



If La Crosse County has to fix its old courthouse, or build new office space,

there could be an economic benefit to the area. A special study committee of the county board has learned that 200 or 300 jobs could be created by construction projects to add more space to county buildings. Most of the jobs would be in construction, with others added in retail and health care. Yesterday, the committee decided that it wasn't ready to recommend a space needs plan to the full county board. Instead, the panel eliminated two of the five options that were still on the table. One of the plans that was dropped would have put a new county building on the existing courthouse parking lot, which is also being considered for private development.