




# CITY OF RAPID CITY

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
515 WEST BOULEVARD  
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

Jeff Biegler  
Parks & Recreation  
Director  
(605) 394-5225

To: Mayor Sam Kooiker and City Council Members

From: Jeff Biegler, Director   
Department of Parks and Recreation

Subject: Purchase of Parkland

Lon Van Deusen,  
Parks & Cemetery  
Manager  
(605) 394-4175

Date: June 24, 2015

Doug Lowe,  
Recreation Manager  
(605) 394-4168

City Staff, as directed by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board on March 12, 2015, has been in discussion and negotiations with the Thompsons to procure a 3.126 acre portion of their property as an addition to the Skyline Wilderness Area. The Thompson property is a priority parcel that has established trails which provide access to existing and proposed trails within the Skyline Wilderness Area from East Rapid City via St. Patrick Street.

Alex DeSmidt  
Landscape Designer  
(605) 394-5225

The ongoing development of the Skyline Wilderness Area Trails and Trailheads is based on the 2009 Skyline Wilderness Master Plan which has identified St. Patrick Street as a major access point to the park. The existing trails into the park from St. Patrick Street are currently on private property and not within any designated public access easements.

Jeri Taton  
Administrative  
Assistant  
(605) 394-5225

A portion of the required property needed to provide legal access to the park from St. Patrick Street was donated to the City of Rapid City by Pennington County in 2013. Following procurement of the Thompson property, three more parcels and/or easements will be required to establish a legal public access to the Park from St. Patrick Street via existing trails.

The \$68,104 dollars for acquisition of the portion of the Thompson's property for the Skyline Wilderness Area will come from Parks and Recreation CIP Fund – Parkland Acquisition.

If you have any questions, please contact me.