

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Elsen, Nikki  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 8:17 AM  
**To:** Craig, Sondra  
**Subject:** FW: on the apartments proposed by Kevin Biondi

*Nikki M. Elsen, WCMC*

City Clerk  
City of La Crosse  
608-789-7555 phone  
[elsenn@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:elsenn@cityoflacrosse.org)

**From:** Pete Gruendeman <[gruendeman@protonmail.com](mailto:gruendeman@protonmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 6:17 AM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members <[ZZCouncilMembers@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:ZZCouncilMembers@cityoflacrosse.org)>  
**Subject:** on the apartments proposed by Kevin Biondi

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To the city council of La Crosse:

As global and shareholder pressures prevent increases in wages, two or more outcomes will further diminish the quality of life in La Crosse: Either people won't be able to afford to live in La Crosse on what companies are willing to pay so they will leave the area or we will have more of what was described in the Library program of June 21, namely people who are employed but still homeless. Homeless includes those sleeping in their cars or vans.

I write in support of Kevin Biondo's proposed apartments to be built near Cass Street and West Avenue, because more and more people will be unable to afford both a place to live and a car. I would much rather those less well off live in an affordable apartment in locations that don't require a car than living in a van with no money for an apartment. It seems to me that the project proposed by Biondo would meet the needs of many people, especially those less well off working in many of the near by businesses on West Ave or at the University.

Longer term, I would hope the town council would be open to other low cost/ higher density housing options close to other locations where those unable to afford their own single-family homes are employed. Those workers deserve the safety of living in an apartment instead of living in a van. Walking to work served La Crosse very well 125 years ago, before working people could afford a car and this needs to be a part of life in La Crosse in the future, after working people can no longer afford both a place to stay and a car.

Pete Gruendeman  
Town of Barre

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