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From: Jess Thill <thill.jess@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 10:24 AM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: Please support the REACH Center rezoning (24-0910)

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Council members,

I'm writing today in strong support of the rezoning petition (24-0910) filed to help make it possible for the REACH Center to maintain its facility and continue to respond to the needs of our community. It appears that the petitioners are requesting rezoning in order to continue investing in the maintenance and improvement of the property. The addition of solar energy on existing businesses in the city of La Crosse is welcome news.

To deny this rezoning request based on unkind and/or uninformed assumptions about the people who might visit the professional offices inside seems both discriminatory and contradictory to the city's commitment to meeting the enormous unmet needs of our most vulnerable neighbors. There is an obvious, immediate need for the community services that the REACH Center provides. Supporting its continued use and ability to upgrade its facility aligns with the city's Climate Action Plan, its Pathways Home plan, and its comprehensive plan.

These plans exist to help guide your decision making in times when it seems unclear what the right way forward might be (and maybe in cases like this where there are personal objections to progress). What's the point of investing so much time and energy into developing these plans if we ignore them when the going gets tough?

I hope that you will support this rezoning.

Thanks,

Jessica Thill