

Craig, Sondra

From: Garrett Denning <denninggarrett@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 2:24 PM
To: ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External
Subject: La Crosse Camping Ban (Ordinance 23-0673)

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Garrett Denning and as a citizen of La Crosse, I write to you today to vehemently oppose this measure. This ordinance does nothing but criminalize unhoused humans who are doing nothing but trying to survive. Further, this provides no measure of actually addressing the issues that unhoused people face nor does it do anything to prevent the systemic issues that lead to homelessness to exist.

These individuals do not simply disappear when you criminalize camping as Ordinance 23-0673 tries to do. Instead it takes up critical public resources in asking police to interact with people who are doing nothing wrong but trying to survive. This proposal condemns these humans to criminalization and likely even death.

We could be putting this energy into providing real potential solutions to the ongoing issue of homelessness should the concern about camping be so great. Instead, La Crosse proposes to further harm and criminalize an already vulnerable population. I am ashamed of my city and ask that you provide me and so many others some hope back in voting to oppose this measure.

Thank you,
Garrett Denning