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(S.D.)-Advisory Board Worried About Location Of Native American Monument

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 12/19/2012 08:00 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - A Rapid City parks and recreation advisory board is worried a proposed location for a monument to Native Americans in Halley Park could cause issues.

The First Nations Sculpture Garden would feature four or more bronze busts of prominent Native American leaders, philosophers and historical figures.

Board Chairman Jeff Schild says parking, zoning and floodplain concerns first need to be addressed.

Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler is advising against the location, citing parking and access issues. He says Halley Park is surrounded by three busy streets, and a nearby parking lot has few spaces.

Native Americans say the site is historically significant. Hundreds of Native American families lived there in the 1930s. But by mid-century, Native Americans were pushed north.

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