Craig, Sondra

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To: ZZ Council Members

Subject: Opportunities

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Good evening council members.

First off thank you for your service and dedication to our City. I know the position held is not an easy one.

I am reaching out to you as a business owners as well as a Real Estate Agent.

First off as a Real Estate agent -

I have lost several opportunities to bring good families into our city. A few examples are as follows.

I was showing some great homes in La Crosse and the wife turned to me and said. We have decided that we would rather look in Onalaska or even Holmen because we have been talking to others and reading about the massive homeless problem in La Crosse, and we have also been driving around after our showings and we see the major issue first hand.

I have had more than one client tell me similar story's.

Another time I was bringing potential buyers to La Crosse and they were talking about how beautiful the river was and BOOM just like that we went past the beautiful La Crosse sign only to see numerous tents and bags of garbage all over the area. And once again La Crosse once again was no longer an option.

As a business owner we have major issues with loitering and coming into our parking lot only to see several people sleeping or sitting on our benches digging in our garbage and causing a mess almost daily. We even had a homeless person loitering inside our place of business sleeping at a table. The police were called and they "attempted" to wake to person is and have them leave. The person woke up and was swearing and refused to leave. The officer left and let us deal with it. I was not in at that time (about 4 PM) and I was called. I came in and with my bartender we ended up escorting to man out of the building. He was not happy and we had others patron's actually leave because they were frightened of the person.

I understand that this has been a difficult situation and there's no easy answer, but something has to be done. Our city is being overtaken by people from out of state whether you are told they are from out of state or not the fact is they are.

Sorry but This is pure and simple squatting, and they are destroying our city, so please put it end to it.

I speak to people daily who have moved to surrounding cities that have been lifelong residence of La Crosse because they are fed up.

It's time for you to make the difficult decision and put an end to this squatting problem!

Please!!!!

Thank you for your time

Scott Neumeister