

**Elsen, Nikki**

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**From:** David Baumann <baumannbusiness6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2023 1:41 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members  
**Subject:** Please preserve budget for Hear, Here

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Dear Members of the City Plan Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the award-winning Hear, Here project. My household was shocked to learn that the Commission was considering cutting it from the capital budget. Besides it being a relatively inconsequential amount of money for the city, considering the other expenses contained in the budget, it's unbelievable that any resident would be well-served by eliminating such a publicly accessible and ongoing opportunity for exposure to local history for residents and visitors. My family, including our three children, have benefited greatly by hearing the actual voices preserved in the historical tour of La Crosse that is provided by Hear, Here.

We are happy to hear that an amendment was passed to reinstate it into the capital budget, and we are also happy to hear that there is consideration of the project being expanded to the north side of the city.

We hope that no further challenges arise to expanding the arts and humanities in our city, especially in the wonderfully inclusive way that Hear, Here has implemented it.

Sincerely,  
David Baumann