Parking! Parking! Parking!

It seems there is one subject upon which almost everyone in Rapid City has an opinion, solution, complaint, idea, or comment. That subject is parking in the downtown area.

Listed below are some numbers on the actual amount of parking that exists in Downtown Rapid City. The numbers may surprise you. There is also a map in this edition, which you should keep for future reference, to show where the parking is. This is not to say we don't have a problem with the matter. We do. This is to say it could be worse, so be aware of what is out there. Long term solutions are being formulated. In the meantime, the more familiar you are with the existing situation, the better.

More about the permanent solutions. Downtown parking means more than having enough spaces. It means having a good parking ordinance. It means having the parking managed, not just patrolled. It means there will still be a "walk" to and from your car; it means improving the quality of that walk. It means that employers must, in the end, be satisfied that their employees are not using valuable consumer spaces. It probably means new parking structures

will be needed to accomplish these things. The solution then, is much more complex than just building more lots and garages. Parking management is that formula designed to get the maximum parking benefit through managing the number, location, and operations of parking. This is done through programs that control the flow of vehicles, pricing of spaces, time limits, enforcement, facility construction, residential permit systems, and marketing of the entire package so the public understands the purpose of the parking system.

We don't have that approach right now. We're working on it and we will remedy the situation. For now, use the map to help you find a parking place, you'll be glad you did. Downtown Rapid City is worth it.

For additional information see Parking Summary on Page 4, and Parking Map on Page 5.



Bryan Schnell

Downtown Manager Rapid City Downtown Development Corporation 394-6036

WHERE TO PARK in Downtown Rapid City

LEGEND

MAY 1988



PRIVATE PARKING

PARKING

PARKING SPACES ASPHALT PAVEMENT

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

DIAGONAL PARKING GRAVEL

PUBLIC

PARALLEL PARKING STRAIGHT PARKING

(2 hr) (N.T.L.) (M)

NO TIME LIMIT FREE PARKING METERED PARKING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

TWO HOUR FREE PARKING

