

05/04/2015

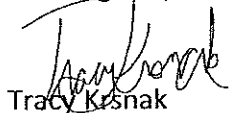
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AVS

Dear Councilors,

First I would like to thank you all for your service to Rapid City. I appreciate the opportunity to speak at yesterday's meeting regarding use of the alley behind the buildings on the 1100 block of Jackson Blvd. but am following up with a recap as public speaking is not my forte. As a recap it is our position that this is all predicated from the Jackson Blvd reconstruction that eliminated the street access to the parking lot shared by Rausch Monuments and Advanced Chiropractic. During preconstruction public meetings including city council meetings we were not only concerned about losing our Jackson Blvd parking but also concerned about an increase in traffic through the alley if Rausch Monument and Advanced Chiropractic opted to take damages rather than having the State buy their property and move. As I recall they were offered both choices. They both chose to take damages. Fast forward to present day. Both business owners at the far end of the dead end alley are unhappy with the results. The alley is blocked from time to time with customers loading and unloading lawn mowers etc. at Albert's Small Engine Repair and by freight trucks that unload freight at our facility. According to city code this is exactly the purpose of an alley and they may be blocked for up to 30 minutes. A couple of weeks ago two city employees were in the alley looking for a place to erect a "do no block the alley" sign. That was our first knowledge that the city had intentions of making changes to the access. I am not certain who initiated it or who they spoke with but apparently it was a "done" deal. We called Dale Tech at the city to ask what was happening as no one from any department had ever contacted us. He said they were going to post "do no block" signs and apparently was not aware of the city code for alleys. It is unfortunate that the businesses at the far end are inconvenienced by the alley blockage but the flip side of that equation is if we cannot unload freight and equipment we will be inconvenienced as well. Often times the freight we have includes boxes and equipment racks too large to fit through anything but our garage doors and many weigh well in excess of 100 lbs, much too heavy to carry very far. I hope that this can come to an acceptable conclusion for all parties but would also like you to keep in mind that both business were compensated by the State for the loss of access to their parking lot and were certainly aware at the time of how the alley had been used. Thank you for your time and please feel free to share this with any staff that you feel might be appropriate.

Best regards,



Tracy Krsnak

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