

Downtown City Parking

Study Half Finished

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The interview stage of the Central Business District parking study is approximately 65 per cent completed, Oliver Byrum, city street engineer, announced Friday morning.

He said the interviewing work is expected to be finished by July 2. The survey is being conducted by the State Highway Department and the city engineering department.

The purpose is to collect information that will be helpful in attempting to solve the city's parking problems.

Byrum said persons conducting the survey have been very pleased at the helpfulness and cooperation of the persons interviewed, and the owners of parking lots.

Following completion of this stage of the study, the data will be analyzed and a final report made up. It is one portion of the Comprehensive Plan and Traffic Study which was begun in 1963.

Interviewers are assigned to various parking places in the downtown area, both curbs and parking lots. From the information gathered it will be determined how much more parking is needed in the Central Business District, and what type is needed.

Byrum said the downtown parking problem is of interest to everyone since the stability of the downtown area is a factor in the stability of city government financing.

Mayor Phil Schroeder, at the time the parking survey was announced, commented that "when lack of proper parking facilities causes a decline in downtown incomes and property values a heavy loss in city

taxes will follow. Adequate parking in the downtown area can help assure Rapid City of a strong tax base from the Central Business District."