

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Lisa Middleton <elisemid@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2024 1:41 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members  
**Subject:** legal objection letter to be posted for REACH rezoning 24-0951 with photo of tent in front of REACH Center

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Hello,  
Please post to the registrar.  
Lisa Middleton 203 10th St S. Legal opposition to rezoning of Reach Center.

Dear council members, city staff, and mayor,



This tent was pitched outside the REACH Center this morning (7-30-2024) at 7am. The police said they could do nothing about it because it is on REACH property, who couldn't be contacted.

The "good neighbor agreement" does not include posting a sign stating no camping and no overnight parking in the parking lot.

This property isn't properly managed and giving more freedoms to such an irresponsible organization is premature.

If you are tired of long rambling speeches and letters imagine how tired we are of writing them. This has been a gutting experience.

To those who insist that this is the right location for the REACH Center:

In your effort to bring diversity, you are attracting adversity.

In your attempts to help in the humanitarian crisis, you are creating one here.

This is a rare opportunity to stop letting other cities use La Crosse as a human gutter system.

You have forgotten your responsibility to the everyday working man and woman.

You get to relieve your consciences while dumping all of the world's woes on one street corner that overlaps three residential neighborhoods.

You say that SB is not in the historic district and we should applaud them for not rezoning the rear parking lot? And yet they won't sell it for housing?

You say this is the best neighborhood for SB because because SB is already there. Well, we were here first.

You say this is the best neighborhood for SB because this is where all the clientele is. The clientele is here because the city has allowed human services interests to establish themselves all in one place and is out of balance.

You say this is a dental office for children and seniors. Don't be fooled. This medical center will be a full-service outpatient drug and alcohol treatment center and pharmacy masquerading as a dental clinic.

You think your solution to La Crosse's downtown homeless solution is to embrace urbanism. La Crosse is not urban. We have no obligation to embrace urbanism. Do we demand Sturgeon Bay embrace urbanism? Do we demand Stevens Point embrace urbanism? Why? Urbanism doesn't originate in those cities so why would they make accommodations for it?

You get to be the do-gooders and tell the neighbors resisting...do your part...take the hit...and pay for it too. Live in it, look at it, fight the traffic and the fumes.

Stop calling the police, and face the music.

What did we do to deserve to be treated this way?

How many millions have you harvested from the neighbors of the REACH Center in the last 10 years?

Why is the city insisting this is not a change of use even though they have to double the value of the building in construction costs to accommodate its new owner's basic services?

Why is the city in a hurry to rezone it despite violating a city plan the council agreed upon barely a year ago and other legal ramifications?

Why is the city rezoning it TND when La Crosse doesn't even have a basis for what TND is? The state code is vague. If we do follow the state code as stated, The REACH Center would have to include housing, square footage limitation, and regional limitations.

Why is the council sneaking in this vote while families are on short-lived summer vacation, and making 2 groundbreaking votes for SB in one month?

Why is the city catering to a medical company that will ruin the livability of its neighborhood without committing to its safety?

Is it possible SB determination is being rushed because the city is conducting illegal activities and the city wants SB to break ground before it can be found out?

I call for a public investigation. I want to see SB's closing documents. I would like to see where it says the property needs to be rezoned to make it into a clinic. How is it that they bought into an equity share in a building they couldn't remodel? They are too smart to enter into such an agreement. Who in city operations promised them clearance behind closed doors?

My neighbors just spent \$30,000 painting the exterior of their home. The California family who moved here with means took off without spending \$100,000 improving their exterior as they had intended to because of the SB debacle. A small 20 ft fence in my yard is \$6,000. I won't be building a garage or improving the foundation if Scenic Buffs moves in because it won't be my forever home.

"Fine then, Leave," you say. If we don't agree to your terms we get the boot. You say if we want to live downtown we have to wake up and face the music. Can't you see that is your own kind of exceptionalism?

Where did you get the idea that downtowns are for rehab programs? Garbage? Drug-occupied parks where vagrants have more privileges than residents? Where did you get the idea that homeowners are the enemy and developers and landlords are the heroes?

Some members of the city council and city government would rather take short-lived federal dollars and wear a golden badge for all to see rather than do its boring duty and keep its promises to those of us who struggle to pay La Crosse's high taxes.

"Then leave," you still say. But we love it here. You're the ones that don't like it. Why else would you be dumping your human problems all in one place?

If SB is allowed to build, this neighborhood will become one of fences, motion sensors, and car alarms. We won't be able to keep furniture on our porches or leave them unlocked. Our yards and homes will turn into an extension of the parking lot at a busy and expanding medical clinic.

The rezoning stages SB for unlimited growth, including ambulances, and 24-hour, 7-day-a-week urgent care, and does not limit what can be distributed at the pharmacy. You look at each other and grin, thinking the more permanent the better. You are proud of yourselves because you got to be part of this big movement, crushing those selfish rich people, and pulling strings during your last days in city government. You want to force through as much as you can while you're still here like some kind of mafia. If you have to be so sneaky, so underhanded, don't you think that what you are doing is wrong?

What if this happened in your backyard? What if someone did this to you? Oh yes, that's right. That's why you support this. Because then you think you don't have to worry about this happening in your neighborhood.

You are forcing this rezoning project because the city is covering up its own wrongdoing. The rezoning also keeps your neighborhoods unsoiled, while heaping more and more adversity on historic and vibrant neighborhoods that are trying to put La Crosse's best foot forward.

Thank you for reading this long letter.

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