

Craig, Sondra

From: Jury, Daryll <Daryll.Jury@trane.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 3:02 PM
To: ZZ City Clerk External
Cc: darylljury@gmail.com
Subject: Reach Center Rezoning from Washburn Residential to TND

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All,

My name is Daryll Jury and I own 2 properties within 2 blocks of the Reach Center. I am writing you today to ask that you please oppose re-zoning of this residential property to TND.

I have lived at 920 King street for 25 years and have been a part of the 10th and Cass St transformation from a somewhat blighted neighborhood to a recognized historic district . Numerous properties have been renovated that have added to the cities tax base and families with children are once again residing in the neighborhood.

I am guessing that like most of you, I am in favor of a facility like the Reach Center in the La Crosse area. Like many of you, I struggled with my decision on this re-zoning until I did some research and got more detail. While not everyone that uses the services of the Reach Center are homeless or walk to the facility, a great many are. Here are some facts about the homeless population from a study done in 2023 by the National Coalition for the Homeless:

- “38% of homeless people were dependent on alcohol”
- “25% are abused to other drugs.”
- “On a given night in 2022, 21% of the homeless population reported having a serious mental illness.”

I work from home and every weekday I see people walking by my home coming and going from the Reach Center. These people are often talking or screaming at themselves, dropping beer cans, alcohol bottles, an occasional crack pipe and used needles. On multiple occasions I have called the police/fire department to pick up discarded syringes from my yard or sidewalk. With the very close proximity of the Dahl Family YMCA and Aquinas Middle/High School is this really the right location for this type of facility? The fact that this is in the middle of 2 of La Crosse historic districts also makes the location extremely questionable.

La Crosse needs housing. Taking property out of a high tax base residential district and re-zoning to TND is contrary to the cities long range plans. Also, I question if this is the best use of taxpayer money at this facility. Scenic Bluffs makes approx. \$8 MILLION per year in grants and income. Is this money better spent on a different building that would be a better long term solution that is not in the middle of a residential neighborhood? There are a lot of empty building downtown that could potentially be a better fit! (Wells Fargo for example).

A vote opposing this rezoning does not mean you are opposed to a facility like the Reach Center – it does not make you a bad person. It signifies that you recognize the need but agree that this site is not in the communities best long term interest. Thank you for your consideration.





Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Daryll".

Daryll Jury

Daryll Jury
920 King St
La Crosse, WI 54601

(608) 498-2024
Daryll.Jury@Trane.com

Ally for Equality