

**Craig, Sondra**

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**From:** Anthony Longo <alongo@scenicbluffs.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 1, 2024 8:14 AM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members  
**Subject:** Zoning change in La Crosse

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Dear City Councilman:

I am writing in support of changing the zoning of the building at 212 S. 11th St to TND. As a dentist currently employed by the center, I would like to voice my support in favor of the approval of the zoning that will allow our dental practice in La Crosse to be co-located in the 212 St. 11<sup>th</sup> Street building with other important support services, including Scenic Bluffs behavioral health and primary care providers.

Having work experience in several dental offices including private practice, I can say that being able to treat patients regardless of their ability to pay often removes major roadblocks from their care and allows us to deliver excellent patient experience. Being able to provide the treatment in the same building that we offer medical services has its advantages; I have personally referred many patients with dangerously high blood pressures to our medical department, allowing faster more efficient treatment of their blood pressure.

While our organization exists primarily to treat the underserved population, it is important to understand that the majority of our patients are people that have jobs and families and simply do not have the financial means of being able to afford healthcare anywhere else. The alternative to receiving the much-needed care that we provide is to go on a long wait list at another office many miles away. Clearly, allowing us to open an additional office at this location would allow a faster, more efficient use of both our and our patients time in providing accessible healthcare to people in La Crosse.

I urge you to vote in favor of changing the zoning at this address such that it will allow a fast office opening in La Crosse. The very people that make up the community are in dire need of a local organization that provides the services we can deliver.

## **Anthony Longo DDS**

Dentist

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