

Brian Bessert
1118 13th St S
La Crosse, WI 54601
June 4, 2020

Common Council
City of La Crosse

Dear Common Council:

As a long-time resident of our city, and a homeowner for the past 8 years, I write in support of resolution 20-0686, specifically Alley #1 – from Adams to Johnson, between Grant Ct. & 13th.

Since purchasing my home along this alley in 2012, the alley has been a perennial problem from my point of view. While the lack of pavement brings simple concerns such as making it difficult to keep vehicles clean, in the past few years the problems have been more notable.

The surface gets easily rutted, particularly near my own garage, which is on the intersection of the alley. Regular traffic and the heavier trucks used for garbage and recycling collection turning at this point quickly cause deep rutting each spring. Grading has been done on several occasions, which does help, but it never seems to last very long.

Worse still, the surface ends up turning to mud during the annual snow melt and during heavy rains. When we had these happen at the same time in the spring of 2019, the alley would have been largely impassible if not for the fact that I had a four-wheel drive truck at the time. I also ended up with several inches of water in my garage, something that may not have happened if snow was more easily cleared.

Paving this alley would dramatically help to alleviate these problems, making our shared spaces more usable, and making it easier to clear snow when it builds up. While I am somewhat disappointed that the estimated cost of the project has come in at the high end of what is listed on the city website, I would still rather the project go ahead.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Bessert