

RESOLUTION 2018-073

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE RELOCATION AND CONSTRUCTION
OF A NEW INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE HOSPITAL IN RAPID CITY**

WHEREAS, Congress has authorized the construction of a new Indian Health Service (IHS) health facility in Rapid City; and

WHEREAS, while the IHS has been considering constructing the new facility at the existing Sioux San site on the west side of Rapid City, the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board has identified an alternative site for the health facility on East Anamosa Street in the Shepherd Hills area; and

WHEREAS, the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board has proposed the construction of the new facility at the Shepherd Hills site and the expansion of behavioral health services at the existing Sioux San facility; and

WHEREAS, a new facility at an alternative site can be developed and built without causing any disruption in health services, whereas the Sioux San site would need to be carefully phased in order to continue essential health services to the service population during construction; and

WHEREAS, there are areas within Rapid City that would be more convenient and accessible for the beneficiaries of IHS health facility services; and

WHEREAS, a new health facility could support, and benefit from, the health care education programs at Western Dakota Technical Institute, which collaborates with the Health Board on education components aimed at the particular needs of Native communities and populations; and

WHEREAS, an alternative site could be developed to provide more flexibility in space and design of a facility that will best meet the health care needs of the service population; and

WHEREAS, an alternative site will also allow the project to avoid issues related to historic preservation, in contrast to the Sioux San site, which includes many structures eligible for the National Registry of Historic Places, some of which the IHS proposes to raze as part of a new facility construction project at Sioux San; and

WHEREAS, for many years the Sioux San Hospital provided in-patient and emergency services to its patients, but recently IHS stopped providing such services; and

WHEREAS, an alternative site would allow for the possibility of future expansion into in-patient and emergency care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council that the City of Rapid City supports an alternative site for the new IHS health facility to improve its accessibility to patients and to avoid the demolition of historic structures in the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council of Rapid City also supports the resumption of in-patient and emergency services to the IHS beneficiaries at the Rapid City Service Unit.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2018.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

By _____
Steve Allender, Mayor

Attest

Pauline Sumption, Finance Officer

(seal)