

STAFF REPORT

August 10, 2000

#000A005 - ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ITEM 27

GENERAL INFORMATION:

PETITIONER	City of Rapid City
REQUEST	ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #000A005 - ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	An ordinance amending Section 17.16.030 of Chapter 17.16 of the Rapid City Municipal Code to allow libraries as a Use On Review in the Central Business District
REPORT BY	Blaise Emerson

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Ordinance Amendment be approved.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The Rapid City Library is proposing an expansion to the existing facility located on Quincy Street. Currently, libraries are not allowed in the Central Business District. To allow the expansion, the use will need to comply with the Rapid City Municipal Code. The Planning Commission on July 13, 2000 authorized Staff to proceed with an Ordinance Amendment to allow libraries as a Use On Review in the Central Business District.

STAFF REVIEW: Staff has reviewed this request for conformance with the four criteria for review of text amendments established in Section 17.54.040(D)(1). A summary of Staff findings are outlined below:

1. *The proposed amendments shall be necessary because of substantially changed or changing conditions of the area and districts affected or in the City in general.*

The existing public library is a non-conforming use in the Central Business District. Due to the growth in population and usage of the existing facility, the facility needs to be expanded to handle the new growth. The expansion will provided a library facility to serve the citizens of Rapid City today and into the future.

2. *The proposed zoning is consistent with the intent and purposes of this ordinance.*

The intent of the Central Business District is to form a metropolitan center for commercial, financial, professional, governmental and cultural activities. Libraries are a key component to the cultural activities of the community. The proposed amendment would meet the intent of the Central Business District.

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3. The proposed amendment will not adversely affect any other part of the City, nor shall any direct or indirect adverse effects result from such an amendment.

Libraries are an essential public improvement that is vital to the community. A central location for a library allows for the entire community to have access to the facility. Allowing libraries as a Use On Review would allow the City to review any site specific impacts on the neighborhood.

4. The proposed amendments shall be consistent with and not conflict with the Development Plan of Rapid City including any of its elements, Major Street plan, Land Use Plan and Community Facilities Plan.

The proposed amendment is consistent with all adopted Plans.