

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Kari Grabinski <kjgmd10@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2024 6:25 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External  
**Subject:** South Branch Library Historic Landmark Designation

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Members of the Common Council,

I am writing to urge you to reject Mayor Rich Reynolds' appeal of the Historic Landmark Designation of the South Branch Library.

The designation has properly moved through the established channels; neighbors have gathered and educated themselves, a nomination was developed by a local preservation expert, and the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) reviewed the nomination documentation and approved the designation. For there to be doubt of the validity of the HPC's support of the designation is to question the qualifications and intentions of the Mayor's own appointees.

Since its designation, the Economic and Community Development Commission (ECDC) has successfully negotiated and voted to sell the library site to Willow Grove LLC to become apartment and townhouses, validating that this building can continue to contribute to La Crosse's economy.

The Holy Trinity-Longfellow Neighborhood supports the city's interest in retaining the historic fabric and character of the South Branch Library, as well as maintaining its position and contribution of scale to the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time,  
Kari Grabinski  
1306 19th Street South  
La Crosse, WI