August 24, 2021

Sarah Hanzel
City of Rapid City
Community Planning & Development Services
300 6th St
Rapid City SD 57701-5035

RE: SDCL 1-19A-11.1 Consultation
Project: 210817002S – 920 Fairview Street – Replace 18 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 August 17, 2021, the SHPO received notification of the above-referenced project to replace 18 windows at the house at 920 Fairview Street in Rapid City. The house at 920 Fairview Street is a contributing resource in the West Boulevard 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 on the information provided, ten of the proposed windows to be replaced are original wood windows. All windows 18 windows will be replaced with aluminum-clad wood windows that closely match the existing in design, texture, and color. The current historic windows show signs of rot, broken panes, loose glass, and broken cords, and there are currently no local contractors capable of preforming the necessary rehabilitation work.

Therefore, the SHPO has made the following determination that the removal of the historic windows will encroach upon, damage, or destroy a historic property which is included in the National and State Registers of Historic Places; however, it appears that there are no feasible and prudent alternatives to the proposal and that the proposal includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the historic resource.
As you take these comments into consideration, please remember that under State law our office only provides comments and recommendations pertaining to preservation standards, and the City of Rapid City will determine whether to issue the necessary permits for this project. Their decision is based on consideration of all feasible and prudent alternatives, including economic practicability, and whether the proposal contains planning to minimize harm to the historic property. If the City proceeds with the issuance of the permits, then ten days’ notice to our office by certified mail is required along with a record of factors considered in making this decision for our files.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Heather Mulliner at (605) 773-6005.

Sincerely,

Ted M. Spencer
State Historic Preservation Officer

Heather Mulliner
Historic Preservation Specialist