

Craig, Sondra

From: Sara Nelson <nelsar7@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 11:06 AM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: Support Real Solutions to Homelessness – Vote Yes on Resolution 25-0682 and No on 25-0723

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Dear Members of the La Crosse City Council,

I'm writing to urge you to support **Resolution 25-0682 – Housing Access for All** and to oppose **Resolution 25-0723 – \$115,000 for Park Security**. These decisions will significantly shape how our community addresses homelessness—not just through short-term fixes, but with long-term, compassionate solutions.

Resolution 25-0682 presents an opportunity for real progress. By allowing the City to lease housing units and sublease them to individuals experiencing homelessness, we open doors for people who are ready to live independently but face barriers due to rental or criminal histories. These are not individuals without hope or drive—they are community members seeking a fair shot at stability.

This program:

- Uses **no City funds**, relying instead on generous support from **Mayo Clinic**.
- Aligns directly with the **Pathways Home initiative**, reinforcing our commitment to evidence-based, person-centered solutions.
- Offers a dignified pathway out of homelessness and into long-term housing, which benefits not only those housed, but the health, safety, and wellbeing of our entire community.

In contrast, **Resolution 25-0723** would allocate **\$115,000 in City funding** toward increased security in downtown parks and parking ramps. While public safety is undoubtedly important, this investment does not address the root causes of homelessness. In fact, it risks deepening the barriers for the very people we aim to support through Pathways Home. Surveillance and policing alone will not build trust or create lasting change—it will only push people further to the margins.

Please vote **YES on Resolution 25-0682** and **NO on Resolution 25-0723**. Let's invest in people, not just policing.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to building a stronger, more equitable La Crosse.

Sincerely,

Sara Nelson