

Second Rapid City Vision 2012 meeting set

What will Rapid City be like 20 years from now?

That question will be posed Wednesday night at a public meeting at Disabled American Veterans, 808 N. Maple Ave., sponsored by the North Rapid Civic Association.

The meeting, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will be led by Ward 4 Aldermen Karen Bulman and Frank O'Grady, and will focus on possible improvement projects for Rapid City in the next 20 years.

The meeting is part of a process Mayor Ed McLaughlin calls Vision 2012. It is aimed at looking at the kinds of projects the community wants and needs to build by the year 2012. City, county, school district and chamber of commerce officials attended the first Vision 2012 meeting in December.

McLaughlin wants similar meetings to be held in each of the city's five wards.

At stake in the discussion is a city half-cent sales tax, currently being used to make payments on the sale-leaseback of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. The payments will end in 1995. If the tax is extended, it could provide \$4.5 million a year to finance capital improvement projects.

The meeting Wednesday night in North Rapid City will include a discussion of city improvements in the last 20 years, and an explanation of proposed projects, such as the new museum, a third high school, Canyon Lake restoration and others.

McLaughlin said city officials were looking for a cross section of public opinion, rather than the wishes of any special interest group.

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