

Craig, Sondra

From: David Polodna <dpolo@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 2:58 PM
To: ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External; Rebecca Schwarz
Subject: South Branch Library Designation

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Greetings:

I am writing to protest the Mayor's efforts to override the will of the people, particularly the residents of the HTLNA area. Mr. Riel very carefully, strongly, and rightly justified the historic designation for that building. The Commission then, after considerable deliberation, approved the designation. There is no valid reason to second guess a Commission that represents the citizens of La Crosse.

It seems clear that the Mayor decided long ago that he wanted the South Community Library eliminated, and perhaps he has a personal interest in supporting a project like the Spies proposal. But that developer, in the first place, was asking the City (and here we're talking about the taxpayers) to essentially give them a gift of the land so that they could construct homes that would destroy not only the library building but the park as well. There was no interest in, or support among the residents of the neighborhood for, that six-home desecration of that property.

Of course, we don't know the Mayor's actual motivation, but it doesn't really matter because the historic designation is meaningful, correct, and desirable. And the property, under the Willow Grove proposal, will provide a reasonable purchase price and the tax base that was specified and necessary for the site's disposition.

I beseech you to not disrespect the decision of the Commission and the citizens. Please proceed with the preferred Willow Grove proposal and honor the significance of the library branch building and its contribution to the park and the neighborhood.

Respectfully,

David L. Polodna
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