

Parking space 'growing'

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Building parking lots has been one of the major construction activities within the downtown Rapid City area this summer.

By the end of October, another 268 asphalt-paved spaces, costing about \$435,000 will be available.

Work started this week on a 132-space lot at the corner of Sixth and Main, and construction is almost complete on the 136-space lot just west of the new Public Safety Building at 300 Kansas City.

The Patton parking lot at the corner of Mount Rushmore Road and Main was improved earlier this summer and added 48 spaces. That project cost \$68,500.

City Traffic Engineer Sharon Johnson said the Sixth and Main lot won't have any sidewalks through it, but will have landscaping around the edges.

The tree in the center will remain with about 400 square feet preserved around it for benches. The paving project will cost \$90,900 and will be completed in late October.

All that remains at the courthouse lot is fencing work, county officials said. The \$345,000 paved parking area has 68 spaces designated as "staff parking", 68 for visitors and 52 for Police and Sheriff's department personnel.

The project was financed jointly by Rapid City and Pennington County, with the county paying 69 percent of the costs. The land formerly housed residential and commercial property and two houses used for county office space.

There is access to the parking lot from both Kansas City and St. Joe streets and it includes a chain link fenced security area.

The county commission has not yet taken any action concerning parking priorities in the old lot south of the courthouse.



There are 136 parking spaces available in the new lot west of the Public Safety Building (Staff Photo by Don Polovich)