

Craig, Sondra

From: Elsen, Nikki
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 1:39 PM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: FW: Riverside Fish Lab Rezoning

From: Odegaard, Jason
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 1:37 PM
To: ZZ Council Members <ZZCouncilMembers@cityoflacrosse.org>
Cc: Trussoni, Dan <trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org>; Flottmeyer, James <flottmeyerj@cityoflacrosse.org>; Reynolds, Mitch <reynoldsm@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: Riverside Fish Lab Rezoning

Good Afternoon Council Members,

It is my assumption that most all of you have been getting questions related to the rezoning of the Riverside Park Fish Lab Building that will be on tomorrow night's Council agenda. I have created a list of bullet points that may assist in answering constituents' questions, while also providing information for your own purpose. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns that you may have.

- Rezoning only establishes a broader use of the second floor. It does not directly affect any food or beverage operations on the first floor.
- Discussions related to long-term lease began in 2015 with the La Crosse Visitor Convention Bureau(LVCB) during a time that they had looked to Onalaska's Great River Landing and the La Crosse Center Expansion as possible moves.
- I have stated that this particular process has been "irregular" from the department's traditional vetting process. This is due to the need for rezoning, which was done prior to Board of Park Commissioners discussion and department held public input sessions(all of which have since been effectuated).
- There is no municipal, state, or federal requirement for the associated Request For Proposal(RFP) solicitation. This process was completed solely to acquire interest in the property.
- The Fish Lab has never been operated as a "open to the public" facility.
- Examples of similar public-private partnerships in the City of La Crosse:
 1. Pettibone Camp Ground
 2. Pettibone Boat Club
 3. La Crosse Loggers
 4. River City Youth Hockey(Green Island Ice Arena)
 5. Kemper Sports(Forest Hills Golf Course)
 6. Pumphouse Regional Art Center
 7. La Crosse Queen
 8. WisCorps(Myrick Center)
 9. Girl Scouts
 10. Harry J. Olson Senior Center
- Riverside Park closes at 11:00 pm. City ordinance for outdoor beer gardens mandates 10:00 pm closure.
- Per state statute capacity of the building is less than 100 people.
- 2019 department staff identified the need for \$1 million needed in the City Capital Improvement Budget(CIP). \$500k approved in the 2021 CIP and \$500k approved in the 2022 CIP. All funds to pay city contracts addressing structural inadequacies. None of said funding would contribute to any private business build-out.

Thank you for your time,

Jay Odegaard

Director

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A ship is safe in the harbor—but that's not what ships are for.