



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Economic and Community Development Commission

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

3:00 PM

Council Chambers

Call to Order

Chair Reynolds called this meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Douglas Happel, Linda Lee, Chris Kahlow, Vicki Markussen, Mary Rohrer, Mitch Reynolds

Excused: 1 - Gina Miller

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Happel, seconded by Lee that the minutes be APPROVED. Voice vote carried unanimously.

Agenda Items:

[25-0253](#)

Public Hearing for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Public Hearing

Attachments: [2.19.25_La Crosse Analysis of Impediments.pdf](#)
[25-0253 Staff Report.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to open Public Hearing. Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to close Public Hearing. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0263](#)

Resolution approving the Sale of Surplus Property at 2710 Onalaska Avenue.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
[Photo of 2710 Onalaska Avenue](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[CPC Staff Report 03312025.25-0263.MK](#)

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Markussen to APPROVE this

resolution. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0364](#)

Action on Offer to Purchase 608 Rose St

Attachments: [25-0364 Staff Report - OTP 608 Rose St.pdf](#)
 [25-0364 Development Agreement 608 Rose St.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to **APPROVE** this purchase.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to **AMEND** this stating the property must be listed for sale for 180 days before becoming a rental.

A voice vote was taken to **APPROVE** as **AMENDED**, voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0353](#)

Consideration and Possible Action on HOME - Community Housing Development Organization Application

Attachments: [HOME CHDO Application 2025 Habitat for Humanity.pdf](#)
 [25-0353 Staff Report.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to **APPROVE** this application. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0271](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application from the Hmong Cultural and Community Center.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Hmoob application](#)

Meeting went into Recess

Meeting Reconvened

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session. Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to **APPROVE** this at an award amount of \$10,000. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0273](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application for North La Crosse Business Association.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [NLBA application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to APPROVE this at an award amount of \$7,500. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0282](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application for Hope Restores.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Hope Restores application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to APPROVE this at an award amount of \$10,000. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0323](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application for Central Conservation, Inc. (DBA Wisconsin Conservation Corps) (WisCorps).
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Central Conservation, Inc. application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to APPROVE this at an award amount of \$19,500. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0329](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application from La Crosse County for SMRT Bus.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session

pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [La Crosse County SMRT Bus application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to **APPROVE** this at an award amount of \$8,500. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0348](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application for Outdoor Recreation Alliance Of The Seven Rivers Region, Inc.

(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [ORA application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to **DENY** this application.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0349](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application from Friends of the Blufflands, Inc.

(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Friends of the Blufflands application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Rohrer to **APPROVE** this at an award amount of \$10,000. Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0363](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application from Riverside International Friendship Gardens.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Riverside International Friendship Gardens application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Kahlow to DENY this application.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

[25-0366](#)

Consideration and possible action on Community Enhancement Grant application from Sacred Voice.
(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

Attachments: [Sacred Voice application](#)

Commissioner Markussen recused herself.

Unanimous consent from the commission to open public hearing.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Lee to go into close session.
Voice vote carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Kahlow to APPROVE this at an award amount of \$5,000. Voice vote carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Chair Reynolds adjourned this meeting at 4:45 PM.

Economic and Community Development Commission Members:
Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Chris Kahlow, Doug Happel, Linda Lee, Gina Miller, Mary Rohrer, & Vicki Markussen.