

Re: Agenda item #6 1508 Liberty Street OTP #1

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Kristine, and I submitted an offer to purchase 1508 Liberty Street.

In December of 2021, I happened upon the Replacement Housing Program and was looking at this exact home. Early in 2022, I spoke with Diane McGinnis Casey, and she said she thought 1508 Liberty Street would be on the market in the spring. In February 2022, I virtually attended La Crosse County's Foster Care Training to begin the licensing process. It ended up not being the right time to apply for the home, so I postponed becoming a foster parent since I live in a one-bedroom apartment.

On 11/11/22, I called Diane and spoke with her about the Replacement Housing Program. When she asked which property I was inquiring about, I said, "I'm afraid to say because it's probably already spoken for", hesitated, and said, "1508 Liberty Street." She said no offers had been placed on it yet. I was absolutely amazed that it was still available. That evening I began the application process.

The following week, as I was completing the online application and double-checking everything before submitting it, my heart sank when I came across the statement "There are to be no additional persons living in the home, other than those originally disclosed on the initial application, and again stated below." Just the day before, on a phone call with Jonah Denson, I shared that I was applying for this home to have room to foster. After I submitted the application on 11/19/22, I emailed him and said, "I am applying for this home in order to have extra bedrooms so I can foster children. You thought fostering would be allowed. If fostering is not allowed, I would not want to pursue this any further." That is my heart. This home is not just for me. It's to share.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristine Wick