

STAFF REPORT
February 23, 2017

No. 16CA006 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Experience Rapid City Cultural Plan (Final) **ITEM 2**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

AGENT	Sarah Hanzel - City of Rapid City
REQUEST	No. 16CA006 - Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Experience Rapid City Cultural Plan (Final)
DATE OF APPLICATION	October 3, 2016
REVIEWED BY	Sarah Hanzel

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Experience Rapid City Cultural Plan (Final) be approved.

GENERAL COMMENTS: The Cultural Plan Update reflects the opinions and advice of nearly 850 local citizens and community leaders. There are six long range goals that form the heart of the Plan, describing the results the implemented Plan ultimately aims to achieve for the community. These six goals include Cultural Equity, Education for Creativity, Cultural Tourism/Local Audience Development, Non-Profit Organization Sustainability, Creative Economic Development, and Cultural Leadership. The Plan aligns with four core values and 43 goals of the Rapid City Comprehensive Plan, Plan Rapid City. The Plan focuses on outcomes requiring community wide resolve, collective action, public policy, or initiatives that go beyond the interests or capacity of one organization or sector.

STAFF REVIEW: Plan Rapid City, the adopted Comprehensive Plan, is a framework within which development and rezoning proposals are measured and evaluated, and is intended to guide the orderly growth of the community. This Cultural Plan supplements Plan Rapid City and its goals and objectives for moving Rapid City forward. In order for the plans to remain viable and to keep pace with a changing market place, periodic adjustments to reflect changing conditions will be required.

Staff has reviewed this proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment for conformance with the six criteria for review of Comprehensive Plan Amendments established in Section 2.60.160(D). A summary of the Staff findings are outlined below:

1. Whether the proposed change is consistent with the policies and overall intent of the comprehensive plan.

The Culture Plan aligns generally with four Core Values of the City's Comprehensive Plan, Plan Rapid City: A Vibrant Livable Community; A Safe, Healthy, Inclusive, and Skilled Community; Economic Stability and Growth; and Outstanding Recreational and Cultural Opportunities. The Appendix identifies 43 specific Plan Rapid City goals within these Core Values that the Cultural Plan Update supports.

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2. Whether the proposed change is warranted by changed conditions within the neighborhood surrounding and including the subject property.

Rapid City's first Cultural Plan was adopted in 1993. It outlined a broad vision for cultural development that inspired the Journey Museum and Learning Center, the Dahl Arts Center expansion, and the Performing Arts Center. Rapid City's attractive and vibrant downtown reflects the original Cultural Plan's attention on the power of the arts, culture, and history to help define and animate our community. Most of the priorities of the 1993 Plan have been accomplished. This Plan update re-commits to achieving cultural equity as a priority throughout all goals of the Plan.

3. Whether and the extent to which the proposed amendment is compatible with existing and proposed uses surrounding the subject land.

Adoption of the proposed amendment does not appear to create land use incompatibilities. The Cultural Plan directly aligns with 43 goals identified in Plan Rapid City.

4. Whether and the extent to which the proposed amendment would adversely affect the environment, services, facilities, and transportation.

Adoption of the proposed amendment does not appear to adversely affect the environment, services, facilities, or transportation. The Plan advocates that Rapid City's arts, heritage, and cultural attractions become visible and accessible to tourists and local audiences.

5. Whether and the extent to which the proposed amendment would result in a logical and orderly development pattern.

Adoption of the proposed amendment will not influence development patterns. The Cultural Plan supports providing additional opportunities for creative businesses to have access to reasonably priced studios, office space, and housing that is also safe and inviting.

6. Whether and the extent to which the proposed amendment adversely affects any other part of the city, or creates any direct or indirect adverse effects.

No direct or indirect adverse effects of adopting the proposed amendment have been identified. The Cultural Plan aims to elevate the cultural, economic vitality of the City.

Since this Plan amendment is being sponsored by the Planning Commission, there are no sign posting or notification requirements. The Cultural Plan was guided through participation of the public including steering committees, an online survey, public open houses, and invitations to comment. To date, staff has not received any inquiries regarding the proposed amendment. The Cultural Plan Steering Committee and staff recommend that the Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, Plan Rapid City, to adopt the Draft Experience Rapid City Cultural Plan update be approved.