

June 3, 2024

Resolution 24-0701
Land Parcel 50325-200
Rivercrest Drive North Land Dispute

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Danielle Platek, and I am writing on behalf of my sister Lara Philbrick-Dewald, a long-time resident of the Rivercrest Village Mobile Home Park in La Crosse, WI. My sister is living in one of the six mobile homes currently under dispute between the City of La Crosse and the Real Estate Owners of the Rivercrest Village Mobile Home Park.

This dispute is due to the flood control project involving Pammel Creek that dates back to 1997. At that time the City leased the land to the Rivercrest Village owners for 25 years. That lease was up in 2022 and has been extended a couple times. The lease ends June 30, 2024 and the residents of these six mobile homes (which they own) have been told they must leave and move their mobile homes out of the area. This is an impossible feat for these individuals and this all came with little to no warning and absolutely NO prior disclosure.

This has been my sister's home for over 14 years. She loves her home. She feels safe in her neighborhood. She enjoys her community. She pays her rent on time. Bottom line, is she is innocent in this matter, and yet, because of this dispute she may be asked to forgo her home, all of her belongings, her memories, and more. What's more is there are five other parties involved that also stand to lose it all.

This may be a small dispute in your eyes, but it is one that has grand ramifications on innocent community members. Surely you can come to an agreement that will not leave these families of La Crosse homeless. This situation has caused all of them stress and despair beyond belief. They have been placed in an impossible situation.

My hope is that the residents of Rivercrest Drive North will be heard. I hope the Mayor, City Council Members and the Rivercrest Village Owners will work together to find a solution so that my sister and her surrounding neighbors can stay in their homes. Otherwise, they will need to pay to cover the expenses to move these residents to other equitable and suitable locations. There is already a shortage of affordable housing in La Crosse as well as a significant homeless problem. Let's not add to those problems by displacing people who love their homes and are managing their lives. These people need to be treated with fairness and justice by all parties involved and by the La Crosse area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I will be following the verdict closely.

Sincerely,

Danielle Platek