

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Elsen, Nikki  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 7:27 AM  
**To:** Craig, Sondra  
**Subject:** FW: Homeless encampments

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**From:** Catherine Bauer <cbauer1124@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 18, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members <zzcouncilmembers@cityoflacrosse.org>  
**Subject:** Homeless encampments

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I am contacting the Council in advance of a vote I understand is happening on July 13 regarding the homeless encampment issue currently plaguing our city. The current laws & ordinances that are not being enforced to prohibit homeless encampments in our City parks, streets & parking ramps are creating a public health & safety hazard.

The homeless population in the City of La Crosse has increased due to lax policies and liberal handouts that encourage more homeless to seek these taxpayer funded entitlement handouts. Homeless are moving TO La Crosse because of these handouts & lax policies!

The current public health & safety issues created by the dangerous population currently allowed to build tent cities in our parks is unacceptable. This is not about compassion. This is about allowing rampant drug & alcohol use without regard to the safety concerns of the taxpayers of this City. Thousands of dollars expended to continue to clean up the parks are the funds that the taxpayers have entrusted to the City. The decay happening in the heart of the Downtown district is affecting businesses - another tax source that is entrusted to the City.

The solution needs to start with enforcement of the current laws. The parks and parking ramps are currently unsafe. It is the City's responsibility to keep the citizens SAFE. If a tax paying citizen of this City was camping on public property & engaging in illegal drug activity, they would be arrested. The only acceptable direction for the Council to take is to mandate that laws are enforced. If there is an issue with our judicial system carrying out the penalties, we need to address that as well.

You are working for the Citizens of La Crosse. Do the job you were elected to do and carry out the laws & ordinances already on the books that we expect in order to protect our safety.

Regards,  
Cathy Bauer  
4115 Cliffside Dr.  
La Crosse, WI 54601