CITY OF RAPID CITY

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To: Mayor Kooiker and City Council Members

From: Lon Van Deusen, Parks & Recreation Director

Subject: Revised Deer Management Plan

Date: November 14, 2012

Attached for your review and approval is the revised Deer Management Plan for the City of Rapid City. Members of the Urban Wildlife Committee have worked diligently to re-work this Plan to include all relative information for deer herd management within the city limits.

The basic tenants of the Plan are the same. Based on the results of the annual Deer Survey conducted by Game, Fish & Parks the City will request a certain number of permits from the State. The deer will be harvested and distributed to the needy throughout the community. A major change in the program deals with that distribution. In the past individuals picked up a carcass from the Parks Division and were responsible to process the deer. The Revised Plan outlines a procedure for the City to work with Sportsman Against Hunger so that the deer meat is distributed to local food banks and organizations that serve the needy in our community. Sportsman Against Hunger will raise the funding necessary to pay for the processing and will be responsible for transporting the meat to the food banks.

The Revised Deer Management Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for review and was unanimously recommended for approval. The deer harvest process typically begins in December, so it is important that the Revised Deer Management Plan be implemented as soon as possible.

It is our recommendation that the Revised Deer Management Plan be approved. If you have any questions, please contact me.