

**Title VIII Project Proposal**

**Rapid City, South Dakota**

**February 2001**

**COMMUNITY:**

Rapid City is located in Western South Dakota on the eastern most edge of the Black Hills. Urban development has encroached on the Ponderosa Pine Forest of the Black Hills but the vast majority of the community was developed on the rolling grasslands. Today the urban forest in Rapid City consists primarily of Siberian Elm, Cottonwood, Green Ash and American Elm. Population 54,000

**THE PROJECT SITES:**

**Robbinsdale Park**

A 112 acre city park located in the Southeast part of town. The site has seen much development in recent years. Facilities in the Robbinsdale Parks area include: 2 Picnic Shelters, Playgrounds, Basketball Court, BMX Track, Little League Baseball, Soccer, and a passive recreation area which is located on a reclaimed sanitary landfill. The project area is located in the northern most portion of the park that consists of rolling hills on natural soil profiles. The area was originally developed in 1968 with tree planting consisting of clumps of Ponderosa Pine. The deciduous trees in this area originally consisted of Siberian Elm, Cottonwood and Honeylocust. Most of these have been unable to thrive in the shale soils. Many of them have died leaving much of the area without trees. That portion of the Park included in the proposed planting area is equipped with an automatic underground irrigation.

**Halley Park:**

Located in the heart of Downtown Rapid City. Part of the original townsite and is home to the Children's Science Center, Rose Gardens and a Veterans Memorial. This 4.2 acre park is home to the oldest known structure in Rapid City; a log cabin built in 1876. The only other building on the site currently houses the Children Science Center was constructed in 1936 under the WPA. Trees in Halley Park originally consisted of 80 American Elm and approximately 20 Spruce. Dutch Elm Disease has taken many of the Elms leaving portions of the Park without trees. The Spruce trees in the Park were planted to close together and today are in very poor health.

## Title VIII Request, City of Rapid City, South Dakota 2001 (continued)

### SCOPE OF PROJECTS:

#### Robbinsdale Park:

The planting of Ponderosa and Scotch Pine in this area has proven very successful. Of the original trees planted between 1968 and 1970 only the Ponderosa Pine has thrived. Recent planting of Scotch Pine has been very successful. The trees are putting on better than average growth. The number of planting sites in the project area is approximately 200. This project would involve the planting of 75 Ponderosa and Scotch Pine.

#### Halley Park:

The original landscaping in Halley Park consisted of more than 100 trees. This proposal provides for planting 27 trees in areas that are now barren of trees. Street improvement projects have taken away a portion of the boulevard strip therefore it is unlikely that the park will ever support 100 trees. Future projects at Halley Park would include the planting of additional 30 trees and improved irrigation.

### PROJECT BUDGET:

75 QTY	4' Scotch Pine installed @ \$150 each	\$11,250.00
20 QTY	1 ½ " B&B Linden, Ash installed @ \$175 each	\$ 3,500.00
7 QTY	5' Spruce installed @ \$200 each	\$ 1,400.00
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		<b>\$16,150.00</b>

### FUNDING:

Title VIII	\$ 8,075.00
City of Rapid City Cash	\$ 3,900.00
In kind Planting by City	\$ 3,825.00
In Kind Mulch Provided by City	\$ 350.00