



# CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-5035

## Community Planning & Development Services


300 Sixth Street

Brad Solon, Division Manager, Building Services  
Community Planning & Development Services  
city web: [www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org)

Phone: 605-394-4120  
Fax: 605-394-6636  
e-mail: [brad.solon@rcgov.org](mailto:brad.solon@rcgov.org)

### MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Brad Solon, Division Manager, Building Services 

DATE: April 23, 2012

RE: Roofing permit/Shady Contractors

Due to the catastrophic hailstorms in 2011, staff has issued a total of approximately 4000 roofing permits in 2011 and 2012. The permit holder is required to arrange for inspections on the work stated on those roofing permits. Permit holders called for about 4000 inspections. Since the permit holder is responsible to call and request an inspection, the inspection must be done within 180 days of permit issuance. If no inspection is called for, the permit will expire by limitation, and then permit holder is notified to arrange for an inspection. So far there about 500 permits where there was no inspection as of April 23, 2012. Staff will continue to follow up on all expired and unexpired permits.

There is a bigger problem that has arisen with property owners hiring shady contractors. A large part of the problem is where roofing was done where the contractor was not licensed, did not obtain a permit or where the contractor took money but did no work. In many cases those contractors have left the area. The City cannot prevent this from happening but some kind of public service announcement can be made. Also there are handouts on the Building Services website that explain how to hire a contractor. Possibly for a short time those handouts could be made more readily available by having the links on the City Home Page.

The Residential Contractor Board has also heard numerous complaints on contractors recently, especially roofing contractors. Several roofing contractor have had their license revoked at recent meetings. The Board will no doubt revoke more licenses as complaints are heard.

Soon, when the roofs that were damaged by the hailstorms are corrected, the roofing permits will decrease significantly in number.



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