

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Mary Jo Werner <mjwerner14@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2024 9:19 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members  
**Subject:** Norwood Hotel proposal

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Good evening,

My name is Mary Jo Werner and I am a resident of the town of Campbell. I am writing as a person who is not a resident of the city of La Crosse, but who is concerned about the city of La Crosse's proposal to utilize the property known as Norwood Hotel for the purpose of housing unsheltered individuals. Please see below for my concerns:

1. The Norwood Hotel is designed for short term stays for individuals. Guests stay at the hotel while traveling to another destination or for visiting or working in the area for a short period of time, a few days at most. The hotel rooms are not designed for long term stays. The rooms are not designed for cooking, dining or other activities that would be needed during a long term stay.
2. The location of the hotel is not conducive to accommodate unsheltered individuals. Medical facilities such as clinics and dental buildings are a significant distance away. The hotel is not near places where unsheltered individuals can socialize. It is isolated from other places to accommodate a transition from homeless to full time housing. The building is a long distance from city or county run agencies.
3. The location of the hotel is very close to an exit to an interstate. This exit is not well lit and there is much foliage where possible intruders could lurk to engage in foul play. Some unsheltered individuals are vulnerable children and adults. It would be easy for someone to kidnap or do other harm to these vulnerable people and readily exit the area via the interstate.
4. Removing unsheltered individuals from the city of La Crosse to a physical location outside the city runs counter to providing solutions for the unsheltered individuals. The city of La Crosse has hired individuals to focus on these individuals and their status. By spreading groups of unsheltered individuals to different municipalities, it allows for confusion and inconsistency in monitoring these individuals.
5. Coordination and community concept between the city of La Crosse and the town of Campbell. Currently the town of Campbell is staffed for its current population for both the police and fire departments. An influx of several unsheltered individuals whose backgrounds (single person, family, mental health concern) are unknown, is set up for failure. Developing a formal plan that is coordinated and agreed upon by all parties involved, helps ensure success.

At this time, my suggestion would be to postpone or table this idea of using Norwood Hotel for unsheltered individuals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone