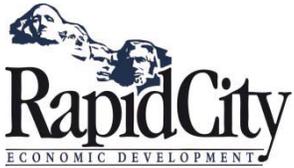


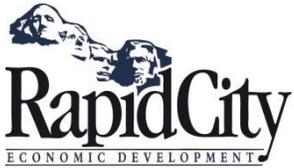
Welcome and Thank You for Investing in Rapid City's Future!

Rapid City Economic Development Partnership's
2014 Annual Membership Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2015



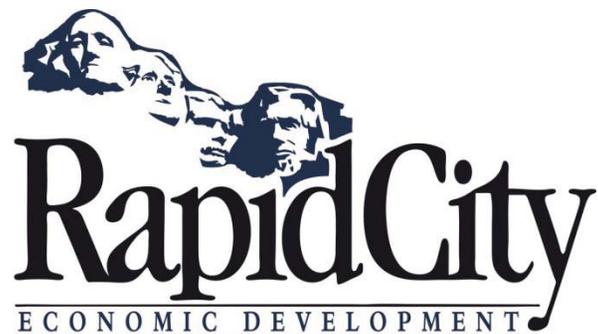
Thank You to our Event Sponsors!





Thank You to our Platinum Level Investors!





2014

New Regional Marketing Initiative
Target Industry Outreach
Supporting Local Company Expansions

*Conduct Business
Face-to-Face with Freedom*

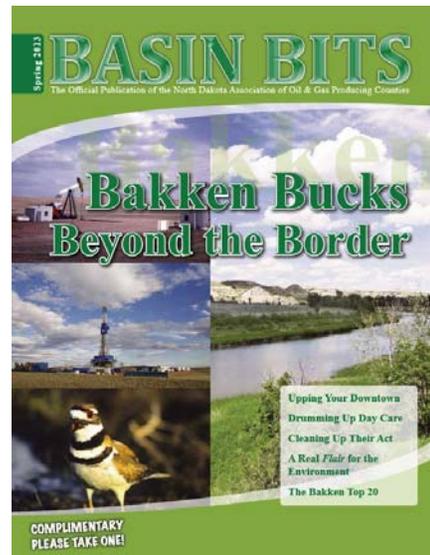
www.RushmoreRegion.com



Carve Your Own Vision



Continued Marketing/Outreach to Energy Sector



RUSHMORE REGION of South Dakota A GREAT PLACE FOR ENERGY

Whether you're moving a business or starting one, it's easy – and profitable – in the Rushmore Region of South Dakota. Low taxes and less regulation. Less snow than Denver. Warmer winters than Minneapolis. More sunshine than Miami.

THE RAPID CITY ADVANTAGE

- Direct flights to 9 cities, including Houston, Dallas, Denver.
- Top-ranked schools like South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.
- Economic Diversity: Energy, agriculture, tourism, medical, financial, manufacturing
- Fishing, hunting, skiing and snowmobiling.



SD TOURISM

FIND OUT MORE

BENJAMIN SNOW, President
 bsnow@rapiddevelopment.com
 www.RapidDevelopment.com
Greater Rapid City Economic Development Partnership
 525 University Loop, Suite 101
 Rapid City, SD 57701
 605-343-1880



SOUTH DAKOTA

MSCHOOL OF MINES
& TECHNOLOGY

The conference focused on oil and gas activities in the northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, especially as they affect the Williston, Powder River and Denver-Julesburg producing basins. An excellent group of participants discussed:

- ❖ Reservoir Stimulation
- ❖ The Impacts of Petroleum Development on Regional Water Resources
- ❖ **The Petroleum Industry and Regional Economic Development**
- ❖ Best Practices for Petroleum (as related to safety, well completion, etc.)
- ❖ The Niobrara Resource Play in the Northern Rockies

- ❖ **RCEDP led and moderated an Economic Development Panel including perspectives from the following organizations:**



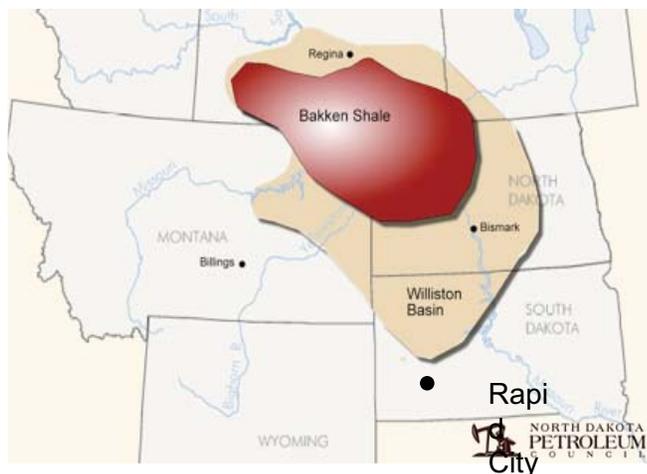
International Council of Shopping Centers Las Vegas, NV May 2014



Sponsored Williston Basin Petroleum Conference

Bismarck, North Dakota

May 2014



ATTENDANCE



48 States + D.C.

- Hawaii & South Carolina missing

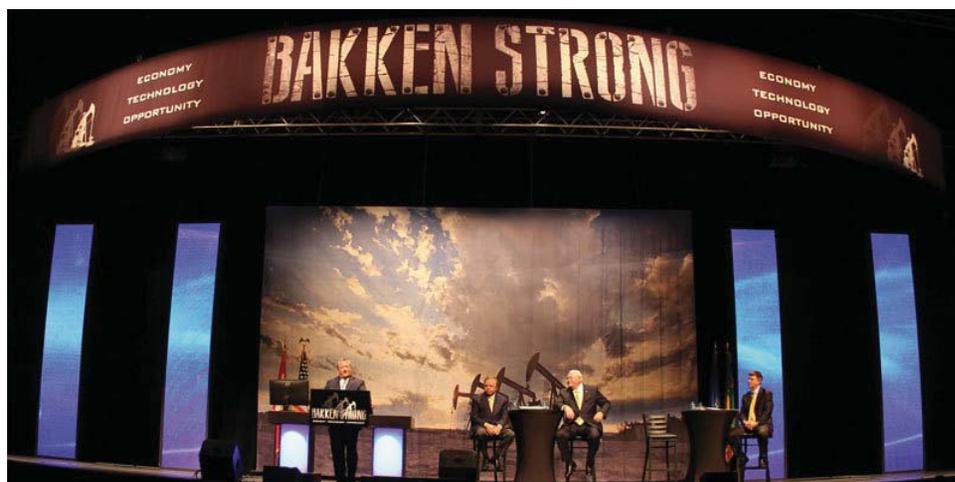
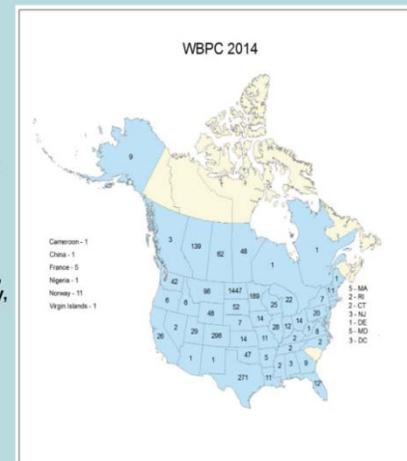


6 Canadian Provinces



9 Countries

-Australia, Cameroon, Canada, China, France, Nigeria, Norway, Singapore, Virgin Islands

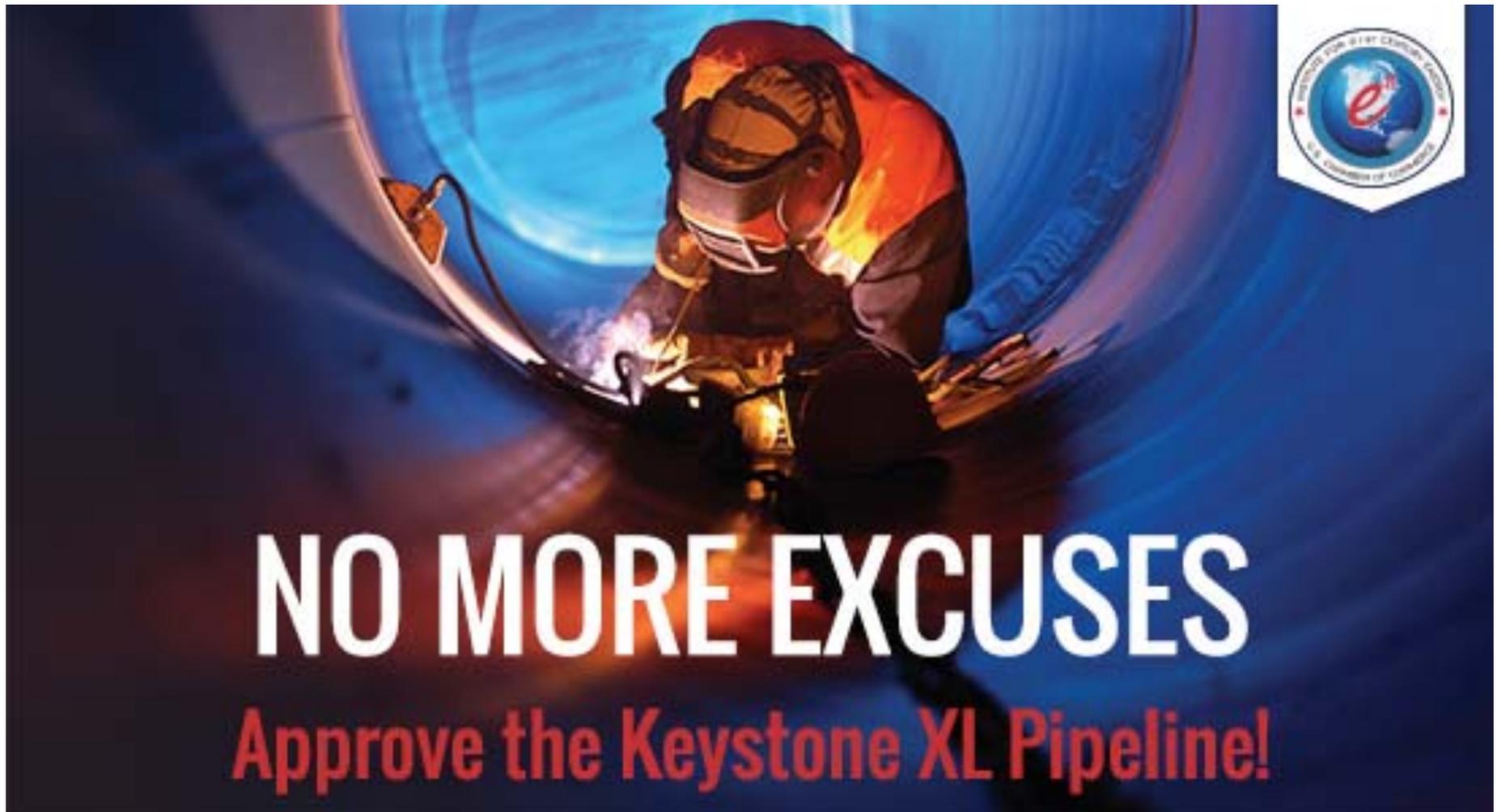


We Continue to Support the Keystone XL Pipeline



Institute for 21st Century Energy

www.energyxxi.org

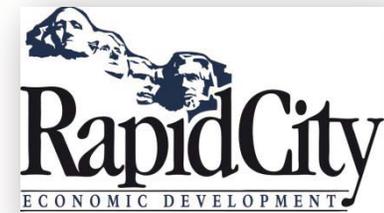


NO MORE EXCUSES
Approve the Keystone XL Pipeline!

Business Messaging During 2014 Sturgis Rally



Dr. Narayana Kocherlakota, President, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis



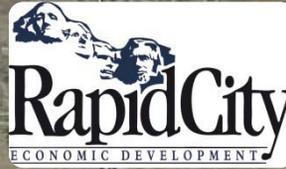
October 2014 Speech, Hosted by Rapid City Economic Development Partnership

FABTECH Metals Manufacturing Conference

Atlanta, Georgia

November 2014





Taking Care of Our Own Expanding Companies

Wausau Supply

- 180,000 SF Expansion on North Dyess Avenue
- Will have close to a quarter million SF under roof!
- Currently employ 9, could triple in next 5 years
- Will have an open house in April



HFW



- Moving into Larger \$4.0M HQ & Manufacturing Facility
- 38,000 SF on North Dyess Avenue



- Currently employ around 30
- Will approach 50 over next 3-5 years



Amcon Distributing



- New \$2.5M Expansion Completed
- 30,000 new SF
- More than doubled workforce since 2004 from 30 to 70
- Plans to reach 104 in next 2 years



Dakota Panel



- New \$10.5M Expansion
- 165,000 new SF
- More than doubled workforce since 2010 from 100 to 216
- Plans to reach 250 in next 2 years



Premier Home Mortgage

- New \$3.6M HQ Completed
- 25,000 SF at Hwy 16/Tower
- Currently employ 35
- Ambitious growth plan to reach 93 in next 5 years



Quality Services, Inc.

- Moved into larger HQ Offices
- 10,000+ SF at Jackson/Sheridan Lake Road
- Historically @ 13 employees
- Plans to grow to 40 in next 3 years

Greatest Team Since Prehistory



Quality Services, Inc.

Archeology, Forestry, Geophysics, History, Paleontology

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*www.qualityservices.us.com 605-388-5309
Archeology, Forestry, Geophysics, History, Paleontology*



Strider Sports Intl., Inc.

New 26,000 SF HQ Completed!



January 2014 employees:

- 28 (Rapid City, SD)
- 14 additional US staff outside of Rapid City
- Total of 42

Projected Employment in 2 years:

- Rapid City: 40 employees
- Outside Rapid City (US Staff): 20
- Total of 60

Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country



- New HQ Office Expansion/Remodel project is adding about 13,500 SF and remodeling about 10,000 SF bringing the total facility to about 144,000 SF
- Completed Acquisitions of Additional Territories in 2014
- Between I-90/North Plaza Drive in Fountain Springs Business Park
- Company now employs approximately 500 in 16 locations across 5 states with about 120 in Rapid City

Black Hills Harley-Davidson



Black Hills HARLEY-DAVIDSON

SUMMER 2015

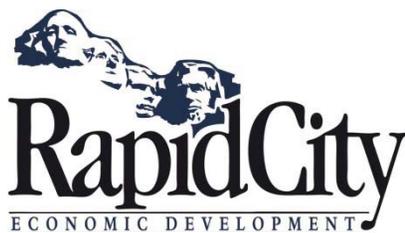


- 27,000 SF expansion, bringing the total facility size to over 80,000 SF
- Showroom space, service area doubling, operational support space
- Increase will allow the facility to “catch up” to current sales and service volumes
- 12 new personnel to staff operation

GUSTAFSON BUILDERS
A Division of Heavy Constructors, Inc.
605-342-3144 www.HeavyConstructors.com

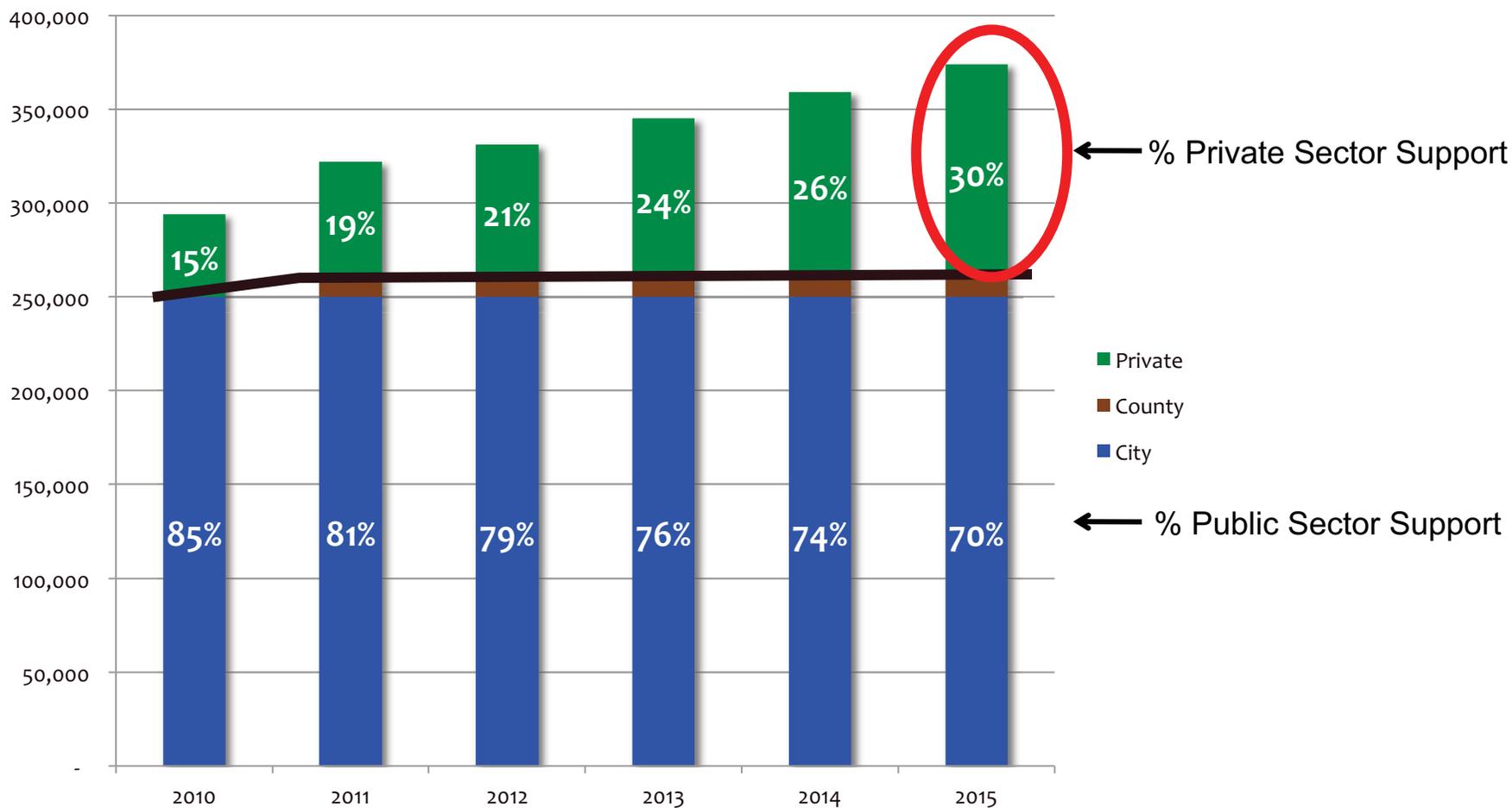


Architecture
Civil Engineering
Landscape Design
Interior Design
Mechanical
Electrical



PRIVATE SECTOR FUNDRAISING GOALS

Increase Private Sector Investment Over 5 Years





Strong Tenant Mix in the Black Hills Business Development Center



- **Start-up: January 2013**
- **Owners:**
 - **Rob Hrabe (President) & Christian Widener (CTO)**
- **Employees: 16 (9 FT / 7 PT & Interns)**
- **Technologies:**
 - **Cold Spray**
 - **Smallest, most versatile high-pressure cold spray system on the market (patent pending).**
 - **Automation & Systems Integration**
 - **Reconfigurable Additive Manufacturing Systems**
 - **Advanced motion systems integration**



• **Our Partners**



INTERNATIONAL COLLEGIATE PROGRAMMING CONTEST

WORLD FINALS

ICPC 2018 - RAPID CITY



Contest provided by ACM
with support by IBM

SDSMT Academic Host

- ICPC is an annual Olympic style global competition that starts in the fall with 2500 universities and ends with World Finals in the spring with 120 universities
- ICPC 2018 is the first return to the US in 12 years and will be held at the RPCC and nearby hotels
- Create a Center of Excellence in Competitive Computing with Olympic developmental experiences and global marketing opportunities
- Management and funding - ICPC 2018, Inc.

ICPC 2014 Ekaterinburg, Russia





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B9Creations®

B9Creations designs & manufactures award-winning, high-resolution 3D Printers

- Moved into BHBDC June 2014 with 1800 SF, 3 FT + 1 PT positions
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- Active collaboration with SDSM&T, BHSU, & University Center Rapid City
- 50% of production is sold outside the USA
- Primary markets: Jewelers, Manufacturers, Dental Labs, Researchers, & Hobbyists





City of Rapid City Progress Report

Mayor Sam Koelker

Information Line 394-9300 Mayor's Office@rcgov.org July-September 2014

2015 Proposed Budget

Overall, the budget is down by 3.1% from \$152.6m in 2014 to \$148.7m in 2015. The main reason for the reduction is due to expiring Capital Outlay projects. The General Fund Budget is up by 7.9%, mainly due to costs relating to both increased demand for City services and the need to address our aging infrastructure. Sales Tax revenue is coming in strong, however the revenue projections in the budget remain conservative. A 2% growth in Sales Tax for 2014 is assumed, while Sales Tax for 2015 is coming in at 4.79% as of June. The proposed budget is balanced without spending into the reserves. The Seven Core Values in the new Comprehensive Plan are now in the process of being tied into the budget.

Infrastructure

- The State Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved more than \$5.628m in grants for loans for the \$7.1m East Rapid City Water System Expansion Project that includes a \$1m grant and a \$4.628m loan with \$3m in principle forgiveness. This will facilitate the extension of water utilities to the airport, water reclamation facility and several residential developments including Valley View, Mesa View, Terra Cotta and the Longview Sanitary District.
- The City will be spending approx. \$34m on infrastructure improvements in 2015 including the following major projects: Ea North Street Reconstruction from St. Joseph Street to Milwaukee Street—\$8.3m; Dyess Ave., from Mall Drive to Seger Drive—\$3.2m; Mt. Rushmore Road—\$2.8m; Big City Subdivision Stn Repairs—\$1.1m, contingent on annexation.

Actions Taken

RAPID CITY PROGRESS REPORT

Mayor Sam Koelker Mayor's Office@rcgov.org October - December 2014

Increased Access to City Government

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee, formerly referred to as the Subsidy Committee, was established through ordinance for the purpose of making recommendations to the Common Council on funding allocation Development Block Grant program (\$44 recipients of the General Fund allocation (\$102k). This committee will also advise Rapid City Strengthening Families Core reports.

Civic Center Task Force

City Council formally established the Task Force for the purpose of moving the Civic Center about the expansion at www.rcgov.org

Statehood Anniversary Committee

South Dakota joined the union as a State our 125th Statehood Anniversary and in community-wide events in celebration of November. On November 8, special event Promenade and Legacy Commons, a B capsule at the Journey Museum, with City leader Valentine McGillycuddy, as Madison Cabin. View schedule of even

Actions Taken

Police Department

In an effort to make the city safer, the R commitment to traffic enforcement. The focus on traffic enforcement, with two "It's important to make traffic enforcement Jegens. In part, it's what the public a public about traffic concerns in differ residential neighborhoods or drivers run

Fire Department

The Rapid City Fire Department is re-vice City citizens and, in a partnership with the patient connection established in an domestic violence. As part of this new "Safe House Project", which establishes where the public can seek refuge when medical attention. If citizens are lost, be have been abused or neglected, then t employees at their station when other if unavailable.



In Progress
Mt. Rushmore Road
Let's Dig! The dream of a revitalized water attraction.

RAPID CITY PROGRESS REPORT

Mayor Sam Koelker Mayor's Office@rcgov.org January - March 2015

Civic Center Expansion: City Council unanimously approved, and Mayor signed, an agreement with Department of Justice establishing a 2017 deadline for the Civic Center to be in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act.

A special election has been set for March 10, 2015 for a vote on Resolution 2014-118, which authorizes the issuance of Sales Tax Obligations for the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in an amount not to exceed \$180m. Learn more at www.rcgov.org or call 394-4115.

Storm Water Utility Update: The Storm Water Utility Maintenance crews have been able to make short work of some newly congested drainages thanks to the purchase of a compact excavator and tracked loader with brush attachments. Work started on drainage improvements throughout the City. The group will be unveiling a new logo so citizens can recognize our storm water crews and equipment at work.

Streamlining: The City continues to focus on streamlining and refining City processes to provide better customer service, which will save time and staff resources. Of note, 6,616 calls were handled by the City Information Line (394-9300) in 2014 with an average time for call of 1:45 minutes.

- 34 Raffle requests were processed by the City Attorney's Office, which now serves a singular conduit for processing.
- 90 Special Event Permit Applications were received and processed by the Rapid City Police Department in 2014, 10 of which went before City Council.

Fiscal Responsibility:

- Sales Tax Revenue comparison for the first 11 months of 2013 and 2014 increased 4.1%.
- Tax Increment District (TID) 44 has been dissolved 2 1/2 years early. This TID was created in 2004 to facilitate the construction of Mall Drive from Dyess Avenue to the Visitors Information Center on North Elk Vale Road with sanitary sewer, water and drainage improvements. The base valuation of the property in 2004 was \$3,765m and now has an assessed valuation of \$56,935m. The District will now generate \$1,225m over and above the base value revenues. The TID 44 revenues will now be used to repay the overlapping TID 64 (Cabela's area).
- TID 53, Stoney Creek, has been paid off 10 years early, and with no overlapping TID's the taxing entities are slated to receive approx. \$127k in 2015, which the City's share is about 18% or \$22k. Created in 2006 to facilitate construction of Stoney Creek Plaza, located on Sheridan Lake Road by financing sanitary sewer and grading improvements. The base valuation of the property in 2005 was \$132k and now has an assessed valuation of \$6,903m.
- Refinanced Parking Lot & Area Bonds from 5.53% to 2.65%, which is projected to save the City \$294k in interest.

Building Permits: For the fourth consecutive year, building permit valuation has surpassed the \$200 million mark. For 2014, permit valuation was \$214,824,894 with a total of 5,457 permits issued. It is the third year in the past four years with over 5,000 permits issued, and the fourth consecutive year with permit valuation over \$200 million. Permits with the highest valuation included Granite Auto (\$10m); McKie Auto(\$10m); Horace Mann Pool (\$8m); Whisper Park Apartment Complexes (\$6m) and Community Health Center (\$5.8m).

Growth & Economic Development: Rapid City ranked fifth among 252 small metropolitan cities for Successful Aging by the Milken Institute. Rapid City ranks very favorably in a number of areas important to seniors, including tax burden, the growth of small business, low unemployment rate and high rate of volunteers in the community. Underemployment continues to be a challenge.



Parks & Recreation: Veterans' Memorial has been relocated to Memorial Park Promenade. The City, in conjunction with the Veterans Commission, honor a Veteran each month at City Council. Find more information at rcgov.org, and nominate a deserving Veteran.

A new, more durable flag now flies over Dinosaur Park overlooking Rapid City. The flag is similar to the coastal-area flags that withstand sustained, heavy winds.

Airport: The original terminal, built in 1947, at Regional Airport has been removed. This will free up future space for hangar development and aircraft parking. Westjet is building a new general aviation terminal in the same general area as the old terminal.

The final phase for the Airport Water Line Project will be let for bid in the Spring and is projected to be completed in 2015.

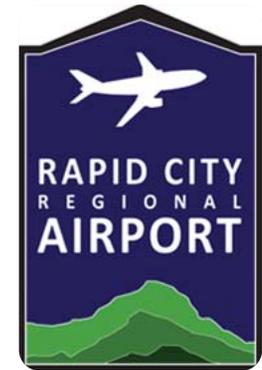
Code Enforcement: In 2014, Code Enforcement took action on 1700 violations and abated 323 properties. Demolition was accomplished on three substandard homes.

Summer Nights: City Council approved a three-year Special Event Permit for the downtown Rapid City Summer Nights Art & Entertainment Festival.

Downtown Parking: Amended the procedure and amounts of penalties for parking violations to provide a 'free pass' for first violation - every 90 days. In addition, two primary changes: a graduated penalty structure from overtime parking (\$10 for second violation, \$15 for third and \$25 for further violations), and an increase in penalties for other types of violations.



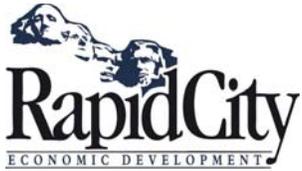
PROGRESS REPORT



Regional Airport Service Expands

- The EDP was a strong early advocate for the \$20.5M Capital Project to Remodel and Expand the Terminal in 2012, which leveraged the city's 2012 Program
- First Year of Seasonal Atlanta Service in 2014 was successful
- Participation on BHASP helped to secure \$500,000 Marketing Grant for Atlanta





Retail, Restaurant, Entertainment & Hospitality Growth



NEW TENANTS IN

RUSHMORE MALL

NEW TENANTS IN

Black Hills Center Rapid City, SD



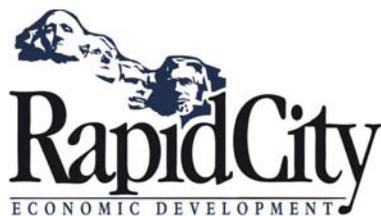
NEW TENANTS IN



FIVE GUYS

BURGERS and FRIES





Sales Tax Results for 2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January					
	\$3,182,255	\$3,367,735	\$3,558,464	\$3,729,900	\$3,835,664
February					
	\$3,318,296	\$3,432,366	\$3,933,432	\$3,862,584	\$4,075,848
March					
	\$3,561,469	\$3,869,249	\$4,291,387	\$4,167,633	\$4,214,463
April					
	\$3,458,801	\$3,635,952	\$3,846,294	\$3,744,035	\$4,213,428
May					
	\$3,637,027	\$3,864,246	\$4,322,477	\$4,428,312	\$4,578,834
June					
	\$4,269,869	\$4,456,795	\$4,733,905	\$4,881,575	\$5,158,433
July					
	\$4,350,725	\$4,599,995	\$4,775,166	\$4,988,071	\$5,201,089
August					
	\$4,370,731	\$4,664,135	\$4,888,721	\$5,190,156	\$5,344,688
September					
	\$4,095,123	\$4,235,246	\$4,300,781	\$4,551,850	\$4,799,457
October					
	\$3,754,380	\$4,030,768	\$4,129,035	\$4,455,818	\$4,665,988
November					
	\$3,687,710	\$3,873,922	\$3,936,338	\$4,338,856	\$4,248,296
December					
	\$4,465,912	\$4,905,330	\$4,947,534	\$5,042,215	
Total Reported	\$46,152,299	\$48,935,739	\$51,663,533	\$53,381,006	\$50,336,188

Tax Revenue comparison for the first 11 months of 2013 and 2014, increased 4.1%



Community Planning & Development Services

Building Permit Totals

Permits, Valuation, and Inspections	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Actual
New units & buildings:					
Single-family units valuation	182 \$32,679,324	157 \$27,019,631	179 \$33,496,398	236 \$43,681,672	233 \$42,271,201
Total residential units valuation	192 \$33,877,324	219 \$33,809,421	405 \$65,766,313	661 \$77,497,797	355 \$51,604,701
Industrial buildings valuation	0 \$0	0 \$0	2 \$4,204,829	2 \$3,888,000	1 \$824,800
Commercial buildings valuation	19 \$25,864,341	21 \$40,983,587	13 \$16,166,414	17 \$47,189,501	25 \$47,858,664
Public buildings valuation	3 \$1,020,786	6 \$23,276,107	4 \$27,427,360	3 \$4,824,177	2 \$1,376,459
Other buildings valuation	10 \$3,535,776	15 \$5,785,091	16 \$4,356,984	1 \$30,000	37 \$3,380,682
Total new buildings:	\$64,298,227	\$103,854,206	\$117,921,900	\$133,429,475	\$105,045,306
Total building permits	2,915	5,253	4,861	5,906	5,457
Total inspections	11,726	14,362	13,256	13,542	15,459
Total permit valuation	\$132,773,559	\$258,990,182	\$207,811,337	\$244,253,223	\$214,924,664

Note: The Building Services Division began issuing roofing permits in June 2011. Due to several severe storms the City issued permits and performed inspections for several thousand roofing permits including: 2011 - 1,616 permits (\$12,587,766 permit valuation), 2012 - 1,590 permits (\$13,865,756 permit valuation), 2013 - 2,490 permits (\$20,639,710 permit valuation), 2014 through August 31st - 2,168 permits (\$18,346,010 permit valuation). Note: The permit valuation and building totals for the County administration facility issued in 2012 is reflected in the "Public Buildings" line item. Note: The total permit valuation number for 2013 includes a floodplain grading permit of \$14,193,186 for I-190 reconstruction work.



Public Works Infrastructure



Fund	Revenue Source	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
CIP - Streets	Sales Tax	4,230,008	4,413,841	4,666,744	4,804,226	4,945,832	5,091,688	5,291,995
.16 Fund - Street Rehabilitation	Sales Tax	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
.16 Fund - Streets	Sales Tax/Bond	-	3,300,000	1,500,000	1,725,000	-	-	-
Streets (STCM)	General Fund	762,000	868,000	912,500	930,750	949,365	968,352	987,719
Urban Systems	SD DOT	1,600,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000
Total for Streets		8,092,008	11,981,841	10,479,244	10,859,976	9,295,197	9,460,040	9,679,714
CIP - Drainage	Sales Tax	2,686,672	2,710,339	2,971,162	3,062,817	3,157,222	3,254,458	3,387,997
.16 Fund - Drainage	Sales Tax/Bond	-	1,450,000	500,000	900,000	-	-	-
Stormwater Utility	Enterprise Fund	-	-	700,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000
Total for Drainage		2,686,672	4,160,339	4,171,162	6,962,817	5,357,222	5,454,458	5,587,997
Water	Enterprise Fund	7,807,856	8,116,170	8,436,817	8,770,289	9,117,101	9,477,785	9,852,897
Sewer	Enterprise Fund	3,956,195	4,110,443	4,270,860	4,437,695	4,611,202	4,791,651	4,979,317
.16 Fund - Utility	Sales Tax/Bond	7,070,000	4,550,000	8,650,000	1,675,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total for Water/Sewer Utilities		18,834,051	16,776,613	21,357,677	14,882,984	14,728,303	15,269,436	15,832,214
Total Infrastructure Budget		29,612,731	32,918,793	36,308,083	31,905,777	29,380,722	30,183,934	31,099,925

Key Regional Assets With Huge Economic Impacts

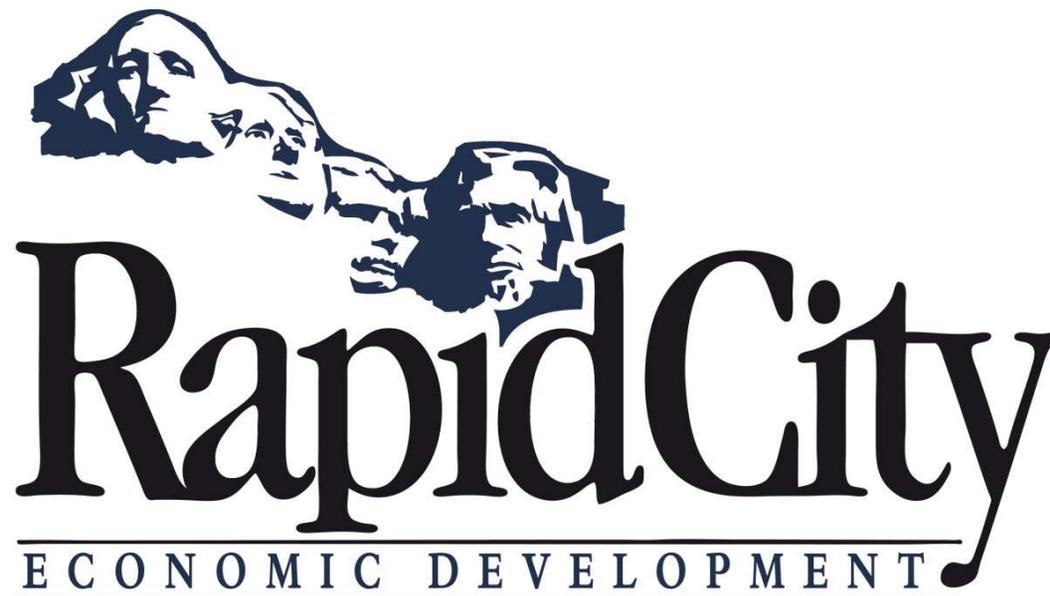




Civic Center Expansion Project



- A special election has been set for March 10, 2015 for a the vote on Resolution 2014-118, which authorizes the issuance of Sales Tax Obligations for the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in an amount not to exceed \$180m. Learn more at www.gotmine.com.



**OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS and EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP
WELCOME and THANK YOU**

CHAIRMAN GAVEL EXCHANGE



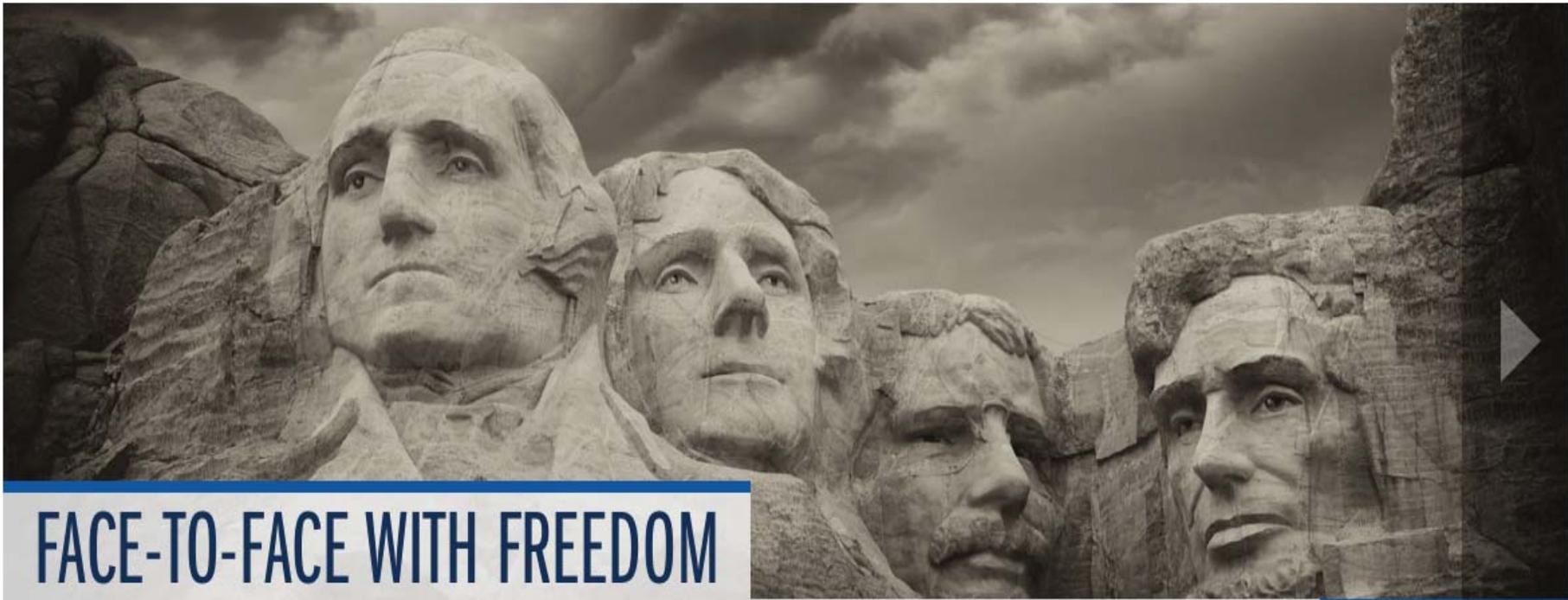
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- [Life in the Rushmore Region](#)



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The Rushmore Region Economic Development Alliance



RUSHMORE REGION
south ★ dakota

January 2015 Newsletter

Region will be at the 2015 SHOT Show

For decades, the Rushmore Region has been a magnet for the firearms and ammunition industry. That's why the Rushmore Region will be represented at the SHOT Show in Las Vegas -- the biggest trade show of its kind in the world.



[Read More](#)

SD named top state for entrepreneurs

South Dakota has again led all 50 states in the Small Business Policy Index, which ranks the states according to 42 different tax, regulatory and government spending measures.

[Read More](#)



Young machinists in Sturgis

Sturgis Brown High School's machinist training program will move to the Sturgis Industrial Park, sharing space with the city's new



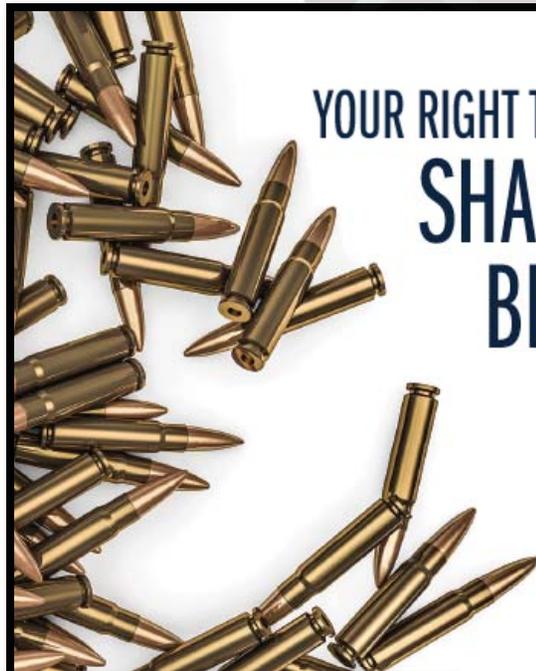
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less taxes, less trouble.*

Firearm manufacturers and related businesses have always been a target industry for South Dakota. Our legislation is not changing.

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Rushmore Region Economic Development Alliance

525 University Loop
Rapid City, SD 57709-0747

Phone: 605-716-0050

Toll Free: 1-855-9-RUSHMO(RE)

info@rushmoreregion.com

www.RushmoreRegion.com



Carve Your Own Vision

Bakken Shale

Powder River

Niobrara

RUSHMORE REGION

Bismarck

Pierre

Cheyenne

Denver

Minneapolis

Des Moines

St. Louis

Kansas City

94

90

80

25

35

CENTER FOR ENERGY

Within 300 miles you'll find three of North America's biggest energy plays – the Bakken, the Niobrara and the Powder River Basin.

Be close enough to the action to service these booming projects, yet far enough to avoid boomtown drawbacks.

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August 3-9, 2015



I came for the freedom to ride
**AND THE FREEDOM
TO DO BUSINESS**

-Chris Malo, President, Baggster Inc.



THE RUSHMORE REGION

a GREAT PLACE for BUSINESS

- NO CORPORATE OR PERSONAL INCOME TAX
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- LOW COST OF LIVING
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*I came to the Rushmore Region
for the freedom to ride.*

**I'm staying because of the
freedom to do business.**



RUSHMORE REGION
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FACE-TO-FACE WITH FREEDOM

- ✓ Less regulation
- ✓ Less red tape
- ✓ Less taxes

Learn more about business in the **Rushmore Region** ➔

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Google Display Ad



Ads related to black hills ⓘ

Rushmore Region
www.rushmoreregion.com/
Do business your way in the Rushmore Region of South Dakota. We feature less taxes and regulations – and we welcome your business with open arms.

Black Hills Lodging
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Great Discounts & Rewards for Black Hills hotels and attractions

Search Engine Ad



in Who Really Uses LinkedIn?

61,527,573 registered users from USA

Age of users: 18-24 age (10.0%), 25-34 age (18.1%), 35-44 age (30.8%), over 55 age (31.2%)

157,526,652 registered users in all

Company Size: 10001+ (18.2%), 5001-10000 (17.4%), 1001-5000 (18.7%), 501-1000 (13.9%), 201-500 (11.8%), 51-200 (10.9%), myself only (8.6%), Other (8.4%)

Gender of users in USA: 30,089,144 Male (47%), 26,754,909 Female (53%)

Industry: Higher Education (18.7%), Information Technology and Services (13.9%), Financial Services (11.8%), Retail (10.9%), Computer Software (8.6%), Marketing and Advertising (8.4%), Hospital and Health Care (8.4%), Telecommunications (8.4%), Insurance (8.4%), Oil and Energy (8.4%)

Companies they care most about: 1. IBM, 2. HP, 3. Microsoft, 4. accenture, 5. Google, 6. ORACLE, 7. Deloitte, 8. Apple, 9. DELL, 10. CISCO.

BUSINESS INSIDER | Data by Zinnov | February 27, 2012

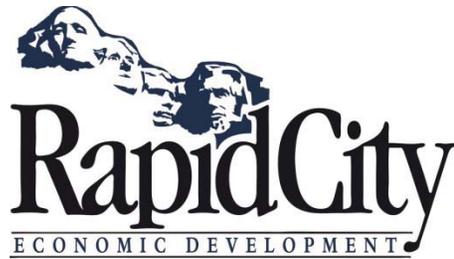
Ads You May Be Interested In

Rushmore Region Business
Less taxes and regulations. We welcome your business to South Dakota with open arms.

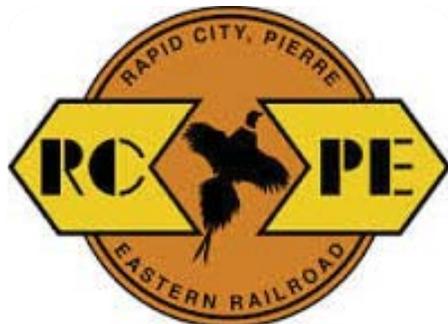
We Speak Marketing
Monitor Budget, Conversions, & Campaign Effectiveness—Even On The Go.

Are You A Director?
Apply Now to the NADP Association. Powerful Networking Opportunities!

LinkedIn Ad



Rushmore Regional Rail Authority



Genesee & Wyoming Company
Genesee & Wyoming Company

- Rail Trust Fund Authority
 - SDCL 49-16C-3 (Provides loans to regional railroad authorities)
- Authority to Establish a Regional Rail Authority
 - SDCL 49-17A (Creation of regional rail authorities)
- Pennington County, Rapid City, Box Elder, Wall all partners to form the authority
- Incorporated in December 2014



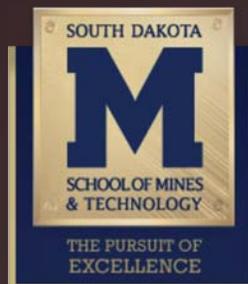
Black Hills Regional Angel Fund, LLC

- This adds another important tool to our successful grant, loan and real estate programs
 - This will be a regional tool to help smaller start-up companies
 - Officially Launched in February
 - Capitalized at \$2.8M
 - Has looked at dozens of proposals
 - Has made 2 investments to date, others pending



CalxAqua, LLC
Healthy Water for Society

OAT OTECH
INC



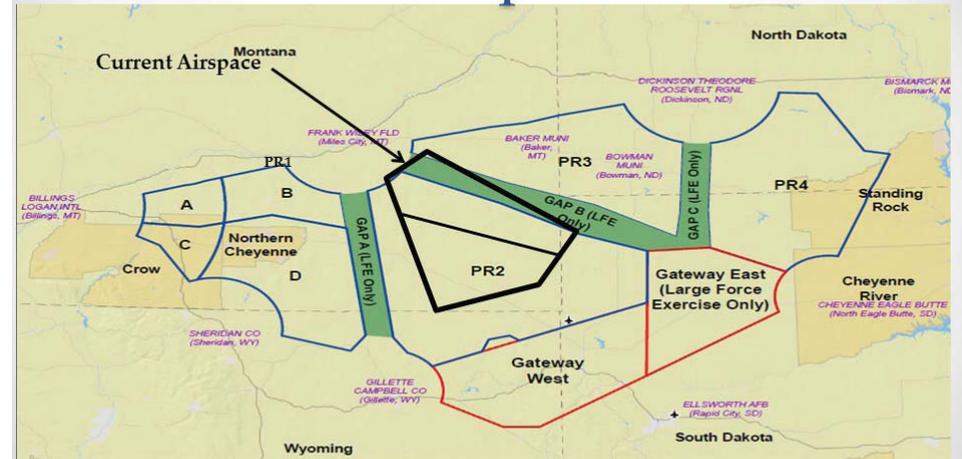
Entrepreneur-in-Residence

Thank You Senator Thune!

For Your Hard Work and Leadership
during the Past 8+ Years!

- Commercial Flight Map Shows Powder River Unique Location.
- Started the expansion process in 2006 while on Armed Services Committee.
- Conducted 20 Public Hearings in four states.
- The original proposed expansion was significantly modified to address the over 2,000 comments received.
- Scaled Back Training Space in Response to Public Comments.
- An unprecedented level of mitigation compared to any other military airspace in the nation.

Powder River Training Complex



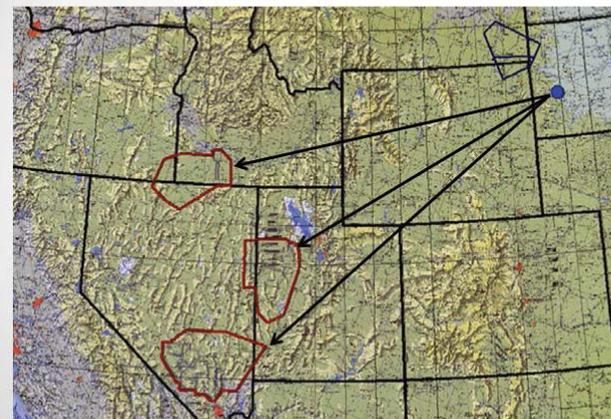
@SenJohnThune



<http://www.thune.senate.gov>

4

Powder River Training Complex



- Complex expansion would save Ellsworth \$23 million per year in flying hours.
- Aircrews can meet 85% of crew training requirements at Powder River, instead of 46% before.
- Aircrews must still commute for live fire exercises.
- Live fire exercises prohibited at Powder River

@SenJohnThune



<http://www.thune.senate.gov>

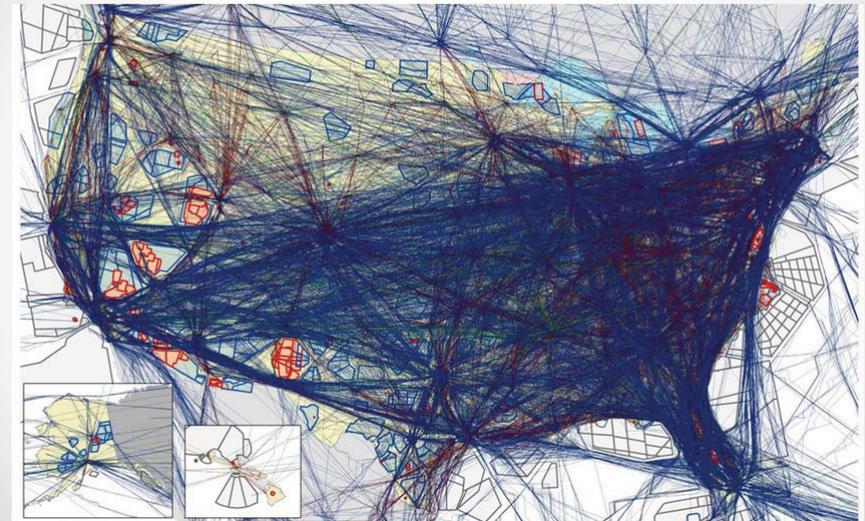
BHP-EL15-012-000056

Securing Ellsworth AFB's Future

- Largest Air Force training range over the continental U.S.
- Commercial Flight Map Shows Powder River Unique Location
- Stratified Airspace Maximizes Civilian Usage
- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will complete its own review before the training airspace can be utilized.

Powder River Training Complex

Commercial Flight Map Shows Power River Unique Location



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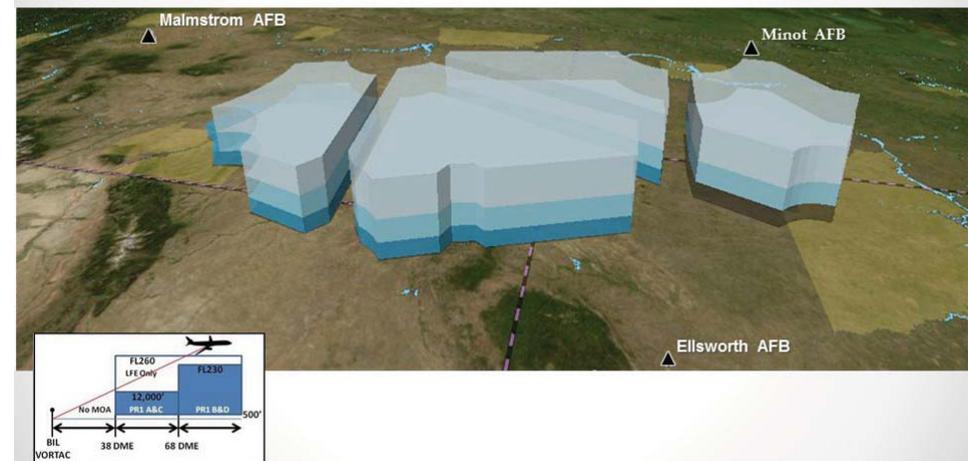


<http://www.thune.senate.gov>

7

Powder River Training Complex

Stratified Airspace Maximizes Civilian Usage



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8

Workforce Development Initiatives



SWAC



Regional Jobs Portal

Partner Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporations



Rushmore Region Jobs by Email

CREATE MY FREE ACCOUNT!



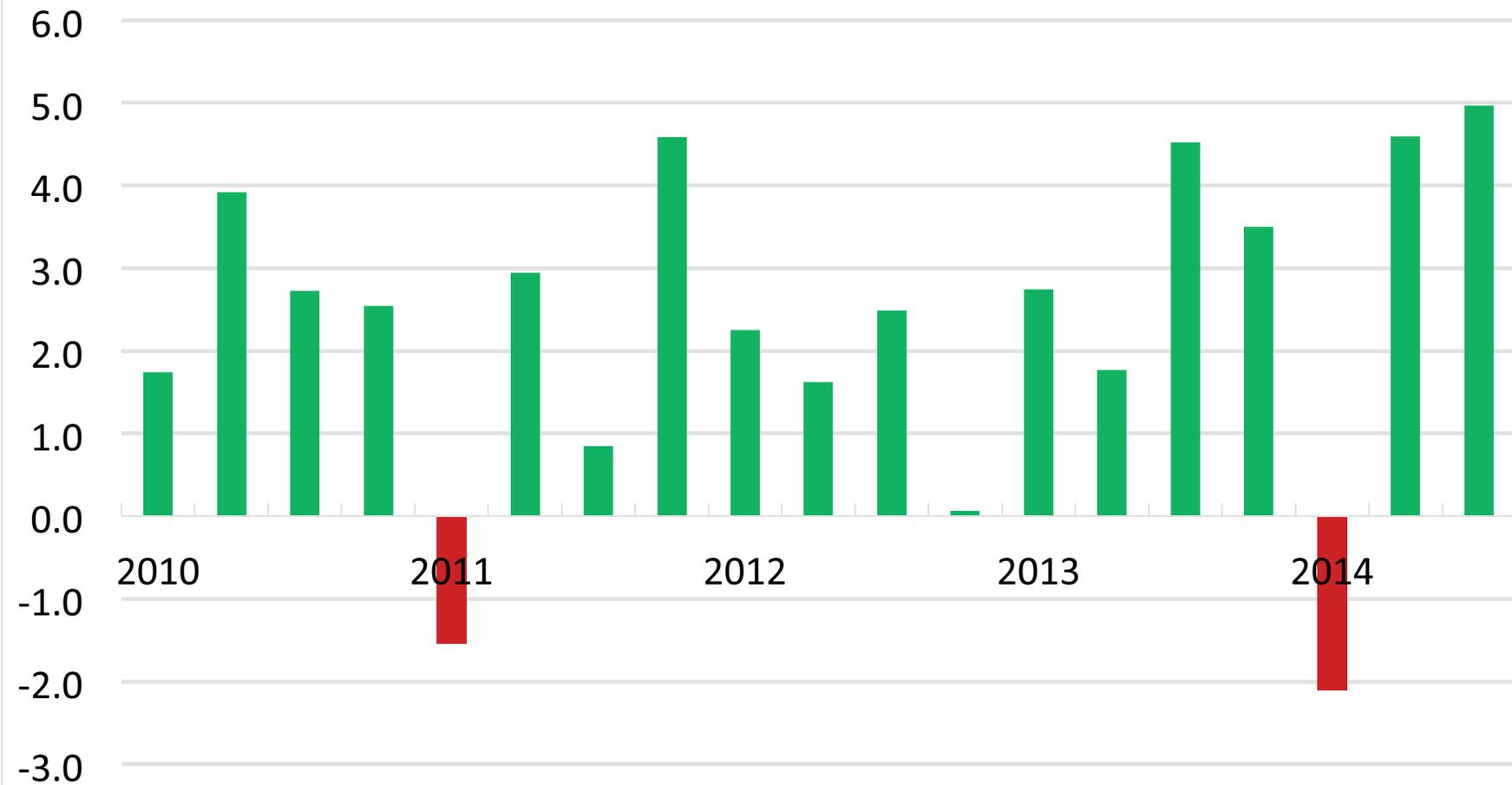
Featured Employers - (View Jobs)



Economic Update

Kathryn Birkeland, Ph.D.
USD Beacom School of Business

U.S. Real GDP Annual Rate of Change

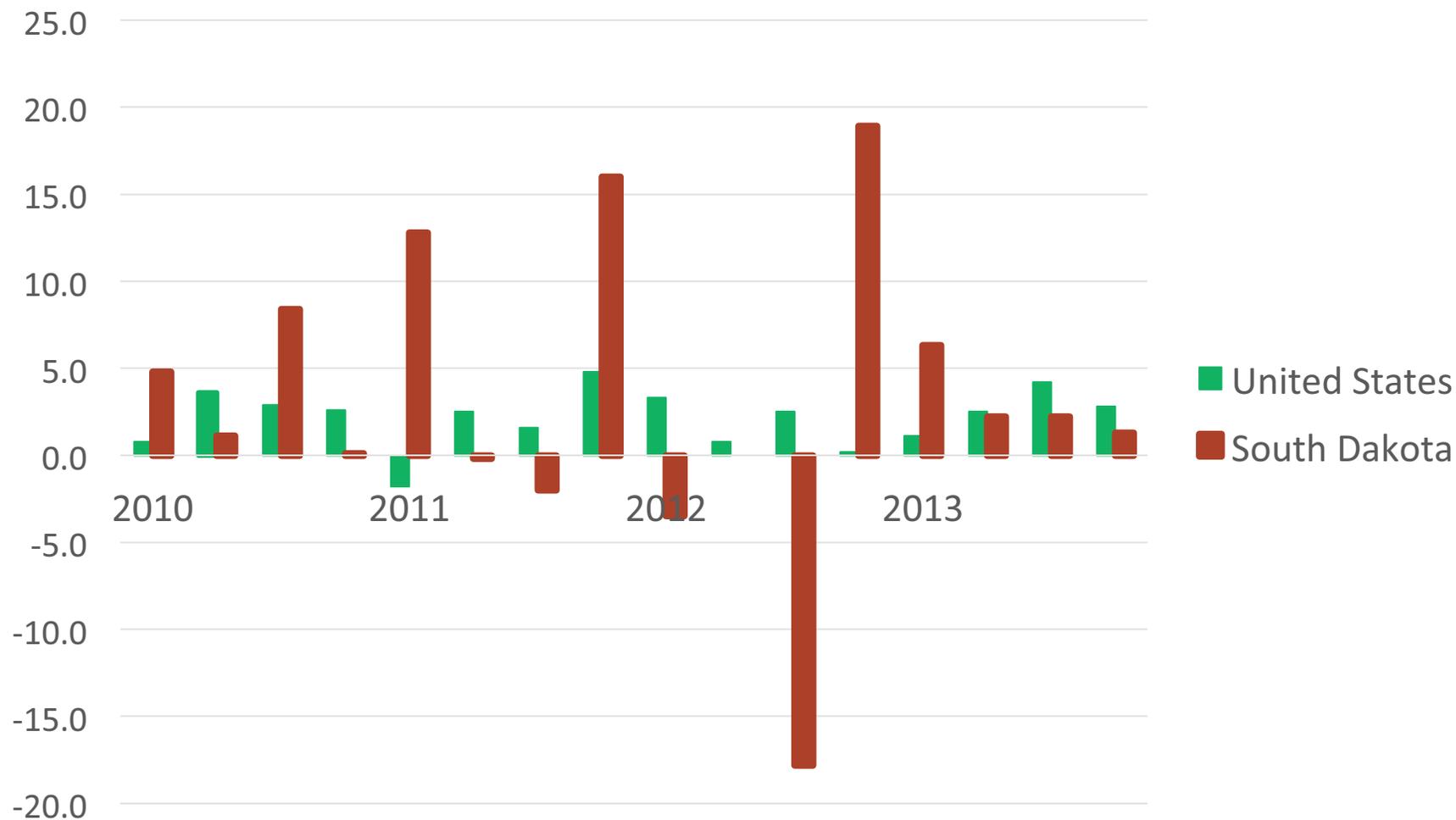


Source: Bureau of Economic Activity

February 2, 2015

Kathryn Birkeland

Quarterly Real GDP Rate of Change



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Regional Growth Rates

	2013 % Change in Real GDP	2009-2013 Average % Change in Real GDP
U.S.	1.7%	1.0%
Bismarck, ND	6.9%	5.4%
Billings, MT	7.1%	2.7%
Sioux Falls, SD	2.5%	2.6%
Fort Collins, CO	2.9%	2.0%
Rapid City, SD	1.0%	1.9%
Sioux City, IA-NE-SD	4.6%	1.3%
Great Falls, MT	-1.2%	0.0%
Cheyenne, WY	2.7%	-0.1%
Grand Junction, CO	-0.9%	-2.1%

Regional Growth Rates

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Unemployment Rate



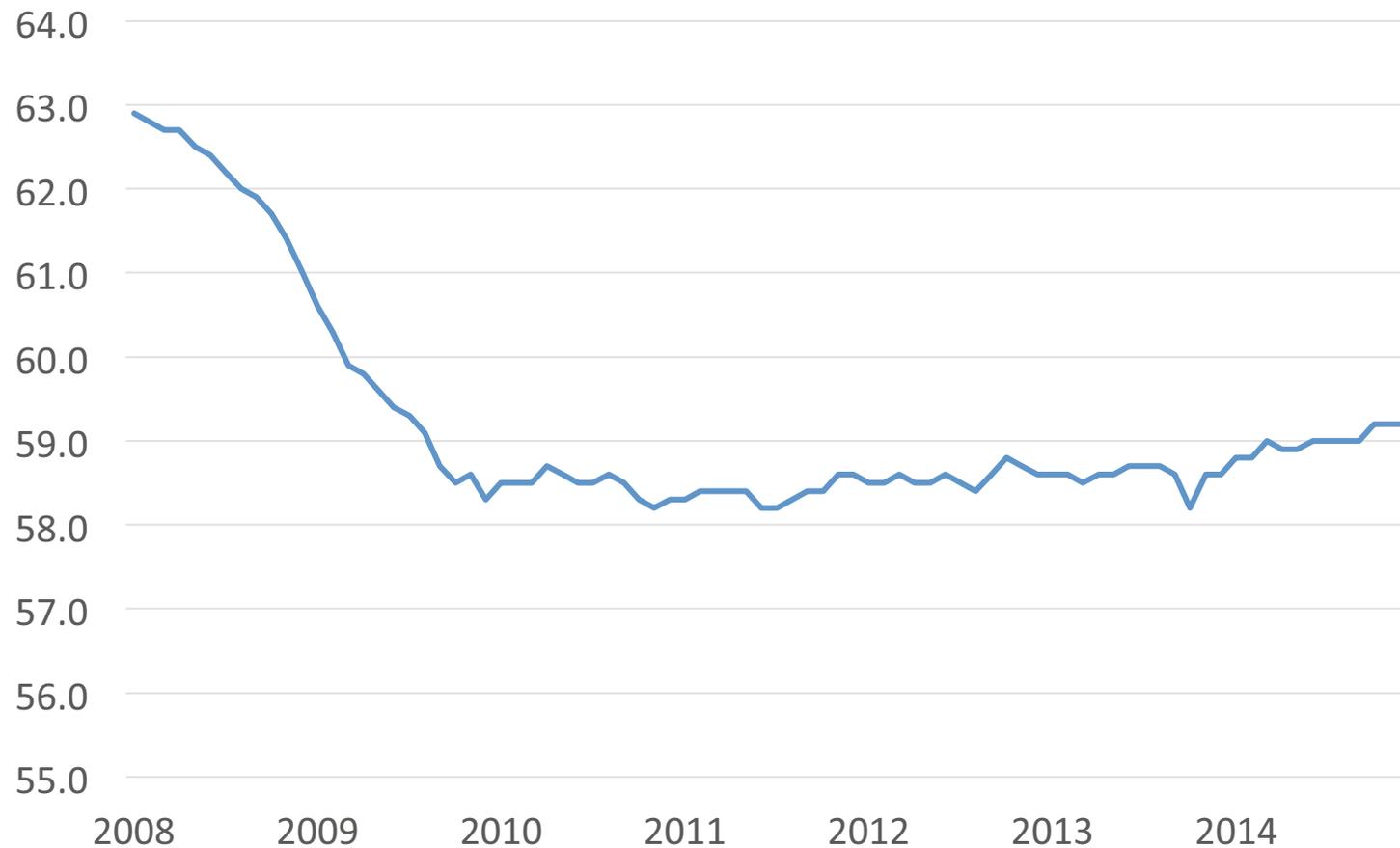
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rate (Underutilization)

	South Dakota U-3	South Dakota U-6	United States U-3	United States U-6
2009	5.0	9.9	9.3	16.2
2010	5.1	9.7	9.6	16.7
2011	4.9	9.3	8.9	15.9
2012	4.6	8.5	8.1	14.7
2013	3.6	7.1	7.4	13.8
2014	3.7	6.9	6.8	12.9

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment-Population Ratio United States



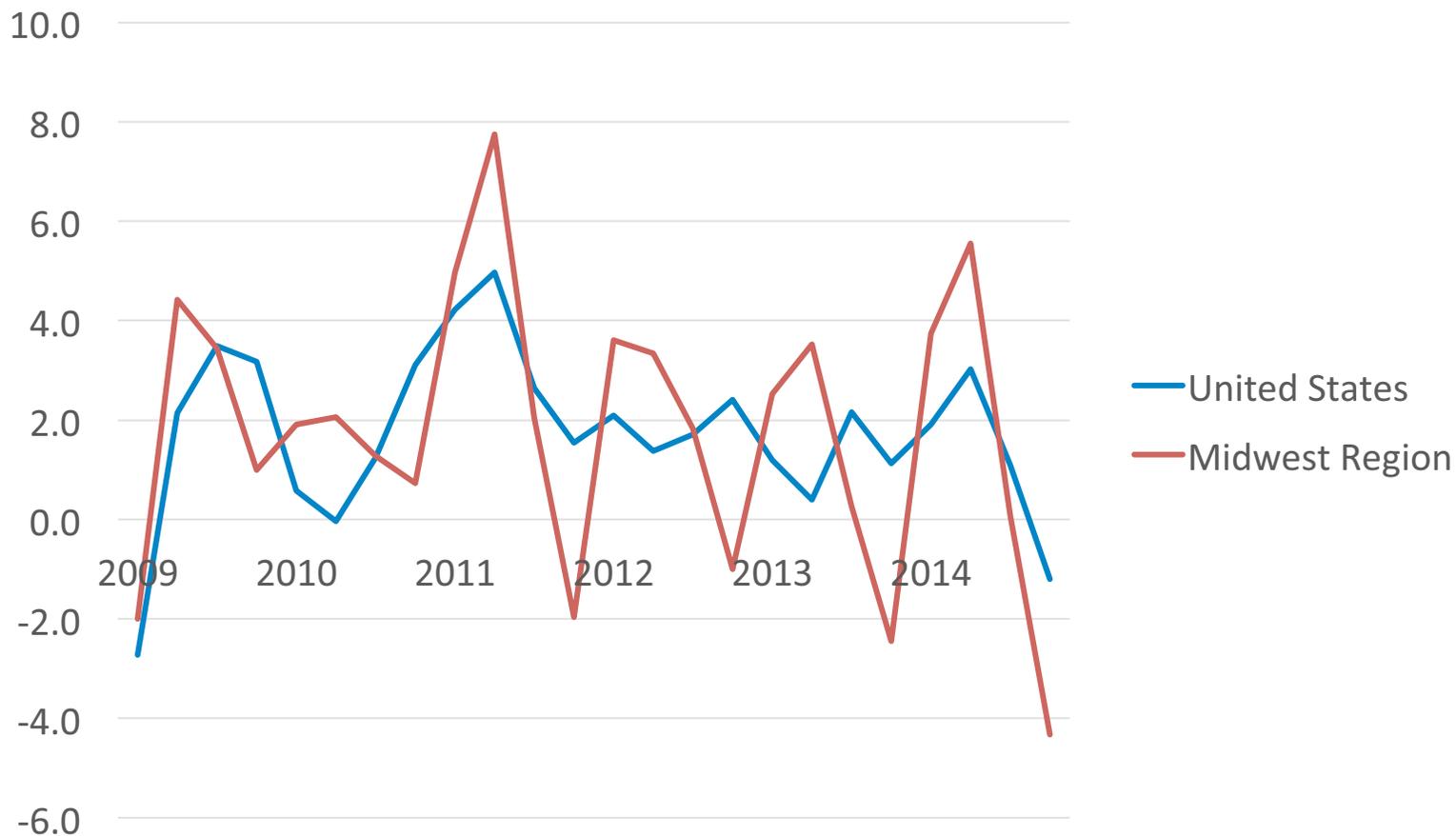
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Market Characteristics

	Employment- Population Ratio	Labor Force Participation Rate
<i>Rapid City</i>	<i>61.32%</i>	<i>65.00%</i>
South Dakota	65.65%	68.40%
United States	57.86%	63.60%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Inflation Rate (Rate of Change in CPI-All items)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

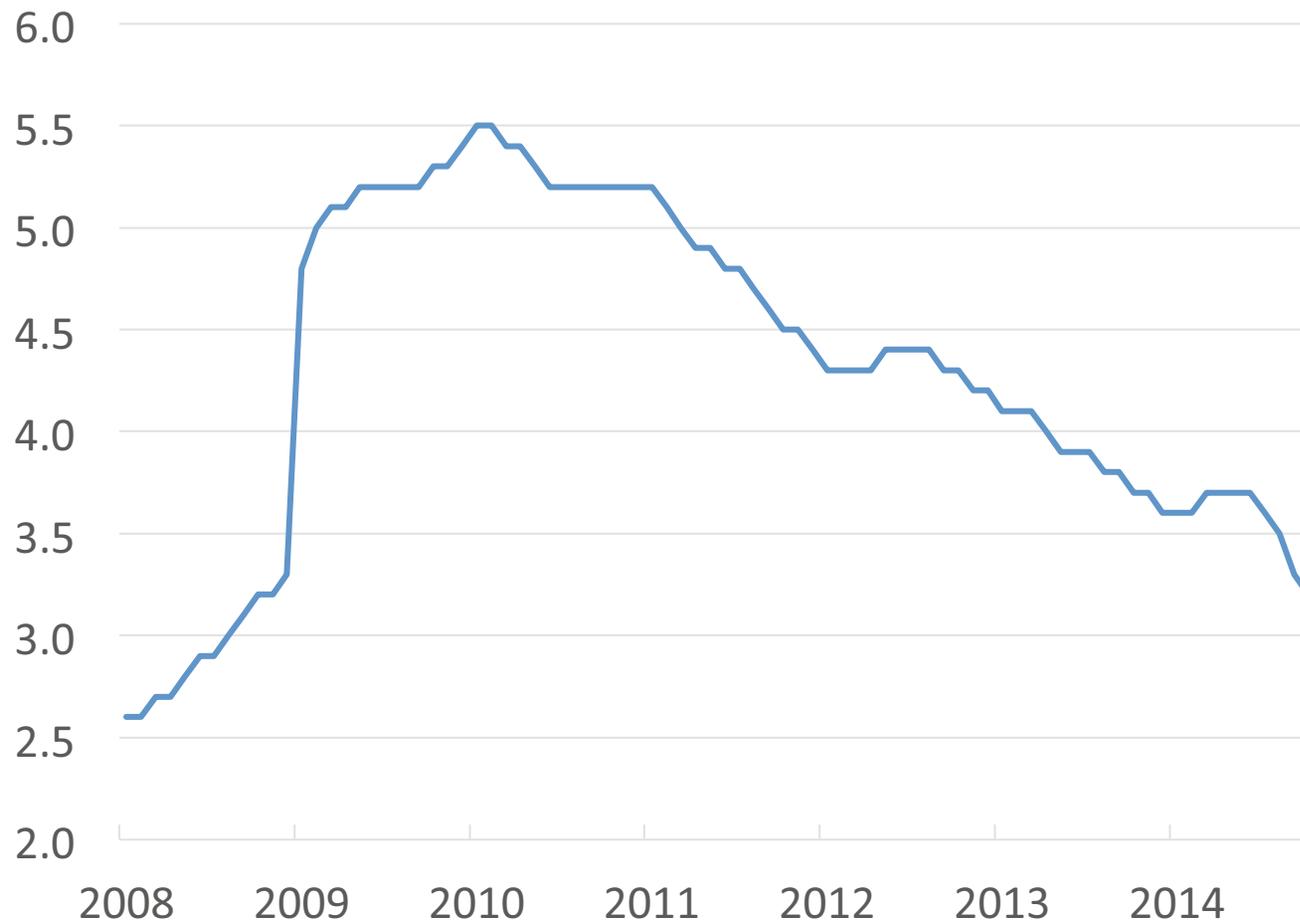
Macroeconomic Issues on the Horizon

- Exports
- Monetary Policy
- Deflation

Regional Performance

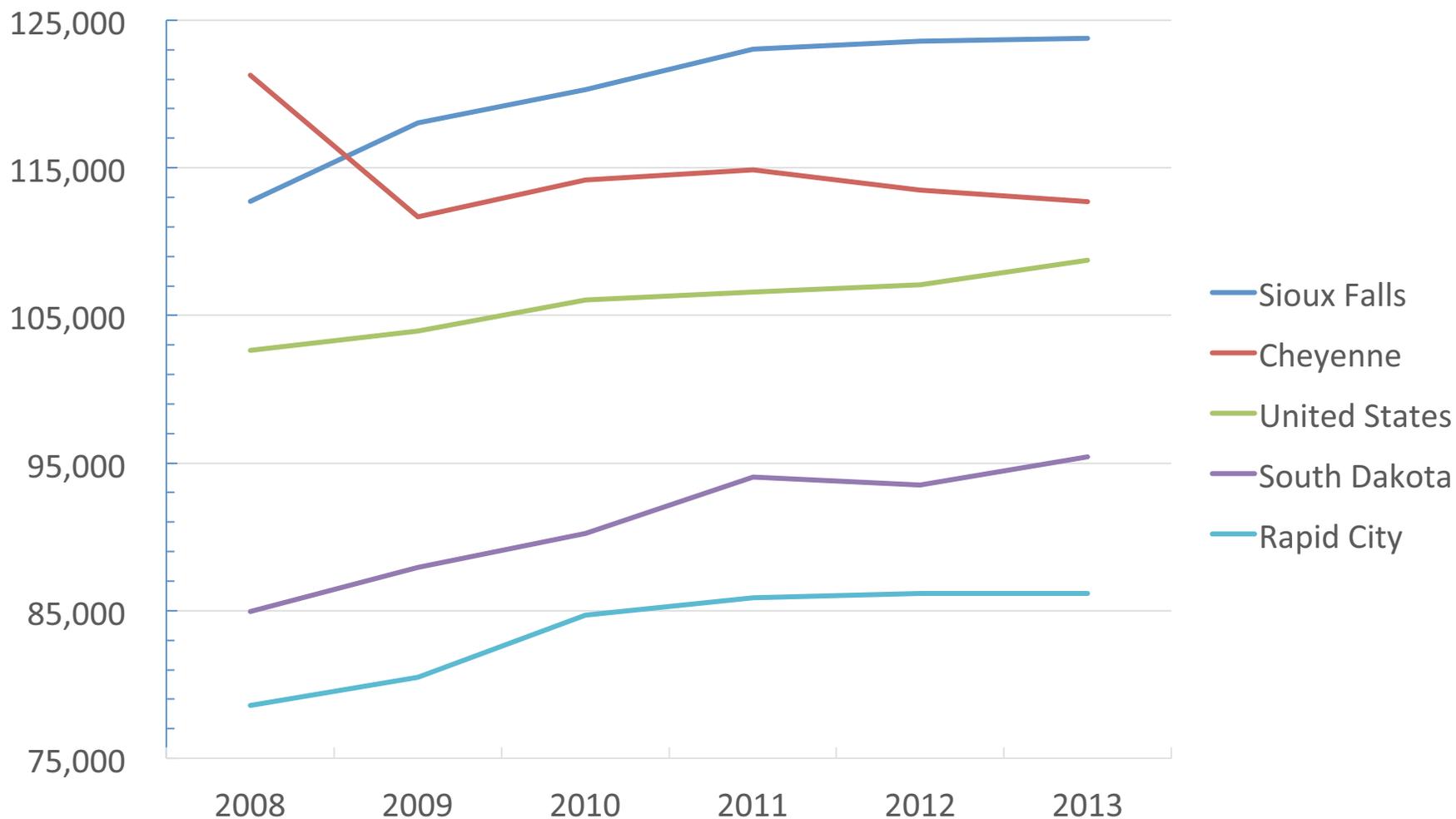
- Output growth rate is 1.0%.
- Labor force participation rate is 65.0%.
- Unemployment rate is 3.2%.
- Median Household Income in Rapid City was \$44,960 in 2013, up from \$44,626 in 2012.

Rapid City Unemployment Rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Real GDP per Employed Person



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, author's calculations

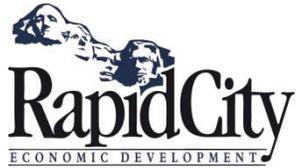
Closing Thoughts

- Thank you Black Hills Knowledge Network

blackhillsknowledgenetwork.org

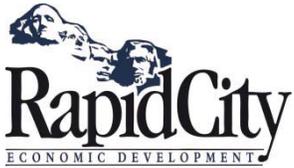


- Any questions?
- It's time to get down to business.



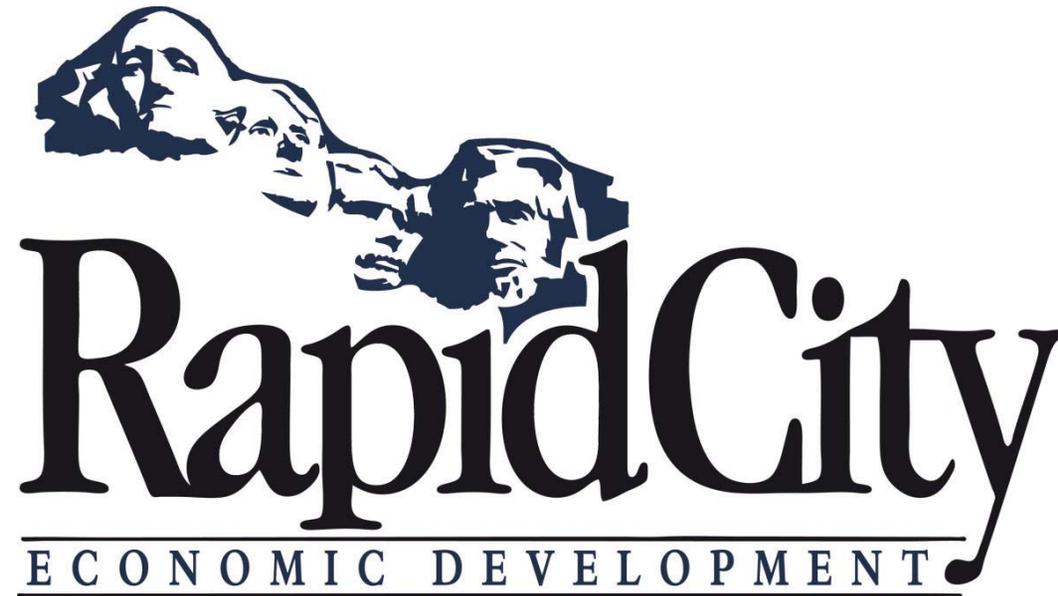
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**We Wish You All
a Successful 2015!**