

STAFF REPORT  
July 10, 2007

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**No. 07FV004 - Fence Height Exception to allow a fence height of 11 feet with three stands of barbed wire in lieu of 6 feet as required by Chapter 15.40 of the Rapid City Municipal Code**

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

PETITIONER	Kadrmass, Lee and Jackson, Inc. for Rapid City Regional Airport
REQUEST	<b>No. 07FV004 - Fence Height Exception to allow a fence height of 11 feet with three stands of barbed wire in lieu of 6 feet as required by Chapter 15.40 of the Rapid City Municipal Code</b>
EXISTING LEGAL DESCRIPTION	All of Section 17, less Rapid City Airport Subdivision No. 6, Section 17, T1N, R9E, BHM, Rapid City, Pennington County, South Dakota
PARCEL ACREAGE	Approximately 1,714 acres
LOCATION	Rapid City Regional Airport
EXISTING ZONING	Airport District
SURROUNDING ZONING	
North:	Airport District
South:	Airport District
East:	Airport District
West:	Airport District
PUBLIC UTILITIES	City water and sewer
DATE OF APPLICATION	6/8/2007
REVIEWED BY	Travis Tegethoff / Mary Bosworth

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Fence Height Exception to allow a fence height of 11 feet with three strands of barbed wire in lieu of six feet as required by Chapter 15.40 of the Rapid City Municipal Code be approved.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The applicant has submitted an application for an exception to the fence height requirement to allow an 11 foot fence with three strands of barbed wire in lieu of a six foot fence around a security area of the Rapid City Regional Airport. An 11 foot fence with barbed wire is required by the Federal Aviation Administration under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 139 for security and animal control of the runway and security area.

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Under 15.40.050 of the Rapid City Municipal Code, the City Council may approve exceptions to the height requirements if it determined that the exception is not contrary to the public interest and the exception will not be injurious to the surrounding neighborhood.

STAFF REVIEW: Staff has reviewed the Fence Height Exception request as it relates to the applicable provisions of the Rapid City Municipal Code and has noted the following issues:

Building Permit: Staff noted Section 15.40.060 of the Rapid City Municipal Code states that, a building permit is required for all fences over 6 feet in height.

Size and Height: The proposed fence will be constructed with chain link, 11 feet in height with three strand barbed wire outriggers. The purpose of the fence is for the security of the airport and to keep wildlife off the runways which may a hazard for incoming and outgoing airplane traffic.

Design Features: The proposed fence will be constructed out of chain link, 11 feet in height with three strand barbed wire out riggers. The fence will be installed with a four foot skirt of chain link material attached at the bottom that will be buried at a 45 degree angle on the outside of the fence. The skirt is to be installed to prevent animals from digging under the fence and will reduce the chance of washouts along the fence. This design with the four foot skirt will also greatly increase airport security and safety.

Staff has reviewed the request for an exception to allow an 11 foot high fence height and has determined that the exception is not contrary to the public interest and will not be injurious to the neighborhood. The increase in fence height will increase the safety and security at the Rapid City Regional Airport. As such, Staff recommends that the exception to allow an 11 foot fence with barbed wire outriggers be approved.