

## Elsen, Nikki

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**From:** Elyse Olson <olson.elyse@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members  
**Subject:** Washburn

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Hello,

I am writing regarding 432 Division/ 608 5th Ave S. My husband and I, with our two young boys (and twin girls on the way) reside at 613 5th Ave S. We appreciate the time and thought that each of you have put forward thus far into rezoning Mr. Lopez's property.

Over the last 3.5 years of living in Washburn, we have seen such amazing improvement. The city of La Crosse has provided paint/fix up grants to improve homes, loans with low interest rates to change duplexes into single family homes, and more. The police in La Crosse have supported us numerous times as we have watched hundreds of drug deals go on before our eyes. All that has just begun to change in the last several months! We have felt Washburn shift to an area where we are comfortable raising our 4 young kids.

We have become familiar with Mr. Lopez's properties as many of the major crime issues have originated from his units. We have seen the police over there, more than him as a landlord. When his previously owned property was in transition, I called Mr. Lopez to ask if he may screen his tenants more closely, he was abrasive and defensive. Over the 1.5-2 years that he was the owner of our neighbor's home, it became a literal junk yard. Eventually that building was condemned. Now under different ownership, a man named Alex, who lives in our neighborhood, his tenants contribute to the neighborhood positively instead of taking resources from the city.

My husband and I understand that Reliant will be temporarily managing his properties. In our experience here, those on the lease, are rarely the only ones living in the homes. We are tired, very tired, of waking up in the middle of the night to crime. And we feel that a 12 unit apartment building will only make matters worse. We would love to see this building be used for something that would bring our neighborhood together and contribute towards Washburn and the city of La Crosse. A fitness center with basketball courts, 2 single family homes... we are willing to work together to figure out something that works for both Mr. Lopez as well as those of us who reside in Washburn.

If anyone would like to talk further, please email me or call me at 720-449-6182. I would love to chat more in depth.

Thanks again for your work and for hearing us,

Elyse Olson

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