



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission and City Staff
FROM: Kinsley P. Groote, Assistant City Attorney
DATE: June 25, 2020
RE: Ordinance No. 6388 – An Ordinance to Amend Provisions of the Rapid City Municipal Code relating to the Storage and Parking of Certain Vehicles and Trailers

Currently, the Rapid City Municipal Code (RCMC) has two separate sections that contain restrictions on the storage and parking of vehicles and trailers – RCMC 10.40.190 and 17.50.280. One purpose of these restrictions is to minimize adverse aesthetic impacts that large vehicles and trailers have in residential districts. This draft ordinance consolidates those sections into one section in Title 17 and amends the provisions that are found in those sections. Many different departments or divisions of departments provided input for this draft ordinance including the City Attorney’s Office, the Rapid City Police Department, the Mayor’s Office, Code Enforcement, Building Services, Current Planning, and Public Works.

There are some notable changes to the provisions dealing with residential districts. First, the ordinance removes the front setback restriction for recreational vehicles (RVs), travel trailers, and hauling trailers in RCMC 17.50.280 because a large number of properties across the City are not in compliance with those restrictions and compliance with such restrictions does not seem desirable to citizens. Thus, the draft ordinance would allow an RV or boat trailer in the front yard setback, subject to current restrictions – like the vehicle or trailer having to be on a graveled or hard surfaced pad, it not being across a sidewalk, and it not being in an off-street parking stall required for passenger vehicles. RVs would remain exempt from weight, height, and length restrictions, while other trailers and vehicles would be subject to some modified weight, height, and length restrictions. However, the draft ordinance allows for parking of those heavy, tall or long trailers or vehicles in fully enclosed garages. Finally, the draft ordinance elaborates upon the current exception for vehicles temporarily parked in conjunction with provision of service to a property.