



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
L A C R O S S E

June 17, 2024

Nikki Elsen
City Clerk
City Hall 2nd Floor
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Re: Appeal of decision to designate the former South Branch Library a historic structure

Dear Ms. Elsen:

On May 23, 2024, the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) conferred a historic designation for the former South Branch Library located at 1307 16th Street South. Per City of La Crosse Municipal Code, Sec 20.58, and acting as the Chief Executive Officer of the City of La Crosse, I am submitting this petition to appeal the decision of the HPC.

The grounds for this appeal are based on the failure to adequately establish any of the requirements for designation under Sec. 20.90 of the municipal code. Specifically, 1) The claims of the architect's influence and "individual genius" as required by Sec 20.90(4) lacked basis, 2) The determination that the building is inherently valuable for a study of building or architecture type per Sec 20.90(3) was not sufficiently proven, 3) The identified association with important events per Sec 20.90(2) was inadequate, and 4) The determination that the building exemplifies or reflects the history of the nation, state or community per Sec. 20.90(1) lacked evidence.

Due to the all of the factors cited above, I am requesting a hearing by the Common Council per Sec. 20.58 in order to appeal the decision of the HPC's designation.

Sincerely,



Mayor Mitch Reynolds

MR:as

Enclosed: Notice of Designation of Historic Structure

cc: Tim Acklin, Planning Administrator