CITY OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN CITY PLAN COMMISSION REPORT October 4, 2021

➤ AGENDA ITEM – 21-1193 (Lewis Kuhlman)

Resolution approving the vacation of Farwell Street.

ROUTING: F&P 10.7.21

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Fire Department applied for this vacation and plans to build a fire station in Goose Town Park. The fire station would have street access on La Crosse St. and Oakland St. according to their <u>preliminary plan and report</u> reviewed on Sept. 21st. This document shows Farwell St. still there, but the final plan will likely make use of the expanded parcel area. The station may also benefit from eliminating traffic conflicts from the vacated street. The Common Council approved the vacation of 14th St, so UW-L will likely not have any objections as long as there can be emergency vehicle access to their buildings.

La Crosse's Transportation Vision discourages the vacation of streets. It makes an analogy of a "death by a thousand cuts" to La Crosse's street network. This is evident in UW-L campus where there are no through streets between West Ave. to 23rd St (11 blocks) or La Crosse St. to State St. (4-5 blocks). Farwell has not been a through street in decades, though.

> GENERAL LOCATION:

Aldermanic District 5, Grandview-Emerson Neighborhood, two blocks from West Ave, and one block south of La Crosse St. as depicted in Map 21-1193. Adjacent properties include Goose Town Park, Coates Hall, and student resident parking lot.

> RECOMMENDATION OF OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

The Board of Public Works will likely make a recommendation on Oct. 4th.

> CONSISTENCY WITH ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

This vacation is consistent with a land use objective to provide for institutional growth while protecting the character and integrity of the surrounding neighborhoods.

> PLANNING RECOMMENDATION:

Approval – Using the right-of-way for the fire station and new dorm may benefit the safety of Fire Department and nearby students.





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