



SIoux FALLS AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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**Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
Position Statements: April 8, 2014**

Ballot Issues

Recommended by IMC on Feb. 21, 2014

Approved by Executive Committee on Feb. 25, 2014

Approved by the Board of Directors on Feb. 26, 2014

Shape Places (Referred Law 3)

A “yes” vote would adopt the Shape Places zoning plan and a “no” vote would retain the City’s existing zoning ordinance

The Chamber participated in many public input and informational sessions that led to the adoption of the Shape Places ordinance by the Sioux Falls City Council. The process was thorough and provided the public ample opportunity for input and comment. Therefore, the Chamber supports the adoption of Shape Places as the new and modernized planning and zoning ordinance for Sioux Falls to provide certainty and efficiency for developers as well as clarity and the ability to participate in the process for residents.

We recommend that the City consider reviewing the ordinance to ensure that public input concerns are fully addressed and recommend a “yes” vote on the Shape Places ordinance on April 8, 2014.

85th Street and Minnesota Avenue (Referred Law 4)

A “yes” vote would result in the City proceeding with planned rezoning at 85th Street and Minnesota Avenue and a “no” vote would deny rezoning at this location.

The Chamber rarely engages in specific zoning issues at the Council level or at the community level. The administration of zoning ordinances is the responsibility of City Government through the Planning Commission and ultimately legislative action by the Sioux Falls City Council. That is how the process worked in the instance of the rezoning at 85th Street and Minnesota Avenue, but this decision was challenged and referred to a public vote in April 2014.

The Chamber believes that sound planning and development requires the predictable administration of zoning ordinances. The City of Sioux Falls has a sound process for vetting zoning issues as well as for thorough public input. We believe that this process was appropriately followed on this request.

We also believe that zoning ordinance administration needs to be well organized and consistent so that developers and citizens can proceed with certainty. Thus, we recommend a “yes” vote to support the rezoning at 85th Street and Minnesota Avenue.

POSITION STATEMENTS: 2014 Ballot Issues

Spellerberg Pool (Initiated Measure 2)

A “yes” vote would result in an outdoor pool being built at Spellerberg Park and a “no” vote would pave the way for an indoor aquatics facility at Spellerberg.

The Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce believes it is time for Sioux Falls to construct and operate a public indoor swimming facility (or facilities) to support year-round aquatic activities for all citizens and competitive swimming for local teams.

Phase 1 of the City’s aquatic facility master plan recommends adding a centralized indoor aquatics facility by 2016. Also, the City’s master plan includes recommendations on the types, sizes and locations of other public aquatic facilities within Sioux Falls for the next ten years.

We recommend a “no” vote in order for the City to move forward with an indoor aquatics facility at Spellerberg Park.