

**Pennington County****Commissioners****315 Saint Joseph Street****Rapid City, SD 57701****(605) 394-2171****Fax - (605) 394-6833**

October 26, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Common Council
City of Rapid City
City/School Administration Building
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

RE: Request for 2012 funds

Dear Mayor and Council:

Pennington County is hereby requesting that the Rapid City Common Council include Pennington County in the current 2012 project list in the amount of \$2,500,000. This amount will be used to construct a floor in the county jail annex to be used for medium security prisoners. This would, upon completion, relieve the necessity of housing any medium security prisoners at the county facility on Adams Street. We understand the huge number of requests you currently have for 2012 funds, however we feel that in your considerations of priority this should rate rather high.

We realize this request is somewhat late in the process, however we believe it to be timely considering the ongoing discussions between the entities concerning the future of the Adams Street property. Given the recent overwhelming support from the Rapid City Planning Commission to allow the temporary incarceration of medium security prisoners at the Adams Street facility, it is imperative that we immediately obtain financial support to construct permanent alternatives. We further believe that your financial participation to help alleviate this situation will be a great show of cooperation between Pennington County and Rapid City as well as a financial necessity for the county. Because of our legal obligation to punish lawbreakers sentenced to the county jail, it is not an easy decision to ask for your support, however it is one that we feel we must do.

We would be available to discuss this proposal at greater lengths at your convenience, and plan to be at your Legal & Finance committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2005.

Sincerely,

Mark Kirkeby
Vice-chairperson

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