

Elsen, Nikki

From: Elsen@cityoflacrosse.org
Subject: FW: NO CAMPING Ordinance needed!!

From: Nelson Fox <nelsonfox.jm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:50 AM
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Subject: NO CAMPING Ordinance needed!!

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Hello,

We were told that the Board of Public Works needed to discuss a NO CAMPING ordinance and that they would decide to recommend the City Council vote on this issue. Today Mike Gallager told me he and the BPW have no intention or obligation to discuss this matter! We are seeing daily increases in the number of tents, occupants and debris along the Veterans Trail and in the marshlands east of Copeland Avenue.

We live at the Landings condominium complex near Festival Foods on Copeland Avenue in La Crosse. As you are aware, the Riverside tent encampment has been dismantled, for which we are grateful. HOWEVER, the tents are now being relocated and set up on the beautiful marsh lands east of Copeland Avenue, along the Vietnam Veterans walking/bike trail! We are facing the same concerns, just at a new location. The people who are camping along the Veterans trail continue to present unpredictable behaviors (drug use, outbursts, starting fires) and these behaviors make us afraid to walk the trail.

This is a wildlife natural area, which has been revered for its unique qualities and now is being threatened by debris and toxicity.

We fully support the City Council and certainly expect that an **ordinance will be passed which will make camping illegal on our precious marsh lands!** We look forward to seeing a NO CAMPING posting as well as a NO FIRES ALLOWED posting on these marsh lands.

Thank you for helping to move this along. If not your group, then **who** can we count on?

Mary Nelson and James Fox
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