

Craig, Sondra

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Sent: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:40 PM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: Pedestrian lighting on Main Street

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Dear City Council members,

When I received an email from the Downtown Neighborhood Association encouraging attendance at tonight's City Council meeting in support of pedestrian lighting on Main Street between 7th and West, my family cheered.

We live at 922 Main St., a single-family home between 9th and 10th, and while we love the location for its history and convenience—living between the Main Library and the YMCA was especially great when raising kids—we have struggled with issues of vandalism and theft the entire 19 years we have lived in this home.

Living as we are between downtown bars and UW-La Crosse, our children have grown up with Halloween pumpkins being smashed, porch furniture being stolen or destroyed, and dozens of yard signs gone missing (we'd go through three or four Super Reader signs a summer). Oktoberfest is an especially unique time for us.

The walkability of our neighborhood is curbed as soon as the sun goes down, as our block gets extremely dark, and no one feels safe walking or biking after dark.

We think improved lighting would help all of these issues:

- decreased crime
- discouragement of students/unsheltered folks loitering on our front porch
- a more welcoming neighborhood feel
- greatly improved safety, especially for our imminent neighbors in the Haven on Main

We've seen the improvements to attractive lighting and signage our neighbors on King and Cass have received, and we think, why not us?

City Council members, please take a stand for us La Crosse citizens living west of West, and vote to install pedestrian lighting on our street.

Thank you!

Betty Christiansen and Andrew Miles (and Eliot, Ivy, and Elin)