

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT  
RESOURCES AT THE SITE OF THE RAPID CITY INDIAN SCHOOL/SIOUX  
SANATORIUM/OYATE HEALTH CENTER**

WHEREAS, the United States government built and operated the Rapid City Indian School between 1896 and 1933; and

WHEREAS, the site of the Rapid City Indian School briefly served as a Civilian Conservation Corps camp during the Great Depression of the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1938, a portion of the Rapid City Indian School's property was converted to the Sioux Sanatorium, a federal tuberculosis hospital that primarily served Native American patients; and

WHEREAS, that the Sioux Sanatorium was converted into an Indian Health Service hospital in 1966, which was commonly known in the Rapid City community as the "Sioux San Hospital;" and

WHEREAS, the United States Government has constructed a new building on the site adjacent to the main Sioux San Hospital building to provide medical, dental, therapy, and other services to Native Americans which is available for use beginning in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the site of the Sioux San Hospital is currently home to the Oyate Health Center, a tribally-managed healthcare facility primarily serving Native American patients; and

WHEREAS, once the new building is operational and providing services, it is the intention of the United States Government, acting through its agencies, to demolish the Sioux San Hospital main building that has been a Rapid City landmark for decades; and

WHEREAS, the Rapid City Indian School, Sioux Sanatorium, and Sioux San Hospital, are a place of remembrance for many members of the Rapid City and outlying communities; and

WHEREAS, members of the Rapid City Indigenous community, working in coordination with local faith communities, the City of Rapid City, the United States Government, and the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, are in the process of developing a memorial at the Rapid City Indian School on a parcel of former boarding school property adjacent to the Sioux San Hospital site; and

WHEREAS, some facilities on the Sioux San Hospital site contain important and fragile artifacts left behind by the Native American children who attended the Rapid City Indian School; and

WHEREAS, many of the facilities at the Sioux San Hospital Site, including buildings and landscape elements, are connected to historically significant developments in the history of the Rapid City Indian School and the camp and hospitals associated with the history of Rapid City and the outlying region; and

WHEREAS, the Sioux San Hospital is a notable landmark in Rapid City, a contributor to the architectural vernacular of the early- and mid-twentieth century in Rapid City, and for these reasons is an anchor for community memory for many Native and non-Native residents and should not be demolished; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that the main Sioux San Hospital building can be repurposed for the benefit of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, conversations about preserving the Sioux San Hospital site have been ongoing in the Rapid City community for many years, with various stakeholder groups supporting the long-term preservation of this important site for the purposes of remembering and educating residents and visitors about our shared history, and supporting Rapid City's interest in and efforts to promote our cultural heritage, history, and strengthen the sense of community among our residents.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rapid City Common Council supports the preservation of the site of the Sioux San Hospital and main building; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor of Rapid City and the Rapid City Common Council support the Rapid City community and relevant stakeholder groups and local, state, and federal agencies as they plan for and secure the long-term preservation and re-purposing of cultural and historical resources the Sioux San Hospital site.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

CITY OF RAPID CITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
XXXXXXXX, Mayor

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
XXXXXXXX, Finance Director

(SEAL)