

## Craig, Sondra

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**From:** Elsen, Nikki  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 3:04 PM  
**To:** Craig, Sondra  
**Subject:** FW: 2402 CUP - 421 Jay St. (Jay St Parking Lot)

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**From:** Obbie King <[obbie@purplearth.net](mailto:obbie@purplearth.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 1:29 PM  
**To:** Kahlow, Chris <[kahlowc@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:kahlowc@cityoflacrosse.org)>  
**Subject:** 2402 CUP - 421 Jay St. (Jay St Parking Lot)

You don't often get email from [obbie@purplearth.net](mailto:obbie@purplearth.net). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Chris..

I could not find the address you described that would add this statement to the record. I see you are on the J&A committee, so if you can find a way to enter the following into the record, that would be appreciated.

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Regarding a request to rezone 421 Jay St. to allow a parking lot. (<https://cityoflacrosse.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6467591&GUID=5229FADD-3337-4DEF-95B2-34AC05F27FF6>)

This is not only unnecessary, but undesirable for many reasons.

As you probably know, this lot was once occupied by a retail building. Since a fire destroyed that building several years ago, it hasn't been replaced. There are many potential productive uses for that lot that will enhance the downtown experience. But paving it with blacktop for a handful of parking spaces does the opposite. It diminishes its value, and with it our tax base.

There is plenty of parking in the ramp across the street, which is there to support \*businesses\* downtown. Allowing this retail lot to be replaced by parking would set a bad precedent, making it harder to deny parking to replace any future downtown building that has a fire.

I'm sure others will raise concerns about traffic and aesthetics, and I agree with them. But I am offended by the idea of adding more surface parking to the heart of downtown, when there are acres of parking available within two blocks.

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Thanks a lot!

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