



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Public Works Department Engineering Services Division

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works Committee, Mayor Kooiker, City Council

FROM: Dale Tech PE/LS, City Engineer

SUBJECT: Policy Regarding Replacement or Reimbursement of Damaged Sprinkler Systems within the Public Right of Way

DATE: March 31, 2015

Background

Nearly all street reconstruction projects within Rapid City disturb irrigation systems installed by adjoining property owners. These irrigation systems are typically installed on both private property and within the Public Right of Way. The current policy (attached) adopted on July 17, 1995 states that irrigation systems in the parkway (the area of Public Right of way between private property and the edge of the street typically) that must be removed or disturbed during construction or reconstruction will be removed and salvaged to the respective landowner at the cost of the respective person or agency proposing the construction. The policy then goes on to say the replacement or reconstruction of the irrigation system shall be the responsibility of the adjoining owner. It should be noted that the City will repair irrigation systems on *private* property if they are disturbed by the construction and the City has obtained a temporary construction easement in the area of disturbance.

Options

Based on complaints regarding the current policy, City Staff was directed to bring forward a recommendation for irrigation system replacement or reimbursement. Staff investigated the option of the City contractor repairing the systems and found the price is in excess of twice the amount that reimbursing the landowner for hiring an irrigation company to do the work for them. Sioux Falls has a policy that provides for the reimbursement of sprinkler removal and restoration. Attached is a form letter that Sioux Falls sends to affected property owners outlining the irrigation removal, repair, and invoicing and billing. It is estimated the average cost per property will be approximately \$400 and an annual cost of approximately \$44,000 of street CIP funds to reimburse property owners.

Recommendation

Direct Staff to bring forward policy for reimbursement of irrigation system repairs in Public Right of Way for City projects.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER