

Craig, Sondra

From: Elsen, Nikki
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 8:13 AM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: FW: Rezoning the historic brick fish hatchery

From: Lesley A Stugelmayer <lastugelmayer@viterbo.edu>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Elsen, Nikki <Elsenn@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: Rezoning the historic brick fish hatchery

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July 30, 2021

Nikki Elsen, City Clerk
City Hall 2nd Floor
400 La Crosse St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Nikki Elsen,

We have had the wonderful privilege of living at RiverPlace apartments since December 2018 and have witnessed the vitality of Riverside Park and the Friendship Gardens. Residents of the La Crosse area and region of all ages, in addition to tourists, have enjoyed walking through the peace and tranquility of the Friendship Gardens. People enjoy watching the river boats, paddle wheel boats and barges go up and down the Mississippi. This area is alive with many activities including biking, hiking, walking, rollerblading, picnicking, and reading by the river. Students, family and friends gather to visit with each other in this lovely environment filled with nature all around.

We feel the proposed rezoning initiative of the historic brick fish hatchery into an event venue serving 100-110 people with the possibility of serving alcohol does not fit the serenity of the lovely Friendship Gardens. It would serve a limited clientele and the majority of people visiting Riverside would not benefit from an event center such as a wedding venue. Problems with increased traffic, noise, pollution, parking (even with shuttle service), litter, and issues related to alcohol would certainly ensue. We are also concerned the peace and tranquility of the Friendship Gardens which so many frequent and enjoy, would be disrupted. There are already event centers in the area including the La Crosse Center, Waterfront, and Radisson Hotel.

We understand the desire and need to utilize the historic brick building to get more revenue for the city. We encourage more problem-solving as to other options that would better serve the entire La Crosse community and tourists such as a coffee/ice cream shop, art venue including the work of La Crosse artists, or Welcoming Center for Riverboat passengers and tourists visiting our wonderful city and Mississippi River.

We hope our concerns will be considered in making a final decision on this proposal.
Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Lesley and Glenn Stugelmayer