

Craig, Sondra

From: matthew Stevenson <matthewsteve000@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 1:38 PM
To: ZZ City Clerk External; ZZ Council Members
Subject: oppose item 23-0673

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Hello, my name is Matthew Stevenson and i'm a citizen or the city of La Crosse. This is a public comment. I'm writing to the city council demanding you to oppose item 23-0673. Homeless individuals often have nowhere else to go, and banning them from parks denies them access to public spaces that can provide basic necessities like shelter, water, and bathroom facilities. It perpetuates the cycle of homelessness: Banning people from parks does not address the root causes of homelessness, such as lack of affordable housing, job opportunities, and mental health services. Instead, it can push vulnerable individuals further into poverty and isolation. It violates human rights: According to the United Nations, access to public spaces is a basic human right. Banning homeless people from parks can be seen as a violation of this right. It is not a solution: Banning homeless people from parks does not solve the problem of homelessness. Instead, it simply displaces individuals and can exacerbate the issue by making it more difficult for them to access resources and services.

Banning homeless people from parks can result in criminalization of poverty, where individuals are punished for being poor and homeless. This can lead to arrests, fines, and imprisonment, further entrenching individuals in poverty.