

STAFF REPORT

March 25, 2004

No. 04CA010 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to Adopt the City of Rapid City Bikeway/Walkway Plan **ITEM 12**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

PETITIONER	City of Rapid City
REQUEST	No. 04CA010 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to Adopt the City of Rapid City Bikeway/Walkway Plan
DATE OF APPLICATION	02/27/2004
REPORT BY	Kip Harrington

RECOMMENDATION: The Parks and Recreation Subcommittee recommends approval of the Rapid City Bikeway/Walkway Plan.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The Rapid City Bikeway/Walkway Plan is a component of the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Rapid City and the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. The purpose of the Bikeway / Walkway Plan is to facilitate alternative transportation modes through an evaluation of the current bikeway / walkway system; review of the needs of system users; adoption of standards for bikeway / walkway system improvements; and identification of proposed extensions and additions to the bikeway / walkway system.

At its January 6, 2004, meeting, the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee reviewed and recommended approval of the proposed Rapid City Bikeway/Walkway Plan. The Plan was developed by the Transportation Planning staff in conjunction with staff from Public Works, Engineering, Parks and Recreation, the Bike/Walk/Run Task Force, and the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee.

STAFF REVIEW: The adopted Comprehensive Plan is a framework within which development and rezoning proposals are measured and evaluated. It is intended to guide the orderly growth of the community and must be periodically updated in order for the plans to remain viable and to keep pace with the changing market place.

The Rapid City Bikeway / Walkway Plan as submitted was developed as a tool to aid in the development of intermodal transportation facilities, linking pedestrian and non-motorized transportation modes safely with vehicular transportation. As development occurs, an approved Bikeway / Walkway Plan can help ensure the connectivity of the bikeway / walkway system, providing the residents of Rapid City safe alternative transportation options, as well as recreational opportunities.