

Dear City Planning Commission,

I am grateful for the opportunity to write in support of three funding requests up for consideration on the 2021-2025 Capital Projects Budget. As a recent high school graduate, I know myself to lack a thorough understanding of our local government and budget concerns. However, as a dedicated student, deeply involved climate advocate, and young adult coming of age during this tumultuous time, I believe my concerns to be especially significant. This is my future being built.

First, I ask for your approval of **Request 436 (Ferry Street - 11th St. to 15th St.)**. As a Ferry Street resident, I am uniquely qualified to recommend Ferry Street for repair. The current state of the street makes it potentially damaging to vehicles and outright dangerous to commuters on bike. As someone who bikes to work every day, I can tell you that Ferry Street is a serious safety hazard.

I also strongly ask for your approval of **Request 257 (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan)**. For almost a year now I have been a fervent advocate for climate action and developed a firm understanding of the climate crisis our world currently faces. Despite recent distractions from climate action (although important ones), swift and bold action is necessary if we are to mitigate the effects of global warming and step back from the edge of catastrophic tipping points. Climate action will benefit all community members by preventing economic losses due to extreme weather and land degradation, and by protecting vulnerable and marginalized communities from disproportionately suffering pollution and global warming induced health effects. Climate action is not optional. We cannot wait until 2050 or 2030 to take action. Future generations, your children, your grandchildren, are counting on you.

Concurrent with request 257, albeit on a smaller level, I ask you to approve **Request 586 (Tree Installation on 6th and Cass St)**. Trees are essential fauna for the success of our planet and the beauty of our city. They serve as carbon sinks and animal habitats and help keep the city cool. La Crosse has lost many trees over the years, and it always saddens (and dehydrates) me to walk down a sparsely shaded street. It is essential that La Crosse replace trees after tree removal and develop plans to restore and expand previously forested areas.

I appreciate your past and future work for the success and positive development of La Crosse and ask for your serious consideration of requests **436, 257, and 586**.

Thank you,
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