

Rotary Lights and the other festivals give so much to not just the city of LaCrosse but to the entire coulee region. Maybe LaX needs to take a really close look at what impact an AirBnB in the fish hatchery building will have on the festivals that selflessly contribute to the city.

Ok that's my 2 cents

Greg

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Stephens, Patrick" <pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu>

Date: 8/3/21 11:09 AM (GMT-06:00)

To:

Subject: Your Thoughts

RL Crew,

If you saw this morning's Tribune you see that there is interest in making the Fish Hatchery Building in Riverside Park into a wedding venue, beer garden, and AirBNB.

To the Park Department's credit, they called and asked for our input into how, if all all, having that business there would work with Rotary Lights.

After I get your comments, we'll sit down with the Park Dept. rep and with the people that are interested in the business and report our findings to them.

PLEASE give me your thoughts.

Pat

## Odegaard, Jason

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**From:** Stephens, Patrick <pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 11:45 AM  
**To:** Trussoni, Dan  
**Cc:** Odegaard, Jason  
**Subject:** Responses

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Dan, I forwarded to you some of the early responses from our board members and steering committee.

Most of the concern seems to center around access. We put barricades up at 4:45 pm as we prep the park and then close again about 10:30 pm. Gates get locked and security comes on duty.

As you well know, our weekend traffic is extensive. A 45 minute to 1 hour wait is not unusual. Would not work well for a wedding reception or guests at an Airb+b.

We have a computer display that lights up every window on the hatchery building. We would not want to do away with that.

Be happy to have a conversation with all interested parties. For the five weeks we operate Rotary Lights, we crank through about 130,000 folks. Would hate to see anything interfere with the project that is now supporting 14 area food pantries.

Let's talk.

Pat

Dan Trussoni, CPRP, AFO

Parks, Forestry, Building and Grounds Manager

608-789-4915

City of La Crosse

Parks and Recreation

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org/parks>

**From:** Stephens, Patrick <[pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto:pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu)>

**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 10:32 AM

**To:** Trussoni, Dan <[trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Your Thoughts

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **gregtheres** <[gregtheres@gmail.com](mailto:gregtheres@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Fri, Aug 6, 2021 at 10:28 AM

**Subject:** RE: Your Thoughts

**To:** Stephens, Patrick <[pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto:pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu)>, <[gregtheres@gmail.com](mailto:gregtheres@gmail.com)>

At 1st glance this may seem like a good idea, BUT.

The city just spent a "bazillion" \$\$ remodeling the LaX center as a banquet facility.

I wonder how the hotels in the downtown area feel about this.

The bandstand is used for weddings. As is the LaCrosse Queen and the gardens adjacent to the building.

Not much parking near the building.

One way street.

Rotary Lights is a huge draw to the city. From Thanksgiving to New Year's THOUSANDS of people flood the park. When we have to close the street to set up or take down, how will this effect, not o ly RL but whatever business that's in it. Not to mention that on busy nights in the park, traffic is backed up from the park entrance passed Causeway Blvd.

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From: "Stephens, Patrick" <[pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto:pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu)>

Date: 8/3/21 11:09 AM (GMT-06:00)

To:

Subject: Your Thoughts

Want to grab coffee maybe Tuesday or Wednesday next week?

Dan Trussoni, CPRP, AFO

Parks, Forestry, Building and Grounds Manager

608-789-4915

City of La Crosse

Parks and Recreation

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org/parks>

**From:** Stephens, Patrick <[pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu](mailto:pstephens@eagle.uwlax.edu)>

**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 11:40 AM

**To:** Trussoni, Dan <[trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Your Thoughts

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I would love an in person discussion. You asked for some opinions with those associated with Rotary Lights so I'm sending them to you--unedited. Actually you've only received comments from 2 Rotarians the others are just some of my loyal volunteers.

Pat

On Fri, Aug 6, 2021 at 11:08 AM Trussoni, Dan <[trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:trussonid@cityoflacrosse.org)> wrote:

I thought Rotarians would be a little more friendly... Only kidding

Would it be beneficial to have an in person discussion sometime soon?