



RAPID CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Prepare, Prevent, Protect



To: Mayor Kooiker and Members of City Council
From: Mike Maltaverne-Fire Chief
Subject: Report on Rapid City's Fireworks Display
Date: February 10, 2013

For the past several years the Rapid City Fire Department, with other City staff support, partner with Destination Rapid City to put on the City's 4th of July Fireworks Display over Executive Golf Course.

Due to extraordinary drought conditions, a very active fire season and very high fire indices, the Fire Department made the determination to cancel the City's 4th of July fireworks display. Later in the year, the idea came up to utilize the unspent fireworks for a New Years Eve show. The vendor committed and the show went off with overwhelming community support.

A follow up meeting was held with City staff and Destination Rapid City mid January. The topic was to review the New Years Eve show and determine a course of action for fireworks in the upcoming year 2013. At this meeting it was determined that the City display would move to a New Years Eve show in place of the 4th of July for the following reasons:

- No concern with fire danger
- Less congestion with people and traffic for PD to deal with
- No loss of revenue for Executive Golf Course
- Less wear and tear and easier cleanup for Executive Golf Course
- No competition with other fireworks displays around the 4th of July
- Economic impact of bringing people downtown
- Potential for increased financial support from private entities
- Potential for an event scheduled around the display at Main Street Square

Fire Department's recommendation is to acknowledge this report.