



# CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

## Growth Management Department

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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: <sup>ME</sup> Marcia Elkins, Director

DATE: September 21, 2007

RE: Greenway Pedestrian and Bike Path Expansion

Attached please find a copy of an e-mail from the South Dakota Department of Transportation staff forwarded to me in July 2006 regarding the use of the Federal Highway funds allocated to Rapid City as part of the last highway bill. Following receipt of that e-mail, I met with South Dakota Department of Transportation staff and Federal Highway staff to further discuss the possible uses of the funds. Last week I again reviewed the issue of how the funds may be used with representatives of the South Dakota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Their preliminary comments suggest the following guidelines will need to be met:

- 1) The project(s) must be located in the City of Rapid City;
- 2) The project(s) must be in some manner tied to the Greenway pedestrian and bike path; and,
- 3) The project(s) must involve the expansion of the existing Greenway pedestrian and bike path facilities.

The consensus of my last conversation was that it would be best for the City to present any specific proposals to the South Dakota Department of Transportation staff for their review prior to proceeding with extensive development of any project. This would preclude the distribution of any firm requirements that might later preclude approval of a project.

In the past two weeks, I have been contacted by a number of interested parties with suggestions for possible projects. Based on the interest in the community, I would recommend that City Council publish a "Request for Proposals" and allow the community to submit ideas and concepts for possible projects. At that time, a Committee appointed by the Mayor could review the proposals, prioritize the projects and make recommendations to the City Council. Based on the



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Council's priorities, the specific projects could then be forwarded to the South Dakota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration Staff for their review and approval.

**Staff Recommendation: Authorization for staff to publish a "Request for Proposals" to be submitted by November 6, 2007 to be reviewed by a Committee appointed by the Mayor with recommendations forwarded to the Public Works Committee by January 2, 2007.**