

January 11, 2006

Growth Management Department
City of Rapid City
300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a formal appeal to the action taken by the Rapid City Planning Commission on January 5, 2006 regarding agenda items number 39, 40, 41, and 42. Respectively these items were numbered No. 05PL129, No. 05SV078, 05RZ047, 05PD077. I respectfully submit my request for appeal to the Rapid City Council regarding the approval of these four agenda items by the Planning Commission.

Planting a large retail operation in this location is wrong for many reasons. Please accept this formal appeal to be forwarded to the Rapid City Council.

Sincerely,



Mike Mueller
Rapid City, SD

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JAN 11 2006

**Rapid City Growth
Management Department**

Doug Andrews, Chair
Rapid City Planning Commission
Marcia Elkins, Director, Growth Management
300 6th Street
Rapid City, So. Dak. 57701

Dear Mr. Andrews,

I am writing this letter asking that you will repeal the decision that you made last Thursday morning allowing the Wal Mart Proposal to be advanced to the city council. I am strongly opposed to putting a huge big box out in the corridor to our beautiful Black Hills.

We were allowed to see some power point pictures last Thursday morning. The pictures that were shown only enhanced my sense of outrage that the surrounding homes, ranches and grasslands would overlook a huge building and a lot of concrete. Surely these families that bought these many acres never imagined that their beautiful land would some day be over-shadowed by thousands of people, cars and pollution of all types. There is nothing beautiful about a box or concrete.


I am suggesting that you deny the land purchase to Wal Mart and instead urge the city council to develop a smart growth plan. Cities around the United States, not wanting huge businesses and corporations to surround their cities are developing plans such as these. In so doing, they retain the power to plan the city from the inside out rather than from the outside in. It also allows time for more input from local individuals and businesses concerning the types of building that will occupy our corridor to the scenic Black Hills.

All over America, small shops and businesses have been forced to close due to the huge Wal Mart Corporation. I believe it is essential to keep Rapid City as a city with more small specialty shops and fewer cut-rate mega businesses. Tourists rarely choose the Black Hills as their destination because there are two super Wal-Marts and one Super Sam's Club. They choose our area because of the beauty of the hills, the wide variety of small towns, smart tourist attractions, lakes, monuments and camping and hiking opportunities. A Super Wal-Mart does not fit this description.

Please reconsider your decision and instead urge the city to develop a smart growth plan. This will allow thousands of us to continue to live the life we love in our precious and beautiful foothills of the Black Hills.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rev. Lin Jennewein

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**Rapid City Growth
Management Department**

05PD077

Growth Management Department
Rapid City Council

I would like to appeal the action taken by the Rapid City Planning Commission on January 05, 2006 approving item number 42. This is No. 05PD077 – Section 35, T1N, R7E.

Mike Howe 1-10-06

Mike Howe
922 E. St. Patrick St.
Rapid City, SD 57701
Phone # 431-1106

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**Rapid City Growth
Management Department**

Laurette M. Pourier

4500 Reservoir Road

Rapid City, SD 57703

Tele: 605.393.9563 Email: lpourier@aol.com

January 10, 2006

Marcia Elkins, Director
Growth Management
300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

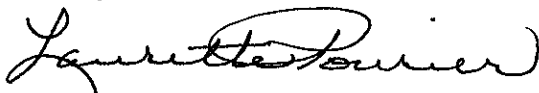
Dear Director Elkins:

I am submitting my **appeal** of the decision of the City Planning Commission on January 5th of item #42 and regarding development along hwy 16 and the Wal-Mart Super Center.

I attended the meeting on January 5th and I am concerned that the planning commission went forth with this decision in the face of so many concerns voiced by citizens and residents. All of the concerns voiced were valid and causes me to wonder if each member of the commission did in-depth research regarding the values and the impact of Wal-Mart company in countless cities across the nation. My particular interest, as a Lakota person, is that the Black Hills are sacred to over 62 tribes and that commercialization is encroaching further and further into the heart of the hills. Most of the small businesses are at least somewhat tasteful to view, but a monstrosity like Wal-Mart will be outrageous!

I urge the commission to consider a "smart growth plan" and I urge you also to give thoughtful consideration to the concerns of the people.....before any further action toward commercial development on hwy 16.

Thank you for your consideration ~



Laurette Pourier
Co-Chairperson
Society for the Advancement of Native Interests Today

Cc: Mayor Shaw and City Council Members
Rapid City Planning Commission

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**Rapid City Growth
Management Department**

05PD077


January 10, 2006

Growth Management Staff
Marcia Elkins-Director
City of Rapid City South Dakota

To Marcia,

In regards to the Planning Commission's January 5, 2006 meeting I would choose to personally protest and appeal Item 42 on the agenda. It in no way fits any "Smart Growth" vision and would not be "Smart" for Rapid City!

Sincerely,

 Rick Livesey

Rick Livesey
922 E.St.Patrick
Rapid City SD 57701
605-381-2843

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Rapid City Growth
Management Department

TKA ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL



"HAVE PEN - WILL TRAVEL"

January 9, 2006

Doug Andrews, Chair
Rapid City Planning Commission
Marcia Elkins, Director
Growth Management
300 Sixth St.
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Chairman Andrews and Director Elkins:

I attended the Planning Commission meeting last Thursday, January 5th. I am very concerned about the Commission's action to recommend to the City Council the approval for big box development on the Highway 16 corridor in the pristine Black Hills.

I was born and raised in western South Dakota and have been a resident of Rapid City since attending SDSM&T more than 40 years ago. I have owned homes in Rapid City since 1977 and have continuously resided here for the past 17 years.

I was fortunate to be selected as South Dakota's first Peace Corps Volunteer and served in Tanganyika. My major assignment there and my first analytical study ever published was the *Long Range Transportation Planning for Eastern Region*. This area is about the same size as the Black Hills. More than 30 years ago while a senior officer at the Phelps Stokes Fund, I assisted Dr. Satish Parek in developing and publishing his *Long Range Planning Model*. The Phelps Stokes Fund subsequently used this publication to assist more than 50 colleges and universities in strategic planning. I have directly assisted a number of these colleges, especially the tribal colleges, in writing their long range plans. Thus, I believe I have some expertise in strategic planning.

I am very concerned that the proposed big box development well south of town is "hopscotch" development that has contributed to urban sprawl throughout the United States in the past 30 years. One would think that we would begin to learn from our mistakes. What Rapid City needs is a "smart growth plan." Such a plan grows the city from the inside out in a gradual, rational pattern. The urban sprawl development proposed by the big box is likely to contribute to the closing of many of our small retail stores, especially those in the downtown area.

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**Rapid City Growth
Management Department**

821 Upper Pines Drive
Rapid City, SD 57701

Phone & Fax (605) 718-0545
Cellular (605) 391-7588
E-mail: tkatus@rushmore.com

Therefore, under the appeal regulations of the Commission, I am appealing this decision in hopes that the Commission and Growth Management department will adopt a smart growth plan for the benefit of all our citizens, our small businesses and our collective quality of life, which so many of us cherish. By accepting this appeal and revisiting the plan, you will truly be representing the majority of the people, not just greedy outside big box operators.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your acceptance of this appeal and beginning of a dialogue on smart growth planning.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Katus", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Katus, President, TKAI

cc: Mayor Shaw and City Council Members
Rapid City Planning Commission Members

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Management Department