



**RAPID  
CITY** SD  
USA

# Official Newsletter of Rapid City Government

**SUMMER 2018**

**Our Mission: To serve Rapid City with integrity and excellence**

## Office of the Mayor

Mayor Steve Allender  
300 Sixth Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701

[MayorsOffice@rcgov.org](mailto:MayorsOffice@rcgov.org)

## Common Council

President Amanda Scott  
Vice President Becky Drury

### Ward 1

[Lisa Modrick](#) (2019)  
[Becky Drury](#) (2020)

### Ward 2

[Steve Laurenti](#) (2019)  
[Ritchie Nordstrom](#) (2020)

### Ward 3

[Jason Salamun](#) (2019)  
[Chad Lewis](#) (2020)

### Ward 4

[Amanda Scott](#) (2019)  
[John Roberts](#) (2020)

### Ward 5

[Darla Drew](#) (2019)  
[Laura Armstrong](#) (2020)

## How Do I Apply to Serve on a City Committee or Board?

The City has established a variety of boards, committees and commissions that provide you the opportunity to use your unique talents and abilities to benefit our community. Your service will allow you to provide important input on policies that shape our Government and our City. We have more than 30 boards, committees and commissions that advise the Mayor and City Council on a variety of issues.

There are current and upcoming vacancies on the following: Performing Arts Board, Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) Board, Sustainability Committee, Hotel Business Improvement District (BID) Board.

For additional information and [Citizen Interest Application](#) visit [www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org).

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply!

## Have a pothole? Call the Pothole Hotline

Potholes can form on Rapid City streets any day of the year. They are a common occurrence and the result of traffic and weather conditions on road surfaces, and not the result of a poorly-maintained road.

Call the Pothole Hotline at (605) 394-4152 or email [pothole@rcgov.org](mailto:pothole@rcgov.org) to report a pothole for crews to repair.

Typically potholes will be repaired/filled the same day. Major intersections and roads with considerable daily traffic may receive attention in the very late hours or early morning hours to minimize interaction with traffic.



# Message from Mayor Steve Allender

After several long months of information sharing, presenting, advocating and campaigning, the day has come and the outcome of the new arena vote is here. 17,000 citizens voted and approved the new arena by a 64% to 36% margin.

There have been literally hundreds of volunteers giving their time, talents and money to promote the new arena. VoteYesRapidCity started as a campaign slogan, but morphed into a movement. An idea. Perhaps a way of thinking about the future of Rapid City. VoteYesRapidCity was a campaign committee that officially dissolved. But we, as stakeholders of Rapid City should keep the momentum moving. We owe it to ourselves and future generations.

It is always more comforting to stick to the past and go through life with as few changes as possible. No one likes change...no one over 25 anyway. We have to acknowledge we are all aging and the current community leadership should not only have today's needs in mind, but should have also a strategy for tomorrow.

June's victory was not about an arena. It was about progress. The voters spoke loudly and clearly: they want change. They want us to be known as the community that thinks ahead and doesn't seek to stay in the past.

Something I have been taught, and I hope to pass on to others is this: Attitude is everything! Rapid City could use a different attitude. We need younger people on the school board, in the legislature, on the county commission, on the city council and yes, in the mayor's office. We need people from all walks of life, of all ages to take Rapid City by the reins and ride it into the future!! We need you to be a community leader!

The requirements to be a community leader are fairly basic:

1. **Own Rapid City.** I mean really own it. As if it were yours – because it is. Make it better, every day. It may only be smiling at someone, or it may be changing someone's tire. It could be helping to recruit volunteers, or helping with a campaign or perhaps running for office. There's a reason small business owners invest so much of themselves into the business: because they own it and its success or failure is a result of their efforts, skills, investments and their attitude.
2. **Show up.** It is essential you make yourself available. Today, America is a nation of opinions. We take the time to share them on social media and take time to chastise others for theirs, but what good is it if we avoid the real responsibility of taking a stand and offering ourselves to the service of others. Don't over-think it. Show up. Serve.
3. **Set the standard.** Nearly 100% of America is made up of people in communities like ours. If we focus on that fact and focus on raising the bar in our communities... we raise the bar in our nation. We can set community standards for who we are, how we communicate and how we feel about important issues. We need healthy differences of opinion in order to achieve the best plans. The **power** starts with the local community. The foundation of effective governance is local people, raised in an environment of service and strength.
4. There are new ideas, not yet developed. New plans, not yet made. And new people, not yet engaged.

Thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly to make the new arena a reality. The progress made would not have been accomplished without you.

# Division of Parks and Recreation

## Youth Flag Football

Registration is underway for youth flag football leagues sponsored by the Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department. Registration deadline is September 5.

Register online at [rcgov.org](http://rcgov.org) or at the Swim Center, 125 Waterloo Street, or the Parks and Rec Office at 515 West Boulevard. For more information, contact Matt Brandhagen at 415-0226 or 394-5223 or via email at [matt.brandhagen@rcgov.org](mailto:matt.brandhagen@rcgov.org).

The youth flag football season starts September 17 at the Omaha Street Fields. Games are played on Monday or Tuesday nights with first and second grade playing Mondays, and third and fourth grade divisions playing Tuesdays. Registration is \$50 which includes a jersey. The participant's fee is waived if a parent is willing to coach.

## Learn to Skate Celebration

The Roosevelt Ice Arena will host a Learn To Skate year-end celebration Monday, July 30 from 5-7 p.m. at the Roosevelt Park Ice Arena.

The event is free for any students who have attended Learn To Skate USA classes in the 2017-18 skating year. Family and friends are invited also free of charge. Helmets are encouraged. Anyone signing up for a Session 1 or 2 class the night of the celebration event will get their name in a drawing for a free one-hour booster lesson.

Learn to Skate USA is a goal-oriented program providing incentives and a personalized approach to skating and a curriculum from first steps on the ice to advanced techniques.

For more information, contact Holmes at 394-6161.

## Did you know?

- Rapid City utilizes an Aldermanic Form of Municipal Government and is governed by our Common Council, which consists of our mayor and two aldermen from each of our five wards. Council members each serve a term of three-years with our mayor serving a term of four-years beginning in 2019. The mayor shall preside at all meetings but does not vote except in the case of a tie, as long as the vote does not involve an ordinance or appropriation.
- The election of Amanda Scott (president) and Becky Drury (vice president) by the Council marks only the second time in the City's history women have been named to the City Council's top leadership posts in the same term.



Amanda Scott



Becky Drury

## Career Opportunities

For detailed information on career opportunities with the City, check out current [job openings](http://rcgov.org) on the City website at [rcgov.org](http://rcgov.org) by clicking on Jobs at the top right side of the homepage.

# Department of Community Development

## Railroad Quiet Zone

The City Council recently approved the Draft Report of the Rapid City Railroad Quiet Zone Study. The Study identifies options to improve safety and minimize the impacts of train horn noise at multiple railroad crossings in the downtown Rapid City area.

Thirteen rail crossings were assessed through a field diagnostic review, and the Study details proposed crossing improvement scenarios with planning level layouts, construction cost estimates, and potential phasing options for quiet zone implementation.

The four crossing improvement scenarios included in the report are a baseline scenario that implements a quiet zone but requires an annual review, a high safety scenario that provides the greatest risk reduction at the highest cost, and two cost effective scenarios that involve prioritizing improvements for maximum return on improvement investments.

## Rapid City Continues To Grow !

Rapid City's estimated population continues to grow — officially reaching 75,000!

Rapid City's population estimate at the end of 2017 was 75,488, up 2.32% from the 2016 estimate. The estimates are based on approved building permits, housing demolitions, the Census 2010 occupancy rate and the Census 2010 persons per household rate for Rapid City and Rapid Valley.

The population estimate determined a net gain of 561 households in the City in 2017 with an increase in 1,285 population from 2016. This increase includes additional population from annexation.

## Building Permits

For the first half of 2018, the City issued 1,851 permits with a combined six-month valuation total of \$229,509,468. By comparison, for the first six months of 2017, the City had issued 1,524 building permits with a combined six-month valuation total of \$127,592,884.

### Top 5 Building Permits Issued in 2018

The top five permits issued to date in 2018: RC Regional Hospital for phase two expansion (\$92.5 million -more than two times the value of any single permit in the City's history); Alta Terra Development LLC for the Meadows Apartments project at Moon Meadows Drive (\$22,207,632); Chrisbro IV Inc. for the Tru By Hilton/ Hampton Inn at 825 Eglin Street (\$14.8 million); Youth & Family Services for additions/alterations at 120 E. Adams Street (\$8,558,144); and Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society for the Sage View Apartments at 201 E. Minnesota (\$5,494,360).

# Calling all Artists & Creative Thinkers

**Aug. 15th at 3:30 p.m.**

Will you help us imagine and plan for the future?

The Rapid City Community Development Department is developing a conceptual plan for the 6th Street Promenade between the Civic Center and the Performing Arts Center.

City Planners want to hear from local artists and creative thinkers to generate ideas and imagine possibilities for public art and community collaborations within the corridor. All are welcome!

Join us Wednesday, August 15 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Hoyt Room at the Public Library. Please RSVP to Sarah.Hanzel@rcgov.org or by calling 394-4120.

## Coffee with Planners

**Aug. 2nd at 9:00 a.m.**

The Community Development Department invites you to attend "Coffee With Planners" on Thursday, August 2 at 9 a.m. in Council Chambers of the City/School Administration Center.

This is a great opportunity for the public to sit with City Planners to learn and ask questions about current and proposed Rapid City development projects, as well as future City master plans. There will be several tables set up at which specific plans and topics will be discussed. The public will have the chance to join and/or rotate among the various discussions. Coffee and donuts will be provided.



# Department of Community Development Cont..

## City to Test Options for New Downtown Parking Meters

New credit card enabled smart meters are coming to downtown Rapid City as part of implementation of the Downtown Area Master Plan! Prior to making a purchase, the City will be testing parking meter technology from three different vendors in a parking meter pilot project. This demonstration will help the City determine which parking technology solutions will be the best fit for Rapid City based on performance of the technology during the trial period and feedback from the community.

The meters will be installed for a 60 day period beginning the first week in August. The meters will be temporarily installed in two locations: the first level of the parking garage at 6<sup>th</sup> and Apolda Street, and the surface parking lot located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Saint Joseph.

The Community Development Department will be hosting a public information meeting mid-way through the demonstration to obtain public input. Details on the public information meeting are still underway. Please contact the Community Development Department at 394-4120 for more information.



## Do you know a Veteran who deserves to be recognized?

The City of Rapid City proudly sponsors a Veteran of the Month program in conjunction with the Rapid City Veteran's Commission. Any person or organization may make nominations for an individual or individuals to be recognized as Veteran of the Month. We encourage nominations from all segments of our community and surrounding communities.

The Veteran of the Month Program recognizes Veterans for their sacrifice to our Country through the formal presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation presented at a regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Recipients are also presented with a small gift of appreciation, issued a press release, and highlighted on the City's website and social media pages.

### [Nomination Form](#)

Office of the Mayor  
300 Sixth Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
605-394-4110  
[MayorsOffice@rcgov.org](mailto:MayorsOffice@rcgov.org)

# Rapid City welcomes first non-stop flight from New York

Rapid City Regional Airport welcomed United Airlines first nonstop flight from New York/Newark last month, with its traditional full water cannon salute! Arriving passengers were greeted in the terminal with a reception and specially prepared gift bags. This flight is great news for Rapid City and our region as Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) is the third largest hub for United and provides 73 nonstop flights from EWR to 68 international destinations! Conveniently located 15 miles south of New York City and 60 miles northeast of Philadelphia, this flight is great for both our inbound and outbound passengers. It will initially operate on Saturdays only through September 8, with potential expansion in the future.

## 7 Core Values Comprehensive Plan

- A balanced pattern of growth.
- A vibrant, livable community.
- A safe, healthy, inclusive, and skilled community.
- Efficient transportation and infrastructure systems.
- Economic stability and growth.
- Outstanding recreational and cultural opportunities.
- Responsible, accessible, and effective governance.



## Travel Plans?

Take us with you!

- eBooks & Comics
- Audiobooks
- Magazines
- Streaming Video
- MP3 Music

[rapidcitylibrary.org](http://rapidcitylibrary.org) → Digital Library

## And in other City news.....

### **Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities – ADA Celebration!**

The 28th annual Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Celebration event will be held **Friday, July 27 from 5-8 p.m.** at the Canyon Lake Activity Center, 2900 Canyon Lake Drive. All are welcome!!

The event is hosted by the Mayor's Committee for People With Disabilities Committee and Western Resources for Independent Living.

The event recognizes the impacts of ADA on the community and for people with disabilities. The event will include food, entertainment and vendor booths and is free and open to the public.

For sponsorship and booth information, contact Catherine Greseth of the Mayor's Committee at 787-2590 or Western Resources at 718-1930.

### **City Offering Special Rates at Meadowbrook Golf Course in July**

In recognition of Parks and Recreation Month, the Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department is offering a golf course special at Meadowbrook Golf Course in July.

Special rates are offered throughout the month with the cost for nine holes set at \$20 walking and \$31 with cart; for 18 holes, the rate is \$30 walking and \$47 with cart.

The special rates apply through the month of July.

### **Airport Receives Small Community Air Service Development Grant**

Rapid City Regional Airport has been selected as a recipient of a \$700,000 federal grant from the SD Department of Transportation's Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASD).

The grant's purpose is to provide a revenue guarantee to pursue and develop future year-round, daily nonstop service to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport with American Airlines. The total award of \$914,100 includes \$214,100 in local matching and in-kind contributions. Local partners include Visit Rapid City, SD Department of Tourism, the City of Rapid City, Rapid City Economic Development Partnership, Air Host Rapid City, Overland West dba Hertz, and Republic Parking Systems.

### **Local Law Enforcement Celebrates the Creation of new non-profit Organization**

A new non-profit, called **Black Hills Badges for Hope**, has been created to strengthen ties between local law enforcement and the community, as well as support law enforcement families in times of crisis. This organization's mission is designed to help/ support:

- Fallen officers and their families
- Youth Activities within the Black Hills community. 1) Through team sponsorships and individual player sponsorships, in order to get youth into team activities or structured events. 2) Teaming up with local law enforcement officers to make scholarship awards by having officers present the scholarships, thus building trust between the community and law enforcement.
- Host or co-host community events that support positive law enforcement and community interactions