

Elsen, Nikki

From: Barbara Kooiman <barbara_kooiman@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 1:04 PM
To: Elsen, Nikki; zzcouncilmembers@cityoflacrosse.org
Subject: OBJECTION to File #: 21-0337 CUP - 906 Gillette St. (Fire Station)

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Dear City Clerk and City Council members,

I have been a resident of the City of La Crosse since 1991, and I have been involved in many historic preservation activities with the city throughout these years, as a professional architectural historian, as a historic preservation contractor for the city, as a commission member and chair of the La Crosse Heritage Preservation Commission, as a commission member and chair of the La Crosse County Historic Sites Preservation Commission, and as a board member and chair of Preservation Alliance of La Crosse.

So, suffice it to say, I take saving our built heritage seriously. Preservation Alliance of La Crosse has been working hard for the past several weeks trying to show the Fire Chief, the Mayor, the City Council members, and the residents of La Crosse that we can have a NEW fire station on Gillette Street, AND still save the existing, historic and architecturally significant Fire Station #4 from demolition so it can be rehabbed for a different, new use. The Fire Chief and the Mayor have both recently indicated that they would be willing to look at alternatives which preserve the historic fire station, however, with the CUP for the demolition of Fire Station #4 on this month's Common Council agenda, those expressions of willingness to look at alternatives don't make sense and the CUP is not in keeping with trying to work with saving the building.

Please seriously consider voting against the CUP for demolition or ask that it be removed from the agenda allowing the option of saving the station to be further studied. It is the right thing to do.

Consider this as my formal opposition to the CUP for demolition of 906 Gillette Street - Fire Station #4.

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