

Craig, Sondra

From: Timothy Mader <Timothy.Mader@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 6:20 PM
To: ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External
Subject: Historic Landmark designation of the South Branch Library

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Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my deep concern over and strenuously object to Mayor Reynolds' appeal of the South Branch Library designation as a La Crosse Historic Landmark and to reiterate my strong belief that the building has historical importance worthy of protection and preservation. I am a La Crosse native, having grown up in the neighborhood at 1630 Farnam Street with the public library literally in our back yard. Like many of my Holy Trinity Parish classmates, the library was an important part of my childhood, and it was critical to my early academic development throughout high school.

I continue to follow current events in the city of La Crosse and when I learned of the imminent closure of the South Branch Library last year, I was compelled to make a special trip home from Western Massachusetts to visit the site on its final day of operation – as did six of my seven siblings. We were all concerned at the time about what would become of the building, and we were relieved when we learned it would be preserved and repurposed with community and Heritage Preservation Commission support. Tonight, I found out that the mayor is appealing that decision. I implore you to reject the mayor's appeal and urge you to uphold the Historic Landmark status of the building at your meeting Thursday evening. I very much appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Mader, MD

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