

Duffer, Erin

From: Acklin, Tim
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Duffer, Erin
Cc: 'Amy Vach'
Subject: RE: Support for Budget Item 733, Page 18, LCHS Museum Planning Studies

Erin,

Please add as a letter of support for the Museum CIP Item.

Thanks.

Tim Acklin, AICP
Planning Administrator
City of La Crosse
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From: Amy Vach <vach.amy@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 12:28 PM
To: Acklin, Tim <Acklint@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: Support for Budget Item 733, Page 18, LCHS Museum Planning Studies

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Mr. Acklin,

I would like to express my personal support for budget item 733, Page 18, LCHS Museum Planning Studies, in the 2022 budget.

The proposed museum planning studies are the next step in achieving the museum that the Coulee Region deserves. The La Crosse County Historical Society holds thousands of artifacts preserved for the public good that tell the stories of life in the Coulee Region. A regional history museum in La Crosse would clearly benefit tourism and the large cruise boats that visit La Crosse, but it would also benefit our entire community.

Reading about history versus seeing the artifacts in person is a drastically different learning experience. For example, think about the logging industry and imagine seeing in-person the two-man saw that loggers used to fell trees, the hammers they used to brand the logs so they would be sent to the correct sawmill, the pikes and cant hooks they used to break up logjams and move the logs down the river, the spiked shoes that the men wore to dangerously climb across the logs as to get them to the proper sawmill. Seeing these artifacts in person tells the story of our community and creates a sense of meaning-making and memories that can only be fostered in a museum. The La Crosse Area Heritage Center provides a taste of what a new museum in La Crosse could be. I will never forget the understanding and joy that I see wash over visitors when they engage with logging artifacts at the Heritage Center and finally understand a piece of our shared history that they thought they understood. The logging industry is just one small aspect of our history.

The Coulee Region deserves the opportunity to engage with our stories and history on a larger scale.

Thank you for your consideration,

Amy Vach