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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 4, 2026
To: Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission
From: Kevin Kuchenbecker, Historic Preservation Officer
Bonny Anfinson, Program Coordinator
Re: Outside of Deadwood Grant Project Change Request

Historic Rapid City received a \$5,000 Outside of Deadwood Grant in Round 2 of 2026 to reconstruct the decorative chimney at the McGillicuddy House, a historic residence at 727 South Street in Rapid City. Built in 1887 and recognized as a contributing structure in the West Boulevard Historic District, the house is undergoing restoration to preserve its historic character and support its planned use as a museum interpreting the region's medical history. The chimney project was identified as an appropriate use of grant funds because it would restore a prominent exterior architectural feature and advance the grant program's broader purpose of protecting historic properties that contribute to an understanding of Deadwood and South Dakota history.

The applicant is requesting permission to redirect the \$5,000 grant award from reconstruction of the decorative chimney to restoration of the historic wood floor. Although the floor work may contribute to the building's overall rehabilitation and future museum use, approving the request would replace the exterior project evaluated during the grant review process with a different interior improvement. The proposed change would therefore leave the chimney work unfunded and postpone restoration of a highly visible architectural feature included in the approved project scope.

The Projects Committee reviewed the request in relation to the original award and the preservation objectives of the Outside of Deadwood Grant Program. Committee members reached a consensus that the decorative chimney is a prominent exterior element that contributes substantially to the historic appearance, architectural character, and public view of the McGillicuddy House. Because the grant was awarded specifically to reconstruct this feature, the committee determined that retaining the approved scope would provide the clearest preservation benefit and remain most consistent with the purpose of the original funding decision. Redirecting the award to the wood floor would shift the project away from the exterior work on which the grant recommendation was based. The committee recommends denying the requested change.

Recommended Motion:

Move to deny the request because the chimney is a significant feature of the structure's exterior appearance and it was the original scope of work for the grant.