



May 12, 2021

Sarah Hanzel  
City of Rapid City  
Community Development Department  
300 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Rapid City SD 57701-5035

**RE: SDCL 1-19A-11.1 Consultation**

Project: 210426004S – 630 St. Joseph Street, Rapid City – Replace 4 2<sup>nd</sup>-Story Windows  
Location: Pennington County  
(CORC)

Dear Ms. Hanzel:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project pursuant to SDCL 1-19A-11.1. The South Dakota Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) would like to provide the following comments concerning effect of the proposed project on the non-renewable cultural resources of South Dakota.

On April 26, 2021 the SHPO received notification of the above-referenced project to replace 4 second-story windows on the building at 630 St. Joseph in Rapid City. 630 St. Joseph is a contributing property within the Rapid City Commercial Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. SDCL 1-19A-11.1 outlines a specific process that must be followed prior to any governmental action that may harm any historic property that is included in the National or State Registers of Historic Places.

Based upon the information provided, the existing double-hung wood windows are significantly deteriorated and will be replaced with aluminum-clad casement wood windows. The replacement windows will fit the existing openings of the current windows and will not alter the transoms above.

While SHPO appreciates the efforts to maintain much of the historic fabric surrounding the existing windows, replacing the current double-hung windows with casement windows has the potential to encroach upon, damage, or destroy historic property. Specifically, the addition of casement windows will impact the historic rhythm and design of the Rapid City Commercial District. Double-hung windows are a common feature on many of Rapid City's historic 2-story commercial structures and introduction of casement windows on 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor



facades could set a precedent for future window replacement projects within the district. Therefore, the SHPO is requesting an abbreviated case report consistent with ARSD 24:52:07:03, including #1, 2, 7 and 10. For item #10, please have the Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission review and comment on the case report within 180 days of receipt prior to submittal to SHPO.

For item #7, SHPO would like to suggest alternatives to the casement windows. The project proposal cites economic reasons for selecting casement windows over double-hung alternatives. SHPO suggests exploring more cost effective alternatives such as single-hung windows that will be more visually compatible within the district but still take economic considerations into account.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Heather Mulliner at (605) 773-6005 or [Heather.Mulliner@state.sd.us](mailto:Heather.Mulliner@state.sd.us).

Sincerely,

Ted M. Spencer  
State Historic Preservation Officer

  
Heather Mulliner  
Historic Preservation Specialist