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Sent: Friday, March 8, 2024 1:32 PM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: UW-L Parking Ramp

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Dear Council Members,

This email is written to encourage you to vote in favor of allowing the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse to proceed with construction of the proposed parking ramp on the site of the current surface lot across from the Truman Lowe Fine Arts Center.

As 25+ year residents of the Grandview Emerson Neighborhood, we and our neighbors have been putting up with overflow student parking for many years. With the growth of the university over time, the problem has only worsened.

We are aware of climate peril cause by automobiles, but they are going to be around for a long while. **AS we transition to hybrid and all electric vehicles, cars will become more energy efficient but will be with us into the foreseeable future.**

We hope that more people will use mass transit or bicycles, yet these cannot be the entire solution. Rain, snow, and other foul weather events knock out the use of bicycles for many. Mass transit in the form of additional buses and light rail would be nice if we had the funds to provide them. But that time has not yet arrived.

Consider the graduate student who lives in Viroqua or La Crescent or Holmen. They have families, work part time, and take classes at UW-L to enhance their education and improve their quality of life. They do not have access to readily available alternative transit options that sync with their daily schedules.

The university, with over 10K students and employees, has a waiting list of requests for parking passes . They already have a surface lot on the proposed site. And the State of Wisconsin has apparently approved and funded the project.

Please consider passing the motion to approve for the benefit of La Crosse residents, UW-L students, and employees.

We also want to thank you for your hard work and dedication to serving La Crosse!

Eric & Nora Garland