting that the Rapid City City Council to contact Todd Seaman of the South Dakota Department of Transportation Regional Office to request that this process be put in motion.

Sincerely,

Steve Doshier, Chairman
Omaha Street Reconstruction Subcommittee

Craig Grotenhouse, Chairman
Mayor's Beautification Committee