

Restriping will clear up parking inconsistencies

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Inconsistencies in the width and angle of downtown Rapid City parking spaces will vanish under a spray of baking soda over the next two weeks as city street crews blast away old paint stripes and apply new ones.

The work also will increase the number of parking spaces along Main and St. Joseph streets by about 10 percent, according to City Traffic Engineer Greg Luttrell.

Some existing parking spaces along the two arteries are at a 60-degree angle while others are at 45 degrees, and they vary in width from block to block, Luttrell said.

After restriping, all spaces between Fifth Street and Mount Rushmore Road will be 8.5 feet wide and at a 60-degree angle, Luttrell said.

Multiple sets of stripes will be re-

moved between Third and Fifth streets, and between Mount Rushmore Road and West Boulevard. All spaces in those areas will be 9 feet wide.

Crews working 12 hours a day are using non-toxic granular baking soda to blast the old lines off the pavement.

Luttrell said striping was inconsistent after Main and St. Joe were rebuilt several years ago.

In addition, city officials and downtown retailers have been looking for ways to increase the number of parking spaces.

Workers redid spaces along the north side of Main Street between Fifth and Sixth streets last summer and received no complaints from motorists, Luttrell said.

The new spaces between Fifth Street and Mount Rushmore Road will match those.