

Acklin, Tim

From: HT-L NA <htlmsna@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 9:35 AM
To: Acklin, Tim
Subject: Support for South Branch Library Designation as Local Historic Landmark
Attachments: south branch library letter to HPC.pdf

*** **CAUTION:** This email originated from an external sender. **DO NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Mr. Acklin and Heritage Preservation Commissioners,

I am writing to express support for designating the South Branch Library a Local Historic Landmark. I understand the four criteria that must be met under Section 20.90 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances for La Crosse Historic Landmark designation. It is evident from Mr. David Riel's thorough nomination letter that all four criteria have been met.

To quote Mr. Riel's April 22, 2024 letter, the South Branch Library building:

- Is a unique, publicly-owned asset, a historically-significant example of municipal library architecture whose creation made significant contributions to the history, heritage and culture of the City of La Crosse and multiple generations of residents.
- Embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a Prairie School influenced mid-century library.
- Is representative of the notable work of a master architect, Frank J. Fuchs.
- Is the result of a multi-decade struggle to provide educational opportunities to the community.

The neighborhood association I am an active member of, the Holy Trinity-Longfellow Neighborhood Association (HTLNA), was founded in 2013 to protect the library from closure. We fought to keep the library open and to urge the La Crosse Public Library Board to increase its hours at times when resources devoted to the branch libraries were

dwindling. Although it is no longer a library, this publicly-owned building and adjacent park remain our neighborhood's most valued assets.

There is much interest in repurposing the library. I encourage you and the other HPC members to approve the designation of the South Branch Library to the Local Register of Historic Places, which will be a step toward giving the building a new use and ensuring its continued role in shaping neighborhood identity on the south side of La Crosse.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter.

Kind regards,

Krista Hamilton

1812 Park Ave

La Crosse, WI 54601

May 23, 2024

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La Crosse, WI 54601

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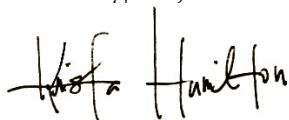
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Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Hamilton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "H" and "K".

Krista Hamilton