

STAFF REPORT
January 23, 2014

No. 14CA002 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Planned Rapid City Comprehensive Plan **ITEM 9**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

APPLICANT	City of Rapid City
AGENT	Patsy Horton - City of Rapid City
REQUEST	No. 14CA002 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting "Plan Rapid City" Comprehensive Plan
DATE OF APPLICATION	March 26, 2014
REVIEWED BY	Patsy Horton

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the "Plan Rapid City" Comprehensive Plan be approved with minor language changes as appropriate.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The City of Rapid City first adopted a Comprehensive Plan in 1949. As stated in this Plan, "the Plan is intended to coordinate the activities of all governmental and private agencies towards securing for the community the maximum in city services and living standards with a minimum of expense and taxation." Since this original City Plan was adopted, there have been three other full comprehensive plans adopted: 1964, 1976 and 1981. Since 1981, numerous elements of the comprehensive plan have been updated, including various drainage basin plans, transportation plans, land use plans, parks and recreation plan, bicycle and pedestrian master plan, the Airport Master Plan and others. The efforts undertaken with Plan Rapid City continue with the original vision from 1949, yet expands that vision by providing direction to integrate all facets of the community to create a common, community vision by tying expenditures directly to the goals and objectives established in the Plan.

STAFF REVIEW: The following identifies a summary of the activities involved in developing Plan Rapid City:

- 5/2013 Kick off meeting with community stakeholders, elected and appointed officials and city staff to identify key planning issues, opportunities and challenges facing Rapid City

- 7/2013 Community Engagement, Series 1: Establishing a Common Foundation
 - Leadership work sessions
 - Movies Under the Stars Booth
 - Advisory Committee meeting
 - Teen Input Event
 - Community Input Event
 - Online Vision Survey

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- 9/2013 Community Engagement Series 2: Defining our Vision
- Joint Leadership work sessions
 - Community workshops
 - Advisory Committee meeting
 - Downtown BID Board meeting
 - Teen Event
 - Event with Black Hills Homebuilders Association
- 11/2013 Community Engagement Series 3: Making Choices
- Joint Leadership work sessions
 - Advisory Committee meeting
 - Thought Leader Forum Events
 - Senior Update
 - Online survey
- 1/2014 Community Engagement Series 4: Reviewing the Plan/Establishing Priorities
- Joint Leadership work sessions
 - Advisory Committee meeting
 - Box Elder Update
 - County Commission Update
 - Online survey

With each of these community engagement series, over 400 individual notices were provided to various groups, individuals, organizations, etc. Additional small group input opportunities were provided in March to review the plan changes.

Plan Highlights:

- Seven core values – defining long term values describing the kind of community we want by comingling goals and objectives throughout all aspects of community improvements
- Priority-driven budget process – programs and services are scored against the priorities contained in the Comprehensive Plan to better match spending with community wants and needs
- Plan Implementation – details immediate, near-term, and longer-term actions necessary to carry out the vision defined in the plan

Recommendation Highlights:

- Suggestions on creating additional affordable housing tools
- Consolidation of zoning and subdivision ordinance
- Expand financing toolbox to address infrastructure improvements and expansion
- Develop incentive tools to enhance development

Summary: Staff recommends that the Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the “Plan Rapid City” Comprehensive Plan be approved with minor language changes as appropriate.