

**ALF & CATHERINE RIISNAES***3410 Dover Street, Rapid City, SD 57702*

June 03, 2008

City of Rapid City  
Growth Management Department  
Jared M. Ball ([jared.ball@rcgov.org](mailto:jared.ball@rcgov.org))  
300 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701-5035

**RECEIVED**

JUN 04 2008

**Rapid City Growth  
Management Department****Re: "Fence Height Variance"**

Address: **3410 Dover St, Rapid City, SD 57702**  
Legal Description: **LOT E OF LOT 6 SCHAMBER SEC 4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4**  
10-Digit Pin: **3704480009**

To Whom It May Concern:

The intent of this letter is to be allowed to erect a 6' privacy fence on primarily the north and east side of my property, as well as a gate area across my driveway. I have attached an overview of my property to illustrate the location of the fence.

**Reasoning**

My wife and I have two young daughters, ages 5 and 6. Their safety is the primary motivation for the fence. We would like to know that our girls can play in the yard without us having to be concerned with who is observing them in their play.

Our property is a neighbor to a counseling center for troubled youth with emotional and/or chemical dependency problems. It operates during the day, evening and weekend hours. One of our concerns is the volume of unknown individuals attending functions at the facility, passing directly in front of our property.

Dover Lane runs directly alongside our property, which dead ends to a multiunit apartment complex. As apartment complexes go, there are a certain amount of turn over, and we have little to no contact with the individuals living there at any given time. There is currently no protection against anybody entering our back yard and play area from Dover Lane.

Dover Street is one of the main walkways for people from the Canyon Lake area to and from the Bike Path and the other parks in the area. The fence would take away the temptation of our kids to want to run out to "visit" with people walking down Dover Street.

Ball play is one of our main activities and a 6' fence would help to prevent the ball from

getting away from the yard and entering the streets.

In today's world, my wife and I want to take every precaution to ensure the safety of our children's lives, and we feel that a 6' privacy fence as outlined would keep our family safer.

#### Changes to the Area

It should be noted that previously our property has had 8'-10' tall lilac bushes growing the length of our fence line on Dover Lane. They were present when we acquired the property (2003), and had for a while been allowed to grow without much care. Tall trees were also growing, literally, on the fence line. With the removal of the bushes and the trees and erecting of the fence, Dover Lane will actually appear nicer and wider than previous years. From a visibility point of view this might actually be an improvement to the lane.

#### Surrounding Neighbors

Dover Lane is a "dead end" street. Only 4 other properties use the street. 3 single family dwellings and one multi unit apartment complex.

#### Construction

The fence will be constructed with ¾" x 6" x 6' "dog-eared" pickets, out of pressure treated lumber. The pickets will be preassembled (Menards) in 6' x 8' panels with little to no spacing between the pickets, and mounted to 4" x 4" x 8' pressure treated posts. Menards has suggested sinking the posts 2' into the ground anchored in concrete. Some of the panels will be adjusted, length wise, to fit the dimensions outlined in the drawing.

The fence will be stained with the same color ("Red Oak") as our house. This is also the same color as our play house.

To access our property we are planning to place two gates, as shown on the drawing. These will be constructed out of the same materials as the rest of the fence and when closed will have the same appearance as if the fence was continuous.

Please contact me at any time for clarifications or other questions you might have.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alf Riisnaes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "A" and "R".

Alf Riisnaes

Evening: (605) 394-3667

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