

Craig, Sondra

From: James Wheat <jandswheat@icloud.com>
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To: ZZ City Clerk External
Subject: Former South Branch Library

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To whom it may concern:

I have learned that the recent naming of the former South Branch Library building in La Crosse as an Historic Landmark is being appealed by the Mayor of La Crosse. That nomination was approved after a thorough process of study and oversight by the committee charged with preserving and protecting the city's heritage. The recent award of purchase and re-use of the facility was given to a proposal that will both preserve the structure and contribute to the city's tax base. In addition, the project addresses the need for additional housing in the city.

It is not clear whether the mayor's opposition to the Historical Landmark status is motivated by the restrictions placed on the use of the structure or other concerns, but the many residents of the area surrounding the former library have, through petitions, letters, and attendance at committee hearings, made it clear that they embrace the Landmark status of the building, and have accepted the repurposing of the structure as a viable compromise.

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