A CONTINUED FOCUS ON DOWNTOWN

The Downtown Master Plan was adopted in September 2016. Since then, downtown has continued to be in the spotlight for community development and improvement efforts, to meet plan objectives towards strengthening our community core. The following objectives have been recently undertaken:

- The Urban Commercial Zoning District approved on March 19th, promotes new and redeveloped mixed uses in the eastern area of downtown.
- A Downtown Parking Study and Strategic Plan, approved in March, will revise how parking is managed, to be both more effective and cost efficient, including metering options and developing an employee/resident permit program.
- A 6th Street/Promenade Master Plan has begun for improvements along the north-south corridor connecting the Civic Center to the Performing Arts Center.
- New Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards will be created soon to guide quality development and improvement.
- A Railroad Quite Zone Study is underway to examine the possibility of creating a Quiet Zone, encompassing 11 crossings between 11th Street on the west and Maple Avenue on the east, where trains will not be required to blow their horns through downtown Rapid City.
- The City’s Code Enforcement division has established new proactive priorities within the original town boundaries in downtown Rapid City, to solve property nuisances and clean-up through community mailings, proactive inspections, and causing abatements as necessary.
- The City’s Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Policy has been undergoing recent review, with proposals to re-focus the use of TIF on downtown and priority community core areas, as well as on priority uses that solve blight plus bring either new economic development or affordable housing.

For more information on the above, call 605-394-4120.

Like our Facebook page, “The City of Rapid City Community Development” to keep up on the latest!
NEW DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES
Please help us welcome them to the department!

Building Inspector - Matt Schumacher, from Rapid City, is a perfect fit for the Building Services division. Matt has construction inspection experience, and holds a current Rapid City Class B contractor’s license. Contractors and other permit holders will likely see and meet Matt at job sites.

Administrative Secretary – Melissa Bloomberg, from Rapid City, is a great addition to the Transportation Planning/Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. Her enthusiasm and previous non-profit work experience and expertise will be extremely beneficial as she tackles her federally mandated work tasks.

Current Planner 1 – John Green will be joining the Current Planning Division. John is a recent graduate from South Dakota State University with a Masters Degree in Geography. John, originally from Oregon, will be joining the team the end of May.

LIFE IS A CYCLE EVENT
Have you ever considered commuting to work or school by bicycle, but have concerns? Life is a Cycle will show Rapid City residents how to cycle safely on Saturday, May 26th at 10 am.

Participants will ride to a variety of on and off street bicycle facilities with ride stewards to lead the way and provide guidance. The ride will start and end at Founder’s Park.

The event, hosted by My City Bikes, is a group bike ride that teaches the need-to-know essentials of biking for transportation. Registration for the event is located here: http://lifeisacycle.bike/liac042118.php

May is recognized as Preservation Month. On Saturday, May 5th, 9:30 - 12 pm, the Historic Preservation Commission is hosting a Window Rehabilitation Workshop, to be held in the Rapid City Public Library (Hoyt Room), as part of its community education and outreach program. The workshop will include demonstrations and hands-on experience with basic window/door rehab techniques including access and repair of weight pulley systems, glazing/putty, weather stripping, and exterior coating. Come learn about the benefits of window rehabilitation. The workshop is free and open to the public!

If you are a licensed contractor in Rapid City, attending this workshop will earn you 2.5 hours of continuing education credits. This workshop has been financed with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior through the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

Space is limited! RSVP to Sarah Hanzel, sarah.hanzel@rcgov.org or 605-394-4120

LAND USE CODE AMENDMENTS
Upcoming Land Use Code amendments available for public review and comment include amendments that will:
1) Establish criteria for the legal permitting of accessory dwelling units in residential zones,
2) Modify the permitting and regulation of food trucks,
3) Create a framework for the permitting of short-term vacation rentals,
4) Clarify and update regulations and fees for the enforcement of regulations of property nuisances,
5) Revise regulations for new tax increment financing (TIF) districts, emphasizing their use within the core areas of the community, and
6) Amend certain provisions regulating the work of the Planning Commission, including the required representation from city wards.

For information on the above call 605-394-4120.