**The La Crosse County Democratic Party**

**2021 City of La Crosse Mayoral Election Voter Information Guide**

**January 26, 2021**

The following information is presented by the La Crosse County Democratic

Party as a service to help the community connect with those running for office.

Per LCDP rules, we do not make endorsements in non-partisan primaries.

Below are the replies of eight mayoral candidates who responded to our request for information.

Comments by candidates are unedited. The statements appear in the following order:

* Katherine Blanchard
* Joe Konradt
* Vicki Markussen
* Jessica Olson
* Mitch Reynolds
* Greg Saliaras
* Samuel Schneider
* Chris Stolpa

**Name: Katherine Blanchard**

Current Employment: Owner/stylist CHATTY KATHIS HAIR SALON

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: babyti13@aol.com

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

I want to represent people like me who are working class and think I could do a good job

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

Helping small business owners open and stay open. I also would like to find a solution to

the growing homeless population in LaCrosse. And of course keep property taxes from

rising.

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

I would like to see alternative spending on cosmetic items that help us as a tourist

attraction, and use funds to keep property taxes from rising.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

I would like there to be less disconnect between city hall and the residents and other city

run departments.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

I don't pretend to know all the answers but I'm not afraid to ask for help finding the answers.

**Name: Joe Konradt**

Current Employment: Retired

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign? JoeForMayor.us (will be available

shortly)

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

La Crosse is facing very challenging times. Covid 19 will put intense pressure on city

finances, and concerns about safety have become part of almost daily discussion.

With 35 years of management experience, I am the only candidate that has managed a

budget and team of employees larger than our City's. I have the experience needed to

lead our City through tough financial times.

As a proactive member of our community, a couple of months ago I started a fund drive

to help our police department get new body cameras. The new equipment will make

camera activation easier and the District Attorney will have immediate access to video if

needed. Dedicated police officers want the cameras to demonstrate their good efforts,

and having immediate access means transparency for the public. Protesting can help

identify problems, but you need a Mayor that will take direct action to make things

better.

Our family has cherished La Crosse as a safe and beautiful place to live. As Mayor my

goal is to ensure everyone else in the City feels the same way!

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

The pandemic is already challenging City finances, and we are still headed in the wrong

direction. You need a Mayor with experience maximizing the effectiveness of large

budgets and teams of people. La Crosse already taxes higher than 90% of cities and

villages in Wisconsin. Taxing more and more is not realistic. Spending every dollar as

wisely as possible, getting every federal and state dollar we can, and asking successful

members of our community to donate for our most pressing needs, will all need to be

part of the solution. Tourism and college students are very important to La Crosse and

they just aren't here because of Covid. Those dollars are gone. We need to be even more

effective with what we do have to spend.

Protecting our most vulnerable citizens, supporting area business, and getting people

back to work are priorities. If any candidate says they have all the answers, that just isn't

possible. As your mayor, my first action will be to meet with every department in the city,

and local leaders, to identify specific actions they will take to help our citizens and

business recover, and to grow jobs. We have City employees and leaders that have

devoted their careers to making La Crosse great, let's listen to their ideas!

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

Of great concern to me are that the revenue expectations in our 2021 City Budget. They

do not seem realistic in today's Covid 19 restricted environment. Tourism and college

students are big drivers of revenue for the City and both are gone due to Covid.

Couple that with our departing Mayor saying that he forgot to budget money for Covid related

costs, and it is clear we are in financial trouble. To sum it up, our income numbers are

unrealistically high, and our spending needs will likely be greater -- not a good situation!

Our first priority has to be to maintaining the infrastructure that keeps our City running.

Fire, police, roads, permits and licenses, all of the little things that add up to keeping our

City running. Next is to ensure we have the dollars to protect our most vulnerable

citizens. In a civil society, we all have a responsibility to help those in need. Next is

support for our local businesses to help them bounce back as quickly as possible so that

people can get back to work. Our new national leaders are sure to provide more help, but

at some point it is going to end. We need to be ready.

Two other hidden traps in our City budget are the Airport and the La Crosse Center. We

are fortunate to have dedicated people running those operations, but we all know they

are being severely impacted by Covid 19. We MUST start building bridges with the other

governments in our County to share in supporting these needed community resources.

The citizens of La Crosse cannot be the only ones paying for facilities that benefit our

entire area. If you benefit, you need to pay your fair share!

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

Living here, we can easily forget how beautiful our community is. We need to look at our

river and bluffs as if for the first time to really appreciate what we have. We also need

ensure that everyone finds La Crosse to be the safe and inclusive place to live and raise

their families, that we have enjoyed. Anyone who has lived in La Crosse knows these feelings. How do we make sure that years from now, everyone in our community reflects back on their lives in our City the same way? I don't have all the answers, but as Mayor I will meet with community members every month that I am in office, to hear their concerns and ideas. I promise you that I will roll up my sleeves and do the hard work that is needed to keep La Crosse the great city we love.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

My education and life experiences have prepared me well for the job of Mayor.

My Bachelors Degree in Economics and Political Science from UW-Milwaukee, along

with my early participation in local Milwaukee politics, provided me with a strong sense

of the responsibility government has in improving people's lives. My MBA education

gave me the financial and analytical tools to understand and guide City finances.

The majority of my 35 years in banking were at First Federal here in La Crosse. I was

directly involved in leading our growth from seven branch locations to more than 70,

managing budgets larger than the City of La Crosse and with more than twice as many

employees. The reason I share this is because no other candidate has experience with the

complexity of administrating large budgets and motivating a team of more than 600

employees. We can't afford four years of on the job training. Covid 19 is not going to allow the time to learn from scratch. You need someone with proven experience.

**Name : Vicki Markussen**

Current Employment: Founder, Engage Greater La Crosse

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: www.vickiformayor.us

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

I came here for my first job expecting to move on quickly. Instead, this community began

shaping me into a strong servant leader who’s ready to give back. I served you as a TV

reporter. I united many of our residential contractors at the Builders Association. I

blurred 13-county and three state borders to develop regional business strategies with

the 7 Rivers Alliance. I supported more than 600 businesses during the onset of COVID

at the Chamber of Commerce. I’ve served this community on nonprofit boards and

committees. But there is one reason I feel called to run for mayor -- paying back your

generosity for all you have given me. My husband was diagnosed with cancer in February

2020 (and successfully beat it). This community rallied for us. I saw the power of what a

caring community can do. I know I’ve developed the leadership skills to harness your

love for our community in ways that will seize opportunities and move us forward. I want

La Crosse to continuously be recognized as a great place to work, live, and play. We can

do it together.

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

I am disappointed that the 2021 budget cuts our planning department somewhat

sharply. I view this as the department being able to most impact our long-term health

because it helps develop our #1 income source - our property tax base. I plan to talk to

Andrea Trane on who we can support our economy in the weeks, months and years

ahead.

My top priority is ensuring our community emerges strongly from the current health

crisis and navigates our existing economic crisis. Our friends and neighbors are hurting.

The small, locally owned businesses and events that make our community fun and

vibrant are fighting to stay open. Their loss impacts lives. These businesses saw sales

reduce by $149 million last year through November. Food and beverage, plus hotels lost

$70 million alone. Meanwhile online sales grew by $60 million in La Crosse County. I

have the experience to help ramp up our economy safely.

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

I've already stated my desire to lean into opportunities that build our tax base.

Realistically, we should talk about what a great 2022 looks like. The 2021 budget

drastically cut to the library system. I agree with the reasoning. In a year when they can't

function well in-person, it was the easiest place to cut when faced with larger property

taxes increases. However, we must rebuild what was lost. With a circulation of more than

700,000 and well-used programs, we must strive to replace what was lost. Park & Rec is

another area that enhances our quality of life. Its budget is staying fairly healthy. We

must rebuild our library.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

I believe our mayor needs to cast an aspirational vision that unites many partnering

organizations. It needs to attract people to replace our aging population. I believe that

vision is that we consistently be named a great place to live, work and play.

This vision is measurable. It looks at factors such quality of life (ex. safety, amenities,

healthcare, etc.), cost of living (housing, food), job opportunities (wages, job creation).

La Crosse can no longer afford to be a hidden gem. If we want to attract the best health

care providers, educators and next generation of leaders, we must let our light shine.

I believe many groups can be engaged to help move the needle on many of these metrics.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

Many of the candidates bring a skill or two -- communication, business acumen,

knowledge of government, or fiscal strength. What makes me stand out? I bring each of

them and more. I've proven I can lead diverse groups of people. That brings more strong

relationships into the mayors office than any of the other candidates. Plus I have worked

with groups like the Diversity Council, Interfaith Leaders, Fair Housing Partnership, the

Realtors, Women's groups, and on advisory boards with UW-L, Viterbo, and Mayo. I've

served on the Women's Fund, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the

Symphony, and more. I am a servant leader.

Furthermore, I am the only candidate who has worn the shoes of the vulnerable I will

represent. My family lived on food stamps. I receiving free school lunches. We were that

family -- the one firefighters delivered Thanksgiving dinner to. When my dad died of

cancer when I was 14, my mom walked away from the medical bills. There was nothing to

give and nothing to take. This strong-willed mother, who worked the catalog desk at JC

Penny, and my teachers encouraged me and my two brothers to do well in school and to

go to college.

Between a significant scholarship and grants I was given a life-changing

opportunity -- a full ride to UW-Madison. I have never forgotten the power of breaking a

cycle of poverty. I want to create that hope and opportunity for others.

I believe I bring the greatest depth, perspective, and relationships to the office. I'm your

mayor. I ask you to Vote for Vicki.

**Name: Jessica Olson**

Current Employment: Businesswoman; La Crosse City Council Member

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: www.jessicaformayor.com

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

I am running for Mayor because I love La Crosse and I am prepared to help lead our City

forward through challenging times. We need effective leadership to ensure our City’s

recovery in the wake of the pandemic. The City must assist small businesses to access all

possible sources of assistance. We must address homelessness with cost-effective, bold,

and compassionate solutions that reduce the number of people who are homeless,

provide necessary services and recognize dignity, privacy, and community as essential

human needs. We must increase affordable housing in La Crosse. We must ensure our

downtown continues to thrive. My experience as a businesswoman, as a Council

Member, and my proven track record of getting things done are the qualities we need in

our next Mayor.

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

My top priority will be to ensure La Crosse has an equitable recovery from the pandemic

that leaves no one behind. We must ensure that our frontline workers have the tools and

protective equipment they need to do their jobs safely. We must partner with our

outstanding local healthcare providers both to benefit from their expertise and to ensure

they have the resources necessary to deliver care to our community expediently and

efficiently. The City must assist our local business through direct support as well as

connecting our business community with every potential opportunity for assistance.

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

As Mayor, I will increase public participation in the Capital Improvement Project (CIP)

budgetary process, empowering residents of the La Crosse to take an active role in our

City planning for our long-term investment decisions. We need to begin publicly

discussing the budget earlier in the process and throughout the year, rather than limiting

public participation to one two-hour hearing. As far as the allocation of funds for the

next budget, I have already suggested some changes to the CIP budget including putting

off the lobby renovation at City Hall. The COVID-19 crisis has, and will continue to, have

an impact on our City budget and we must work together on the challenging budget

decisions we will face.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

My vision is of a thriving, safe, and well-managed La Crosse where every resident and

every business has the opportunity to thrive.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

I would be honored to earn the endorsement of the La Crosse County Democratic Party. I

am a lifelong resident of La Crosse. My background as a small businesswoman, my

education from La Crosse Central High School to UWL and Viterbo, and my experience

on the La Crosse Common Council will enable me to hit the ground running as the Mayor

La Crosse needs to move us forward. I have a proven record as a bridge-builder who

works collaboratively while always standing up for the people of La Crosse. I am ready to

serve all the residents of La Crosse as the next Mayor of our great City.

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**Name: Mitch Reynolds**

Current Employment: Operations Manager, WholeTrees Structures

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: mitchreynolds.com

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

I want to serve La Crosse as mayor because I want to help build this city into a pillar of

prosperity, sustainability, health, equality and justice for all who live here. There are

people hurting in this community. Whether that’s from property taxes, floodplain

burdens, poverty and homelessness or just the isolation from this pandemic we’re

working through. I believe I can help us emerge from these and the other struggles that

are fracturing our society.

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

We have faced the biggest health and economic challenge of our time and some have

suffered tragically. The most optimistic projections are that the fallout of the pandemic

will linger in fiscal problems and service impacts through the next three years. My top

priority as Mayor of La Crosse is to navigate a path forward through a recovery that

addresses the most difficult obstacles faced by families, individuals and small businesses

and identify ways to help our recovery move faster. While moving towards recovery, we

have to remember to address the needs of all citizens.

Another priority for me is addressing the social and economic inequalities that

continually plague our city, whether those inequalities exist in housing, transportation,

food access or police response. Facilitating lasting collaboration to address

homelessness. Identifying and acting on plans to improve how we respond to

emergencies. Improving housing stock. Even providing city help in mitigating the

nagging food deserts that exist in some of our most vulnerable neighborhoods. We can

achieve our best life when we improve lives for all.

Finally, I have made the goal of collaboration a cornerstone of my campaign. This also

will be one of my top priorities. Finding a way to bridge the social, economic and ethnic

gaps in our society will help us heal from the stark divisions that have dealt blows to our

community and others. I pledge to work tirelessly to find means to solve some of our

most pressing issues through collaboration.

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

The operations budget for 2021 has been agreed to by the city council. There can be some

movement of funds and the city's revolving fund balance can be tapped at times to pay

for emergencies or unforeseen expenses. Largely, the changes for the this year will be

made on the fringes. For 2022, I will insist that we have fully restored funding for our

libraries and parks systems. We need to ensure our libraries and parks continue to be as

accessible as possible for those who need to nourish their mind and body. For some of

our children, the library is their only safe respite and serves as an essential source of

learning and exploration. Parks and playgrounds help provide the physical and spiritual

growth for much of our population. We need to make certain that we provide as much

access as we can for any of those who would utilize these great resources.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

As mentioned previously, I believe we can build La Crosse into a pillar of prosperity,

sustainability, health, equality and justice for all who live here. To achieve those goals,

we have to first recognize that inequalities exist in our city. For too long, we have allowed

ourself to imagine that was not the case. And then we need to collaborate with all

available partnerships to address needs of those who struggle and those who suffer from

the oppression of inequality. Again, we must first acknowledge our shortcomings and

then identify ways to improve. Within that theme of improvement, I will work to

consistently move us closer to a carbon-neutral future and one that seeks ways to

improve the health and quality of life for all citizens. That will be accomplished through

meeting sustainable energy goals, funding a vibrant park system, providing alternative

transportation solutions and following a smart and sustainable comprehensive growth

strategy that will be evaluated for efficacy on an ongoing basis.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

There are a wide array of skills and attributes necessary to serve successfully as the

Mayor in La Crosse. Among the most important is the need to connect with citizens on a

very personal level and listen to their needs. For most of my professional career--16 years

as a radio journalist--I listened and worked to understand the perspective of people from

all walks. Those who were struggling after a fire. Those who were homeless. Those who

were frustrated with the lack of action of local government to meet their needs. Those

who thought government was doing way too much. The ability to listen and to have

empathy with those who have taken paths that I have not; I count that as one of my most

valuable tools.

Also, in my career on radio, I learned to moderate discussions and mediate differences. It

is clear that La Crosse, like many other parts of the nation, is embroiled in deep divisions

that impact not only how we see national politics but also how we value libraries as

opposed to police services, to use that recent debate as just one example. My ability to

understand perspective and find a level of compromise will help move the city forward

on these and many other issues. Absolutely essential for the next person who fills the

position of Mayor of La Crosse.

The Mayor of La Crosse does far more than set policy and chair meetings and cut

ribbons. The city is one of just a couple in Wisconsin of a similar size that lack a

professional administrator. That means La Crosse's mayor must be able to function as

essentially the head of a $70 million service company and all that an executive position

like that entails. There are broad policy directions that the mayor sets that must align

with budgetary limitations. The mayor must be able to weigh the real impacts of cuts to

one service and additions to others. The mayor must be able to resolve internal disputes

among department heads in city hall in order to move the city forward. This same person

has to be the face of the city during a crisis and answer questions about garbage service

in the checkout at Festival. As a project and operations manager, I have experience in

creating operations and capital budgets, experience and understanding of contractual

obligations with vendors and with unions and an ability to move a project forward

despite obstacles. I have worked through many obstacles at projects around the nation

and understand how to manage expectations and reconcile differences. Having earned an

MBA also provides me with the education to grasp strategic concepts, recognize risks and

evaluate finances, among many other things.

La Crosse struggles with poverty and that hasn't changed since I moved to the city more

than twenty-five years ago. I know that for certain because I was among those who lived

in poverty. I understand having to make decisions about whether to pay for electricity

and heat or to buy food for my family. I understand what it means to hope that the tires

on the car make it through one more winter and that I can afford the next little bit of gas

I need for the month. I understand the overwhelming fear of not being able to house and

feed my children. I understand what it means to be judged for the food I buy with SNAP

benefits. I have been there. As an adult in La Crosse and as a child growing up in

Michigan and Louisiana. And that experience and understanding will help guide every

decision I make as mayor.

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**Name: Greg Saliaras**

Current Employment: Self Employed

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: Facebook page ` Greg for Mayor

2021

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

I believe I have a vision that would benefit La Crosse and get us back to the recovery

process as we are coming out of the pandemic.

What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor?

Helping small businesses

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

The budget that has been approved has money allocated already to several big projects

and for future raises for several departments. My top priority would be to make sure that

we stay true on our projections and not exceed or waste any funds.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

My vision for La Crosse is to become more of a multi cultural, diverse city. A jewel on the

Mississippi that everyone would love to visit not only for its night life but also for its

diverse art, music, food and other festivities. I will organize and encourage festivals

through out the year that highlight our city's diversity, we will encourage minority owned

businesses and individuals to make La Crosse their home and to be involved. We will

give everyone a voice in order to feel included and take ownership of the city

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

I am running as an independent and I have no political affiliations. I was born and raised

in Greece so I bring a different perspective and a more open minded approach to

everyday social, business, community issues. I would love your endorsement but I will

not be taking sides with any political party. Thank you for your consideration.

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**Name: Samuel Schneider**

Current Employment: Owner of All Around Cleaning Crew, a cleaning business.

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign? Samformayor21.com and by phone

at 608-406-8607. You can also follow me on Facebook, Instagram, and twitter

@samformayor21

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

For a long time there has been a disconnect between city hall and its citizenry. This

became evident to me when talking to the clients of my cleaning business. I began to see

how these issues that have long been concerns, from property taxes to homelessness and

substance abuse, and from poor roads to local environmental concerns, are not being

properly addressed. I decided to run because I believe the city needs fresh, invigorating

energy in city hall to drive an atmosphere that seeks to serve the people better then ever

before.

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

Out of the many concerns, I believe recovery from Covid will be the first challenge for

city and business owners to overcome. In addition to measures already being taken by

our city to boost business growth during the pandemic, we must also think outside the

box to look at newer and better ways to keep the lights on in small businesses. My

highest policy priority after out city's recovery from covid will be to focus on property

taxes, seeking ways to increase the tax base and lighten the load on taxpayers who love

their homes.

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

Long-term, I would like road improvements and aging utilities to receive greater priority

from the city budget. Not only this, funding for neighborhood projects such as street

lights also should be increased. Overall, I would like to take a closer look at the budget

and insure that we are making maximum and wise use of taxpayer dollars.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

Currently, La Crosse stands at a crossroads. We have tremendous challenges to overcome

in the wake of Covid, and tremendous opportunities as well. My vision for La Crosse is a

city that many years down the road is a place where people want to move, where more

businesses want to stay, bringing their well-paying jobs, and where we can celebrate our

beautiful ecology and lively culture. We want to be a city that welcomes it's growing

diversity of cultures and ethnicities, never forgetting it's community roots, and

neighborly love. I want to have a city I can look back on and be proud to call my home.

To achieve this, I will work to listen to the people better, pursue results to addressing

their concerns, and encourage and initiate better communication between citizenry,

departments within the city, and communities surrounding La Crosse. I will focus on six

key issues that I first presented when I declared my candidacy on December 17, 2020.

They include: The need for greater safety in our streets and neighborhoods, protect

homes and businesses with a greater support for neighborhood policing, consolidate city

resources for a unified approach to helping people affected by Covid, work to get La

Crosse streets and roads repaired, help the homeless find affordable housing, and clean

up drugs in our streets, and hold the line and work to reduce property taxes.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

The position of mayor requires someone who is willing to listen to the people, put the

needs of others first, communicate well with departments, businesses, and citizenry in

the city; all the while pursuing relentlessIy a course of action that achieves a result

satisfactory to the needs of those same people. Not only this, a mayor must also have a

keen sense of fiscal responsibility, and be willing to make wise decisions so the city can

succeed, not only today, but for years to come. When I began my business in the middle

of the pandemic early last year, I employed all of these attributes. Whether it is listening

to the clients I serve in order to properly address their needs, or being able to

communicate well with landlords, homeowners, and businesses to better serve them; the

business of being mayor boils down to balancing the ability to listen and adapt to

information in a way that best serves the customer, or in this case the citizen. And in the

same way that a business must always stay in the black in order to survive and flourish,

the city needs a mayor that can not only discern the best path to financial stability, but

can discover ways for the city to prosper. Ultimately this is what my education, training,

and business acumen bring to the citizens of La Crosse, an understanding for how to

integrate the concerns of all the interested parties.

I also believe I will bring fresh energy and perspective to the mayor's seat, and build a

bridge between the youth of the city and the long-time residents of the city. Come

February 16th, vote Sam for mayor. I am working for you.

**Name: Chris Stolpa**

Current Employment: Self - Employed

Best Website or contact for information on your campaign?: stolpa4mayor.net

*Why do you want to run for Mayor*?

La Crosse needs a new style of leadership. We need a clean slate, someone for the people.

I am an Independent, and La Crosse is all that matters to me. When I arrived after a six

month cross country road trip, I was shocked to see so many businesses closed down.

Our small business sector and our citizens are struggling, and it seems nothing is being

done to help. Our homeless have nowhere to sleep without persecution. Our citizens can

barely afford to pay their rent/bills. Everyone is blaming someone else and no one is

doing anything to fix things. These are the reasons I am running for Mayor.

*What would be your top policy priority if elected mayor*?

Save Small Business

The backbone of our community, small business, is struggling in a way that most of us

have never seen before. If we don't do help now, we will suffer even greater in the future.

We need:

\* A full audit of our civil services

\* Reallocation of budgeted funds

\* Constant communication with all

business owners

\* Creative ways to increase tourism

\* More support from Big business

*What changes, if any, would you like to see in the city budget and how funds are allocated*?

I believe we need to focus more of our budget on helping small business, citizens,

homeless, and community programs. I think we currently allocate a larger percentage to

the police than needed.

*What is your vision for the City of La Crosse and how would your work as mayor move the*

*city towards that vision*?

I would love to see every store front open with thriving business. Our neighborhoods

should be inviting. Our parks and libraries should be open to everyone. Everyone should

be able to have help with: mental health, housing, and work searches. Our communities

need to be safe from criminals and over policing. The only way the Mayor can do this is

to listen to our business owners and citizens and to get involved. Complete government

transparency is a top priority.

*What else would you like LCDP members to know about your candidacy*?

The citizens of La Crosse are my number one priority. I am the only candidate with

nothing to lose. I have spent my entire life here and feel that it is my turn to give back to

this city. I do not have any other interest that would persuade my judgement on anything

to do with the city or for my gain. We need someone that it willing to give 100% of their

time and someone that will be here for awhile. I am that Mayor.

--30--