

ORDINANCE NO.: _____

AN ORDINANCE to amend Section 2-551 to 2-553 and create Section 2-554 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission and neighborhood association recognition.

THE COMMON COUNCIL of the City of La Crosse do ordain as follows:

SECTION I: Section 2-551 to 2-553 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-551. Creation and Membership.

There shall be a Neighborhood Revitalization Commission ~~consisting of five neighborhood representatives and three at-large representatives for a term of two years and that the neighborhood association representatives be "officers" of the organization, three Council Members, one County Board Supervisor, and one representative from the Apartment Association of the La Crosse Area whose members shall be appointed by the Mayor subject to approval by the Council.~~ No salary or compensation shall be paid to any member of said Commission for such member's services as Commissioner. The Neighborhood Revitalization Commission shall be staffed by the Planning and Development Department. All members shall be residents of the City and consist of:

~~(1) One representative from each of the five Neighborhood Associations that have a Neighborhood Plan adopted by the Common Council as well as adopted by laws, Chair, Vice-Chair, regularly scheduled meetings that meet not less than quarterly and an annual action plan. Six members representing different recognized Neighborhood Associations as defined in Section 2-554. The Neighborhood Association Leaders may timely recommend qualified persons to the Mayor for appointment, subject to Common Council approval. No recognized neighborhood association may have a member from their association serve for more than two consecutive terms.~~

~~(2) Three at-large representatives. The Mayor of the City of La Crosse who will serve as chair of the Commission or appoint a Commission member as chair, subject to Council confirmation.~~

~~(3) Three One Council Member, one from a district outside of the five Neighborhood Associations and one from a district representing the five Neighborhood Associations.~~

~~(4) In the event that a Neighborhood Association does not qualify under this section to have representation appointed to this Commission, this vacancy shall be filled by a representative appointed at large.~~

~~(5) One representative who is a County Board Supervisor and who represents a district within the City of La Crosse's municipal limits in an area of one of the five Neighborhood Associations.~~

~~(6) One representative from the Apartment Association of the La Crosse Area.~~

(5) One representative from the La Crosse Neighborhood Development Corporation

(6) One representative from a major institution or employer in the City.

Sec. 2-552. Purpose.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission is to act as an advisory body to the Common Council in implementing the Comprehensive Plan (primarily the Neighborhoods and Housing Element), ~~the RENEW Plan, the City and County of La Crosse Housing Task Force Report titled "La Crosse Housing: A Plan to Reinvest in the City's Housing Market~~ the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission Action Plan, and any Specific recognized Neighborhood Association Plans; ~~as well as addressing issues common to all the City's neighborhoods.~~ The Neighborhood Revitalization Commission's purpose is also to support and provide education to, as well as advise on policy for all of the City's neighborhoods.

Sec. 2-553. Powers and duties.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Commission shall:

(1) Advise the Common Council on updating, maintaining, and implementing the Comprehensive Plan (primarily the Neighborhoods and Housing Element), the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission Action Plan, RENEW Plan, the City and County of La Crosse Housing Task Force Report titled "La Crosse Housing: A Plan to Reinvest in the City's Housing Market," the five any Neighborhood Plans adopted by the Common Council and the Neighborhood and Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan any special plans or reports related to neighborhoods.

(2) ~~Advise residents to help solve their own neighborhood problems to prevent the decline and deterioration of neighborhoods.~~ Provide direction to neighborhood residents on how to advocate for neighborhood development, planning, and improvement projects.

(3) ~~Review and advise zoning proposals, Conditional Use Permits, ordinance amendments and resolutions affecting neighborhoods, as needed.~~

(43) Make recommendations to the City with regard to the capital and operating budget to identify neighborhood needs, services, rehabilitation efforts, development or capital improvements.

(54) Advise the Council on methods to utilize available resources to meet neighborhood needs through collaboration with community groups, agencies and other cities and organizations (e.g., neighborhood clean-up programs, Neighbor Day).

(65) Explore and advise of projects and policy affecting neighborhoods focused on housing, rehabilitation, preservation, economic development, renovation, environment, transportation, schools, libraries, parks, and community projects.

(76) Recommend strategies to neighborhoods and provide staff with input on a variety of community projects and programs, including, without limitation:

- a. Gang and Drug Prevention Strategies.
- b. Criminal Abatement Strategies.
- c. Code Enforcement and Maintenance Strategies.
- d. Creation of Block Watch Programs.
- e. Publication and distribution of educational materials, such as pamphlets or locally-produced PEG channel programming, including without limitation, remodeling or updating a home, landscaping and community resources.
- f. Graffiti Prevention and Elimination Strategies.

g. Neighborhood organizing, board development and volunteer recruitment.

(7) Inform residents on how to start-up and become a recognized neighborhood association, provide organizational and technical information to strengthen existing neighborhood associations, and coordinate capacity building and technical workshops for neighborhood leaders.

(8) Provide neighborhood leadership training and seek grant funds to engage residents and/or to physically improve neighborhoods.

(9) Facilitate and support neighborhood-based planning and the development of neighborhood action plans that address strategic neighborhood issues.

SECTION II: Section 2-554 is hereby created to read as follows:

Sec. 2-554. – Neighborhood Association Recognition.

In order for a neighborhood to qualify as a recognized “Neighborhood Association,” it needs to meet the criteria as defined by the Department of Planning and Development. A copy of the guidelines and regulations can be obtained from the Department of Planning and Development.

SECTION III: Should any portion of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this division shall not be affected.

SECTION IV: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Timothy Kabat, Mayor

Teri Lehrke, City Clerk

Passed:

Approved:

Published: